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BLOUSES FOR ALL

Separate Outside Garment Has Recognized Advantages.

Waistcoat, Corset and Ornamental Blouses Are Among the Styles for Various Tastes.

There are still women who wear separate skirts and blouses without a pretense that the two belong to each other.

There are still women who wear coat suits with white or colored blouses that end at the waistline and are joined to the skirt under a leather belt or one of the material.

It may be that this fashion will never die out, but the impulse toward medievalism in dress has continually acted against the division of the costume at the waistline by the joining together of two colors.

The students of dress and those who are in the higher strata of dressmaking, asserts a correspondent, have observed this medievalism for the last three years. They have preached it to women whose eyes did not see it, but sometimes the seeds of reform have fallen on stony ground.

Women of middle age, who have gradually developed a thickened waistline, are the ones who insist most upon the separate blouse which ends at the waist, and this is as it should not be. They are the ones who beyond cavil should cling to medievalism in their clothes and wear the tunic, the skirt, the blouse that reaches to the hips.

The small waist is taboo, and since it is so, women should accept the fact that the straight figure needs a straight line of clothing. They apologize for their inartistic manner of dressing by saying that a white shirtwaist is so comfortable. But why should its comfort be greater when it is cut off at the waist than when it is allowed to hang outside the skirt?

If a jury had to decide on this question there would be no dissenting voice. The artists of the world have always pleaded that thick-waisted women wear the kind of clothes that lengthen the line from the shoulder instead of shortening it and cutting the figure in two, as though it were a piece of broken sculpture that had been badly put together.

From the appearance of clothes this season it looks as though women are actually beginning to see the advantages of the separate outside blouse. It is sold by the shops, it is made by dressmakers and it is worn by women who have heretofore never allowed their thoughts to wander outside of the conventional blouse tucked in at the waistline and finished with a belt.

There are waistcoat blouses to go under suits which give a straight line from the collar bone down; there are corset blouses that stretch from shoulder to hip in an attenuated line, with long, tight sleeves and roll-over collars; there are ornamental separate blouses, for young girls or those who have slim figures, which are cut in the shape of a peasant's blouse and lightly girdled at the waist.

FROCK FOR MANY OCCASIONS



This frock of navy blue satin with cerise jersey girdle and yoke, will serve many occasions. The surplus line is broken only by the girdle. The graceful lines are seldom found in garments of this nature.

Silk This Winter.
Word comes from France that so far as she is concerned, much silk will be shown for next winter. And as we have a big silk supply in this country quite probably we will follow the lead of Paris, and wear many frocks of this fabric.

For Fall Motoring



To shade the eyes or not to shade the eyes, that is the question to be decided when the quest is for auto bonnets for fall motoring. There are several requisites that the successful bonnet or hat or cap must fill. First of all it must stay on; no matter what winds may blow or how much the driver manages to exceed the speed limit. To wobble about or come off is the unforgivable sin in a piece of motor headwear. Besides this indispensable feature—and equally important—the bonnet must measure up to its wearer's ideas of becomingness.

Comfort in all our apparel is an attribute that (it almost goes without saying) is required of it today. Nearly all the hats and bonnets for motoring have small brims, or visors, but there are some turbans and caps that are brimless. They are in the minority; so it is evident that if the question of shading the eyes or not were put to the popular vote—the eyes would have it. Nevertheless, the "Blue Devil" tan is so dear to the heart of young Americans that it enters the ranks of fall hats for motorwear. It sticks to the head as secure-

ly as a French soldier to a Sammy, and withstands shocks of wind and weather without betraying their punishment. It is for youthful wearers and shading the eyes is not a matter of concern with it. There are veils and goggles for that—if shading is needed. This tan, made of silk, appears at the left of the two pictures.

At the right there is a corduroy bonnet—clearly of Dutch bonnet inspiration. It has a becoming drooping brim all about the face, but a brief brimless space across the back. Here is a bit of strategy which is successful in keeping the bonnet on the head. A short, strong elastic band is set into the base of the crown at this point and its tension makes the bonnet hug the head. The crown is flexible and the bonnet has a soft lining of silk. Everyone knows the enduring quality of corduroy and this model will surely commend itself to motorists. A small chiffon veil, gathered over an elastic cord with snap fasteners at the end, is easy to adjust on it—and easy to take off.

Julia Bottomley

School Children Claim Attention



It is the children of school age, and the young folks going away to school that claim attention in August. Early in September they begin another year's work and must be outfitted with clothes for the first quarter of the school year, at least, and often for half of it.

The early display of clothing is a great help to those mothers who undertake to have their children's clothes made at home. It is probably quite as economical to buy little cotton dresses ready-made as to make them at home; but in home-made garments individual taste can be brought into play and more handwork and "stitchery" used than can be had in moderately priced frocks bought ready made.

Besides, remodeling is an item in wartime economy that every mother should consider. All woolen frocks that are either remodeled for the children or handed on to some one who can wear them save the consumption of energy, and this is a patriotic service that is worth while.

Blue serge—the never failing—is featured in the new displays. Sometimes it is combined with heavy linen as in a model showing a plaited, long-waisted blouse of amethyst-colored

linen to which a plaited blue serge skirt is buttoned. A broad belt of patent leather slips through crocheted loops of amethyst silk floss that hang from the blouse. They are fastened to it with a few fancy stitches, an inch or so above the buttons so that the belt covers the joining of skirt and blouse.

Heavy linen in natural color makes collars and cuffs and sometimes vests on serge one-piece frocks. Needle work in yarn or silk floss is more used for decoration than anything else. Usually one or two colors in contrast to the frock are used and the designs must be simple. The little frock pictured for the girl of six years is a good model for any sort of material—wool, linen, heavy cotton or plain wash silk. Wool and linen are most worth while, for the stitchery that must be put in by hand.

Collars and cuffs or vests in heavy natural linen are beautiful in combination with blue, brown or green woolens. They are made so that they can be taken out and washed; hence two sets are necessary to each dress.

Julia Bottomley

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CHICAGO

James C. McShane
Attorney and Counsellor
Suite 522, New York Life Building
39 So. La Salle St.
CHICAGO
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