



DRESSES FOR EARLY SUMMER.

The New French Coats—Prevailing Styles in Bodices and Sleeves.

Imported dresses are many of them made with French coats in place of the usual bodice. These coats are for the most part fancifully cut, and are somewhat shorter than were the winter coats. Some of the new coats are made with a waist-coat and jacket fronts. Some are slashed up at every seam, while others have shaped basques or frills added at the waist line.

Many bodices are quite round; others are slightly pointed. The skirt has the appearance of being sewed on to the round bodices, which are usually finished with a belt of some kind. The skirt is of figured material in colors to harmonize with the plain material. The hat is in dark vandyked straw, and is trimmed with loops and ends of embossed ribbon.

In the second cut is illustrated a pointed bodice which does not require a belt, and which may be made in a variety of materials. As may be seen from the accompanying illustrations, dress sleeves are still cut wide at the top, though they do not stand so high as formerly. Imported dresses show elaborate gowns show epaulets or caps of differing material at the top of the sleeves. Another style is that of two fabrics, one plain and one figured, as shown in the first cut. Sleeves of different material from the bodice are still favored, as lace sleeves in a silk bodice or the reverse.

Graduating Dresses. Transparent white fabrics over a color chosen by an entire class will prevail in some colleges and schools. An example is cream white mousseline de soie over pale pink satin. Pure white dresses are, however, most used by girl graduates. An aesthetic design for sheer white wool or crepe gowns has graceful Grecian draperies and long flowing sleeves, and should be worn with a mortar board cap of white velvet. Some charming girlish gowns of white organdy muslin are being made. They have the full French waist, with deep Valenciennes lace gathered to fall from the shirred half high round neck. The large sleeves have a lace frill below the elbow. Three ruffles edged with narrower Valenciennes trim the foot of the straight skirt, and a wide sash of organdy gives the finishing touch to these simple dresses. Other muslin dresses are of sheer nainsook, made with a high belted waist outlined in the back.

Deeply crinkled Japanese silk crepe, the smooth crepe de Chine and China silk are the white silks used for young girls' dresses. Inexpensive dresses of white China silk for these young girls have the high round bodice plaited on the right shoulder and shirred on the left, crossing below, and leaving a V to be filled out with mousseline de soie draped in curves. Home dressmakers will find a simple model for these white China silks in a shirred round high bodice hooked in the back over a fitted saten lining. The fullness at the waist is gathered on eight or ten cords, and that at the top is flatly shirred in round yoke shape, with an inch wide standing frill of doubled silk about the low throated neck. The skirt cannot be too plain, but must be of becoming length and fullness, and these differ according to the height of the wearer.

Young lady graduates at evening exercises wear plain or figured mousseline de soie dresses made with half low corsage, with cut skirts and long sleeves. The skirt is semi-trained. Black stockings and black slippers will complete simple toilets for graduates. For those more elaborate, white stockings, with white, silver or gilt slippers, are suggested. Greek fillets of white ribbon are an ornamented bow at the side are the pretty ornaments for the hair. The white gauze fan is suspended from a bow of ribbon on the right shoulder by two long ends that hang back of the arm. The gloves may be either white or light tan colored undressed kid.—Harper's Bazar.

Fashion Notes. Satins are restored to favor, the caprice being for striped satins.

Pretty dresses for the house are made with a plaited coat bodice of light weight silk.

The small toque of black lace or tulle may be appropriately worn with either a black or colored costume.

Locketts and crosses of gold, silver and gems are revived. The present style of leather purse is square, or nearly so, of sufficient size to hold one's visiting cards, and trimmed either with gold or silver. The newest shoes for ballroom wear are of gold and silver tinsel. Fancy straw bonnets are in demand. Patent leather finds favor still for day foot wear.

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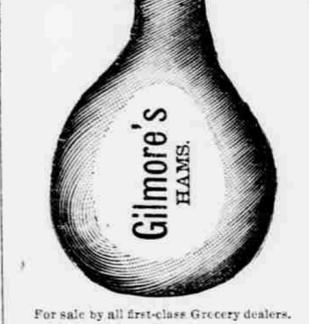
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