

WHAT WE DRESSED WOMEN WILL WEAR

BY *Anne Rittenhouse*

Italy Expected to Furnish New Ideas in Clothes

Jackets Very Short or Very Long This Fall, in the Outlook—Middle - Length Coats to Be Avoided by Careful Dressers—Strong Demands to Be Made on Purse in Purchasing Winter Frocks, as Full Skirts and Big Sleeves Mean Quantities of Material—Amount of Fabric Needed for One Gown Has Doubled and Tripled Since Four - Yard Skirts Became the Minimum Width.

Special Correspondence of The Star.
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FACTS and theories, philosophy and retrospection are current about the trend of fashion at this moment.

Those who are interested in women's apparel from many viewpoints find the subject always enlightening, sometimes exhilarating, never really dull. The layman who regards clothes as something to keep one from getting arrested by reason of going without them, can never see the subject in its true proportions. It is when you see all around frocks that they become part of a huge wheel, gayly colored, which, constantly revolving, brings fame and fortune and failure to those engaged in the creating, the selling and the wearing of clothes. Today, as in February and in last August, one pays tribute to those Paris designers, those weavers and colorists who have gone on with the creating of ideas in the sound of the cannon. But the story of France in the first war she has faced as a united republic is repeated in every phase of her life, and the making of garments for American women is only one tiny segment of the whole.

She is now beginning to show the clothes she has created to the American buyers who went through the war zone to bring back what is authoritative to the American trade. Today we barely know what the new fashions are. Tomorrow we will see them. The day after we will wear them. Then the continent will copy them.

For ourselves, we have still two months of warm weather to face, with the problem of making our clothes last or buying new ones that will not shrivel too loudly with the incoming ones, if by chance or necessity we must wear them through October. The idea of saving garments until another season, let it be parenthetically said, is one of the practices with which modern efficiency has dealt severely.

Some of the facts about present and promised fashions are that the prevailing silhouette will remain with us through autumn. There will be many kinds of full skirts, each designer drawing a large following, and the world being able to use whichever it pleases; jackets will be very long and unusually short, but the middle length will be avoided by those who strive for good lines. The waist promises to remain where it should be and give little trouble, and the sleeves will literally eat up material, which is as it should be from the manufacturer's and merchant's point of view.

Which brings up another poignant fact to the consumer, which is that there will be strong demands made upon the purse in the purchasing of even one frock from now on. Nowhere is there shown any idea of saving the consumer money. The home dressmaker has to buy from ten to twelve yards of material where she once bought six yards.

It is easy to count up for yourself how the needed amount of fabric for one gown has doubled or tripled in the last few weeks since four-yard skirts are the minimum width, and sleeves billow out from shoulder to wrist, since linings are needed to give first aid to the swiveling fabric at the ankles, and often transparent materials are used that require two and three layers superimposed.

Four layers of different colored

tulle are used in one of the most popular evening frocks of the summer, and its twisted and graceful loopings suggest crinolines. No sooner did the wise ones think this or utter this fact than horsehair made its appearance, not at the hem, but at the hips, pamerlike. Factories are already turning out a new kind of haircloth that will support the filmy materials used for afternoon frocks and not give itself away. It is already common to see the ultra-smart woman dancing in frocks that are balancing sideways from the middle of the body. Upon investigation it would be found that wide bands of invisible crinolines were inserted at each hip to give the extension and that swaying motion.

One of the pleasant theories, or speculations, of the moment is how far Italy will influence the fashions of the winter. Lewis, the well known milliner in Paris, is sending everywhere an Italian hat taken from the one worn by the infantry troops in Italy. The hat goes by the name of Berardieri and is a jaunty affair worn far to one side, owing its brilliancy to the thick crown of green coque feathers that sweep over one side and brush the cheek with a dashing hat, this, to introduce in a Victorian season and not especially suited to the fieu, the tight, the bouquie and the ruffled skirt. But the modern woman will assimilate it. She will incorporate it into her scheme of things and carry it off with an air.

A fashion writer who was in Paris the day the boulevards halted with Gallic joy the swinging into the breezes of Italy's flag in token of her changing the triple entente to the quadruple entente, exclaimed at once, no doubt, to an epidemic of Italian fashions.

There are many of them to choose. Coral jewelry, Venetian laces, Naples ribbon, black velvet laced basques, striped skirts in woolen materials similar to the ones we now wear in cotton, head embroidery, ecclesiastical styles in embroidery, gold on velvet and a wealth of detail from early Italian art. Early in the season there were known buyers for important houses who went to Genoa and Milan for velvets, silks, ribbons and all the other lovely fabrics that Italy has to offer. As her mills have not been stopped through the year, as have those of the other fabric-producing countries, there is a harvest to be reaped there for the importer.

What next are we to expect from sleeves? They have gone off on a wild merry-go-round of changes. To look over the heterogeneous collection shown in the shops and carried on the arms of women, one would come to the conclusion that a prize had been offered for the best one and the result was on display.

The majority of them are large, and here is no doubt that they are going to be larger. If the Henry of Navarre sleeve succeeds it will throw all the Elizabethan sleeve like unto it, with its many puffs held down by bracelets of button lace, a sleeve which is immensely fetching in tulle and chiffon in a dinner frock.

The common garden variety of sleeve that has been widely accepted this summer with little protest is what we know as the bishop, extending from shoulder to wrist without break, gathered in at top and bottom. In keeping with a certain flavor of Vic-

torianism which pervades our costumes, unobtrusively, the gathers at the wrists are tied in tightly with bracelets of black velvet ribbon. The wrist is a close rival to the swiveling skirt in uniform, which consists of a white linen skirt and blouse.

And now about stripes and checks. There is no way to avoid them, no matter how conservative you are, but do be careful. They are not for every one, yet every one has them. It is always thus with striking fashions. That these blazing designs have their place in the schemes of summer dressing, one admits, but that place is limited to certain activities. It may be that the winter will allow women to wear woolen suits or skirts with stripes three inches wide and coats of solid colors, but one hopes not. At present the fashion has not gone that far, but some serious liberties are taken with it.

Although the bell-shaped ending to a sleeve was used so commonly last autumn that fastidious ones avoided it, there is good reason to believe it will show itself on many of the new frocks. Modification will set in, it will be considerably shortened, its bell-like mouth dropping a few inches below the elbow, and beneath it a full puff of some transparent fabric; a more artistic trick in the minds of many is to cover the lower arm with a tight cuff except on the stage. These are in two parts, one tight, extending to the wrist, the other swinging loose from back of the elbow with its edges sewed together, the effect is especially graceful.

The sleeve that is frankly old-fashioned and is sorely in need of rejuvenation can take on a new lease of life by being cut off at the elbow, then faced with a color and draped over a full cuff of white batiste or organdie, which ends at the wrist in a small frill and a bracelet of black velvet or satin ribbon.

At the present moment there is no contradiction to the styles in sleeves and it is probable that one is safe until the late autumn at any rate. August may bring surprises from the French houses which will dominate the styles here toward Christmas, but it is more likely that the mass of people will buy their early, necessary fall clothes from the American models, which were begun by the manufacturers in June. They have never had a lasting success, because the manufacturers themselves copy all the newer fashions in November, ousting one set with another.

All that was rumored about the popularity of muslin this season came true. It is an evidence of good sense on the part of the American people. Serge and silk are excellent materials to keep for the occasional day in the warm weather period, but for daily usage nothing is better than some variety of wash muslin.

Paris is usually backward about introducing any kind of wash frock, except the elaborate and expensive one made of exquisite fabrics and covered with hand embroidery, but this year she has taken up with a variety of wash frocks that have been copied here.

It is never necessary, however, to go across the water to get ideas in thin fabrics and leavers are introduced in a variety of attractive ideas in them which can be put to use on many occasions during the six months of the year.

As many one-piece wash frocks of 5th avenue. They were usually in striped fabrics, made with full skirts and loose blouses confined at a

normal waist line by a deep sash of satin ribbon. This model prevails now at the smart seashore places and is a close rival to the swiveling skirt in uniform, which consists of a white linen skirt and blouse.

For all sport uses, for the garden, in the house during the day, on the piazza of informal country clubs, the skirts with the enormous stripes of black and white, or colors, look well. The blouse is white, the sweater, or linen infantry jacket, is in a bright color, the hat of cretonne or white felt has a cretonne flower pasted in the front. The ensemble is admirable, and makes up one of the most fetching summer costumes we have had for decades.

That striped colored silks have been run to ground is the judgment of the experts in the business of making and selling clothes. They are worn, it is true, but far too many of them are exhibited to please the eyes of women who like to look a bit different from their neighbor. As the shops are filled with vast varieties of models, all in striped silks combined with solid color, selling at a small price, one realizes that it is usually the end of a fashion.

Black and white has kept its prestige beyond all the other stripes, especially when the lines are small and not glaring. In truth there is ever growing favoritism for the Vienna effects, or the Martine schemes, as we call them, because the Paris house made the popular. Despite the fact that the artists who arrange the new stage decorations draw heavily upon this black and white commingling, the dressmakers keep it up also.

One of the newest productions on the summer stage, in which the Viennese artist Joseph Urban has worked mightily, is the figure in the frock, in the flat sailor hat they are differently ranged, the fine lined stockings in the same colors have horizontal striping, and the uppers to pumps show the stripes going around. Sounds amazingly ugly, but it is amazingly pretty.

The circular skirt brought its own troubles to the expert dressmaker and it came down on the average dressmaker like an avalanche of trouble. In one way could she get away with it, she would keep it even length after two weeks' wearing. She had heard that the crafty Frenchwoman deliberately cut the hems uneven, giving no cause for complaint, but she also knew that many a girl would not hold out light at last broke in on the new trick, which was to put a circular skirt, a founce of coarse net beneath the skirt, and the skirt would be of woolen cloth, the sides up, with a thick cable of silk. The net hangs deep as the deepest point. The effect is excellent.

TWO FROCKS THAT CARRY US BACKWARD



ON THE LEFT, A FROCK OF PALE GREEN TULLE WITH FLOWERED SILK GIRDLE. THE SKIRT IS EDGED WITH NARROW GOLD LACE. ON THE RIGHT IS A COSTUME OF WHITE TAFFETA, TRIMMED WITH PINK ROSEBUDS AND DOUBLE RUFFLES OF THE TAFFETA.

CHIFFON CAPE FOR SUMMER



TRANSPARENT CAPE OF CHIFFON AND TAFFETA, TRIMMED WITH BEADS

THINGS NEW IN FANCY WORK

An attractive workbag of tan linen leaves. A unique centerpiece is in a floral and checkerboard pattern. The flowers and leaves are introduced in four clusters, stamped in blue, red, yellow and green and the checkerboard pattern in black and white squares. The flowers and leaves are outlined in colors to match the tinting, with centers embroidered in black. The entire design is outlined in black.

An unusual and striking centerpiece is stamped and tinted in red and black on art crash. A deep border simulates a lattice effect embroidered in gray, black and red. Clusters of flowers are done in red with leaves in black. It is edged in cluny lace.

A novelty in the form of a bag for odds and ends of materials suitable for patching and mending is made of white muslin, lined with a soft, white, cauled opening covered by a deep flap, on which appears a stamped and tinted design representing a landscape scene. The bag is made of heavy outline stitch.

A centerpiece in natural linen color crash is stamped with a horn of plenty filled with fruit and flowers. The design is stamped in black, green and red in natural tulip design combined with a striped effect border. It is done in simple outline stitch in colors and finished with a deep cluny lace edge. A table scarf is stamped and tinted in stripes and conventional floral pattern, outlined in black and white. The stripes form a spike effect border headed by a wreath of the flowers and

Rich tapestry designs are made up in library sets, as well as in separate pieces, including laundry bags, sewing bags, oval and round centerpieces, tie racks, neckerchiefs and round pillows, etc. The design is stamped and tinted and the embroidery done in darning stitch. The finished design being outlined in black.

Japanese designs giving prominence to the red or white with brilliant color leaves are stamped and tinted in red on white stamming canvas. The design is outlined in black and touched up in colors to match the tinting, while the shadow effects which are on the background are left uncolored.

A quaint workbag is done in tapestry stitch in rich colorings. The top of the bag is finished with a turnover collar, a straight hand effect and the bag is finished with broad strap handle of the material of which the bag itself is composed.

Candle and lamp shades, circular and square pillows, scarfs and runners, centerpieces, punch-covers and workbags are made of heavy cream linen, stamped and tinted. A centerpiece is stamped and tinted in black, green and red in natural tulip design combined with a striped effect border. It is done in simple outline stitch in colors and finished with a deep cluny lace edge. A table scarf is stamped and tinted in stripes and conventional floral pattern, outlined in black and white. The stripes form a spike effect border headed by a wreath of the flowers and

Smart sports hat is made of pale blue silk, stitched with big, coarse stitches in a thick white worsted. Two flat little wing-shaped decorations are worked in yellow worsted at the front and the back of the brim.

Secret of Cooking Bacon.

To cook breakfast bacon so that it will be dry, crisp and a delicate brown, first put it thin and have it ice cold when put into the frying pan. The grease should be hot, but not red hot. There is no better or easier way with a gas stove than to cook it in the oven. Lay the slices in a sheet-iron baking tin or spider, one slice overlapping the other, so that each strip which rests on top of another is underneath. Bacon is also improved if first dipped in sweet milk, then in flour and fried in a little hot grease. It will be crisp, brown and sweet, without a strong flavor, if a teaspoonful of molasses is put in the frying pan.

High-Crowned Hats.

When Mrs. Castle wore a high-crowned hat at the Belmont races, she was not simply indulging in a fashion fad of her own. She was introducing a coming style. Indications from Paris are that the high-crowned hat is to be in high favor in the autumn. Of course, this new hat has a brim as narrow as the crown is tall. This contrast between very narrow brim and very high crown gives the characteristic touch to the hat.

Ruchings.

Ruchings of silk, pinked usually at the edge, are used for trimming midsummer frocks of taffeta. These ruchings are widely used on taffeta petticoats, as they give the necessary body at the bottom of the skirts to hold them out about the ankles.

Silk and Worsted Hat.

Smart sports hat is made of pale blue silk, stitched with big, coarse stitches in a thick white worsted. Two flat little wing-shaped decorations are worked in yellow worsted at the front and the back of the brim.

THE WATERMELON SEASON

SUNDAY MENU
BREAKFAST.
Cantaloupes au Naturel.
Cereal Mashed with Cream.
Broiled Ham.
Coffee.
DINNER.
Cold Roast Beef sliced with Currant Jelly.
Boiled New Potatoes with Parsley Butter.
Green Peas.
String Bean Salad.
Blackberry Pie.
Black Coffee.
SUPPER IN THE GARDEN.
Egg and Water-Cress Sandwiches.
Russian Salad.
Olives.
Muskmelon Sorbet.
Iced Tea.
Fresh Gingerbread.

MELON time extends over a much longer period these days than it did even ten years ago. The transit facilities and careful distribution and oversight of cars now covering the output of every state in turn enables the melon lover to begin his feast early in June and keep it up into late September or even later.

The national taste for watermelon leads us to think it a native of the soil, but Asia and Africa both lay prior claims to being its original habitat. This, however, is certain—the Indians of the southwest and the descendants of old cliff-dwellers are as enamored with the melon as the negro himself.

While the energy or heat producing value of the melon is not as high as the muskmelon, it is one of the most wholesome and refreshing of nature's purifiers. If unripe, it is apt to produce colic, but thoroughly ripened its juices carry away with them feverish tendencies and are considered beneficial in cases of liver, kidney and bladder. In our own southwest the Indians gather them as they do in Turkey and protect them from frost in blankets or hay, and keep them in good condition until midwinter.

In Judging a Melon.

This is a rather difficult matter, because the edible portion is so far from the outside. Weight is the first consideration, the juice of a full-ripe melon betokening its richness. Some judges of melons proceed by pressing the sides together. If a crispy sound is heard, the chances are that the melon is ripe and sweet; while another well-known expert states that his favorite method is to lay a melon on its back, and then scratch the sixth of the highest part. If this seems tender and the melon is yet firm to the pressure of the finger, so that it is difficult to pierce it with the nail, it probably will prove a good melon. The number of scales or blisters on the outside of a melon is another sign of ripeness of the fruit. When every bit of the surface is covered, each seed will be black and the pulp meat in the mouth.

To Cool a Watermelon.

If one is not possessed of a large, cold cellar or ice box, the best way to cool a melon is to wrap it in a wet blanket and put it for a couple of hours in a place where the wind will blow over it without allowing the sun to strike it.

To Serve a Watermelon.

Have the melon well chilled, then split in two lengthwise and with a vegetable scoop or tablespoon, using a rotary motion, cut out individual cones of luscious, scarlet flesh; arrange on a low glass dish or platter, on a bed of grape leaves or on individual dessert plates. Another way is to cut the melon crosswise in slices about an inch thick. Remove the rind with a little cocktail or vegetable cutter, stamp into diamonds, circles or hearts and arrange on a bed of leaves. Another popular way where the melon is to be brought to the table whole is to take a long-bladed, sharp knife, insert the blade near the top of the melon, then cut diagonally down toward the other end, leaving four or five inches as a base. Remove the knife and again insert the point three inches to the left of where the knife was first inserted, and cut diagonally toward the far end of the first cut, thus making a saw tooth. Continue to cut up and down in this way until you have gone completely around the melon, when the teeth can be readily pulled apart. This is the best way to cut a melon at a picnic or clam bake.

THE WATERMELON SEASON

Watermelon Salad.
While a dead ripe watermelon is far too good to have its natural flavor subtracted from or added to, a disappointing melon, insipid and tasteless may still serve a useful purpose as a salad. Break up the pink portion lightly with a silver fork, pile on heart leaves of lettuce and dress with mayonnaise.

Watermelon Rind Pickle.

Paré off the green and remove all the red, then cut in strips two or three inches in length. Weigh, then place in brine, allowing a cup of salt to a gallon of water and let stand twenty-four hours. Drain, make a sirup, allowing three pounds of sugar to a quart of vinegar. Add a tablespoonful of cassia buds, a stick of cinnamon, a teaspoonful of cloves and a little ginger root. Cook the rind in this spiced vinegar until transparent and tender. Take out and pack in jars. Cook the sirup a little longer and pour over the rind and seal.

Watermelon Rind Preserve.

Watermelon rind preserves may be added to the winter's store of old-time sweets with but little additional expense. Paré off the green part of the rind, and all the reddish part. Cut into small squares, triangles or strips and cover with boiling water using a cup of salt to a gallon of water. Let stand twenty-four hours, then take up the rind and rinse thoroughly in clear water. Put in the preserving kettle, cover with fresh water and bring slowly to a scald. Cook gently until somewhat tender, then mushy, then rinse

Watermelon Sherbet.

Break the ripe pulp into bits with a silver fork, and pack in freezer in ice and salt. Leave two hours until of a

Watermelon Mousse.

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Watermelon Sorbet.

Break the ripe pulp into bits with a silver fork, and pack in freezer in ice and salt. Leave two hours until of a

RIBBON ENDS AS TRIMMING



PALE BLUE CHIFFON, TRIMMED WITH RIBBON.