

Fads And Fancies Of Fashion



NOVEL ONE-PIECE PROMENADE DRESS.

One of the developments of the one-piece dress, which makes of it a good model for the promenade, is shown in the accompanying photograph. It looks like a plaited skirt of silk jersey, with a plain coat suggestive of a sweater, but its looks are misleading. It is a one-piece garment, and it might be made in serge, gaberdine, or any pliable woolen goods. Like so many others, it bears the imprint of sports styles in the straight lines of the body, in the long girdle which is crapped easily about the waist, and in the patch pockets.

This is one of those designs which are adapted to almost any color. It has a number of novel finishing touches that give it a distinction which will match up with the peculiar shades of green and the beautiful blues that have captivated everybody. But whatever color is chosen must be used throughout. The ties at the throat, of broadened ribbons, furnish all the contrast needed.

It is noticeable that the sleeves are of the same material as the dress and

surely turn round to look it over and to wonder at the cleverness of its designer.

Because of its pockets and buttons and its odd belt, "Spring, 1917," is written boldly on the suit pictured. And because of her suit and hat and her swagger stick the judgment of their wearer is above question; she knows smart style and chooses it for her own.

It does not take long to tell the story of the pretty suit, since its skirt is plain and all its points of interest centered in the coat, which is short. Although women are reluctant about giving up short skirts, this model reaches an inch or so below the shoe top, and shows the insistence of designers in their attempt to bring longer skirts into favor. This skirt model

The coat hangs straight at the front, and would at the back if it were not held in a little by the belt. There is an odd management of this feature. The belt of the material slips through slashes in each side of the front of the coat and buttons in the back. The



"SPRING, 1917," PROCLAIMS THIS SUIT.

that a deep cuff is set into the band that finishes them. Those who regret the disappearance of the crepe sleeves may have these cuffs made of crepe, which is so soft and so becoming to the hands. The pockets are put on with close-set rows of buttons, covered with the same material as the dress. Smaller buttons, made the same way, fasten the bodice above the waistline. All the lines are long and straight in this model; even the collar is carefully managed so that they are unbroken.

The first fugitive fine day that the year vouchsafes to drop in the frozen north, we are likely to meet this pretty substitute for the street suit. We will

pockets are large and lined with a contrasting color. They are slashed and turned back, the points fastened down with buttons. The cuffs are finished in the same way; their lining is the same as that in the coat.

Buttons covered with the material of the suit fasten the coat down the front and are used in decorative rows on each side. A little needlework must, of course, appear on every well-regulated garment for spring, and it is seen in the lines that are placed beside the buttons, bringing them into greater prominence.

Julia Bottomley



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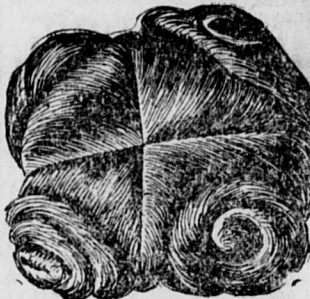
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The Right Kind of Reading Matter

BELLIGERENT BOYS BROUGHT HOME

Uncle Sam Kept Busy Getting
Over-Enthusiastic Youths
Out of Danger.

GETS THOUSANDS OF PLEAS

State Department Obtains Discharges
From Foreign Armies in Response
to Appeals From Frantic Amer-
ican Mothers.

"Here's an unusual one," remarked Miss Frances Marsh. "They're all unusual," observed Frank N. Bauskett. "But this one is unusually so," persisted Miss Marsh. "It is from the mother, of course. Her fourteen-year-old boy has joined the Canadian forces and begun his training for the campaign in France. We'll have to get him out."

Mr. Bauskett agreed. And they—with the aid of various forces and influences—eventually got the hopeful trooper released, for that is their every-day business.

There are so many cases of young men under age who have joined the fighting forces against the wishes of their parents that to handle the work Uncle Sam has created a special division in the diplomatic bureau of the department of state. Mr. Bauskett and Miss Marsh are the staff of the new division under the direction of Sidney Y. Smith, chief of the bureau.

The case of the militant fourteen-year-old is one of the more striking incidents that have come to their notice. The youngster fired his imagination by reading stories of poison gas, bayonet charges and the tossing of hand-grenades. He decided to have a try at the war game on his own account. He figured that he would be especially good with the grenades because he was a pitcher on his baseball team. Accordingly, he slipped across the Canadian line, applied to a recruiting office and was accepted by the officer in charge.

In spite of his youth, the boy passed the physical examination, and was booked for service. He was not to go as a drummer boy—he was taken on as an infantry recruit with the understanding that he was to tote the regulation rifle and carry on his shoulder the small department store which the soldier calls his kit. With his uniform on his back and his dream of battle in his eyes, the happy youngster wrote the great news home.

Mother Makes Appeal.
As is usually the case, the mother did not share in her son's ardent desire to die for some other country. She wrote a tearful and insistent letter to the department of state.

"He is but fourteen years old," she said, "and he's the only boy I've got. If it were a case of giving him for my own country, I would not say a word. But I do not want to lose my boy through any foolish desire of his to see the world and the excitement of war. He is but a child—and I still think of him as a baby. I inclose his birth certificate and a picture of him that was taken but a month before he left home."

The picture showed a serious-faced boy—in knickers!
As soon as the facts were submitted to the Canadian war office the king lost an ambitious Tommy. The boy was at once released. Since then there has been another boy of the same age who succeeded in getting into the Canadian recruits and who had to be yanked out again by the long arm of Washington officialdom.

These two so far represent the farthest north in martial juvenility. But there was the more recent case of a Bostonian sixteen years old who had to be forcibly divorced from his dreams of blood and glory by the busy bureau in the department of state.

The total of these belligerent youths is startling. A four-story cabinet in Mr. Bauskett's office is stuffed tightly with correspondence on these matters. In this cabinet the investigations concerning 3,000 enlisted boys are filed. And these are only the cases that have not yet been settled. There are many others that have ended with the discharge of the disgraced young warriors. Inquiries pour in at the rate of 50 a day.

Costly to This Father.
Another case of special interest was that of a minor who was in Australia when the war broke out. He caught the fever and volunteered for the Anzac forces. When the father, out in Ohio, heard of it, he got in touch with the state department, and started immediately for Melbourne. The Australian authorities agreed to discharge the youngster. But—"This boy of yours," they said to the old gentleman, "has had several months' training here. We figure that this training cost the colony \$150. It has been entirely wasted, and we think that it would be only right for you to pay our government \$150 in compensation."

The father paid. He brought the son home after the trip that took five months in time and over a thousand dollars in money.

Sometimes the investigations of the bureau are brought to an abrupt and tragic end. Three cases have been ended with the terse communication from the British war office:

"Private — has been killed in action."

LARKSPUR AS MENACE

Determined Definitely to Be Poi-
sonous to Live Stock.

Uncle Sam's Experts Undertake Big
Task of Eliminating Plant From
the National Forests.

Uncle Sam's forest service, in line with its general policy to better the conditions of the national forest ranges, is now undertaking the eradication of various poisonous plants which each year, it is stated, cause the loss of some \$300,000 worth of live stock using the ranges as pasture.

Forest rangers and others have made an investigation of this condition, and it has been ascertained that, while other plants are known to poison live stock, larkspur is the one which is responsible for the greatest losses of cattle on mountain stock ranges, and consequently the one plant which the service is determined it must dispose of in some way or other.

This plant occurs, it has been found, both as scattered plants and in patches, varying in size up to as much as 100 acres. The bulk of the losses from cattle are confined to those areas where the plant is more plentiful and where, therefore, it is possible for the cattle to obtain larger quantities of it.

In an effort to conquer this evil many of the ranges containing the largest patches of larkspur have been fenced by the stockmen, but this method is not only expensive, but it also usually involves the loss of a large quantity of valuable forage which is included in the infested range.

It has been known, it is said, in a general way for years that larkspur is poisonous to live stock, but there has been, up to recently, very little definite knowledge on the subject. Therefore, it was necessary to carry out a number of experiments to find out what effect the plant had on various kinds of animals; whether all the varieties of the plant are poisonous, and last, whether the cases of poisoning are caused by the eating of the roots of the plant, or eating the leaves and stalks.

Extended experiments have been conducted along these lines which have shown that some animals are poisoned by the plant, while others are not. With the results of these experiments the forest service has been able to make its plans for handling the ranges on which the larkspur occurs and for the eradication of the plant. It was found that the most satisfactory method of solving the larkspur problem would be to grub up the plants by the roots. Considering the wide areas that must be covered, this sounds like a man-sized job, and it is; but the results which have been obtained, it is said, have proved that the expense involved has been more than justified.

HAVE SOME SMOKED DOGFISH?

Uncle Sam's Experiments Said to
Have Shown Despised Species Can
Be Made Delicacy.

Smoked dogfish may be a new delicacy on the up-to-the-minute menu in the future, if Uncle Sam's designs are carried out. Experiments in smoking various species of fresh-water fish, begun at the Fairport (Mich.) station of the United States bureau of fisheries about two years ago, have yielded interesting results. The bowfin, or grackle, which usually is regarded as practically worthless, has been found to yield a very superior product when properly smoked. All who have eaten samples have spoken of the excellent texture and flavor of the meat, and some have pronounced it the best of smoked fish, Uncle Sam asserts. Further experiments are being made with a view of obtaining a product which will appeal to the trade in appearance and quality.

The bowfin is generally known through the Mississippi basin as dogfish, and has been regarded as practically worthless. It is abundant in the Great Lakes and in sluggish waters from Minnesota and New York to Florida and Texas. The proper utilization of this species will not only add another commercial product to the market, but also will tend to reduce the relative abundance of a species which is most predacious upon the other fishes that are more highly valued in the fresh state.

Few New Yorkers Pass Tests Fixed for Marines

Only about 3 per cent of the young men in little old Manhattan who apply for enlistment in the United States Marine corps are qualified to become "soldiers of the sea," according to a statement issued by a New York recruiting official of that corps.

During the first nine months of 1916 there were 5,081 applicants for enlistment in the marine corps recruiting district of New York, and but 167 were accepted for enlistment. Only one out of every thirty men who applied could meet the requirements. Out of 810 examinations by the medical officer, 556 were rejected, and the principal causes given for these rejections were: Defective vision, 90; defective teeth, 84; heart affections, 77; flat feet, 74, and underweight and poor physique, 70.