

## The New "Girlish" Dresses By Lady Duff-Gordon.



PHOTO BY JOEL FEDER

A Girlish Dress for Girls. White Chiffon, With Silver Lace Bodice, Tunic and Three-Colored Silk Girdle.

By Lady Duff-Gordon ("Lucile")

WITH grandmothers dressing like young girls and mothers being mistaken for daughters, it is really a question just how a young girl should dress really to be different from mamma or grandmamma.

Unquestionably the craze for dancing has helped largely to bring the new girlish note into all the dresses. Every one dances, and the stiff, staid old fashions for women past forty are not at all harmonious with the positions of the modern dances, nor can one be graceful in them. Imagine one doing the fox trot in the stiff satins that the lady of over forty used to wear!

Personally I like the new girlish dresses—because age is in most cases only a matter of the mind, and the younger we feel the younger we look.

I know a beautiful old lady of seventy in France whose dresses are the most girlish imaginable, and yet they are not out of harmony with her, because her mind is still girlish. She knows just how to wear these, and one always feels an atmosphere of springtime about her. Of course, I am not advocating a wrinkled person to wear the short dresses of childhood—but what I do mean is that most women have a tendency to "dress to old," and this is not only not beautiful, but it is unfair to the woman herself, and puts her out of the running, as you Americans say, long before she ought to be.

Therefore I advocate girlishness in dress wherever it can be displayed.

And as for young girls—what difference does it make if mamma or grandmamma does wear their

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Lady Duff-Gordon's Paris establishment brings her into close touch with that centre of fashion.



Another Girlish Dress Adaptable to Older Women. It is of White Chiffon and Lace Trimmed With Roses and Carrying a Suggestion of Grecian Modes.

young frills and flounces? All that the young girl has to remember is that she must dress girlishly. When she comes to know that mamma and grandmamma also ought to dress as girlishly as they can there are no disharmonies left.

In the left hand corner is a real girlish dress for girls. It is of white chiffon, with silver lace bodice, a wide tunic and three-colored silk girdle. The top of the bodice is the surplice effect, and is caught up in the front with a pearl ornament. The whole effect is virginal.

Over to the right, on the other hand, is a girlish dress which mamma could also wear with a great deal of ease. It is really a dancing dress. It has a suggestion of the Greek in it, and is of white chiffon and lace trimmed with roses.

And down at the bottom of the page is a girlish street dress which mamma or ever grandmamma could wear, it is so adaptable. It almost goes without saying that navy blue serge suiting is responsible for a goodly number of the new full skirted models, whether these be of the coat and skirt, or the all-in-one "coat-dress" variety, a trimming of black military braid being almost as inevitable as it is, certainly, and always, effective.

Sometimes the costumes will have a short and quite straightly cut coat with a centre fastening of braided buttonholes and braid-covered buttons which can be used right up to the edge of the military collar, or left undone for an inch or two at the top, to show an under lining of white moire. Then, just over the hips, the trim little garment ends its career in a series of braid-edged scallopes, the skirt following this decorative example at the hem, where, by the way, its measurements are exactly four and a half yards. This is a style which can, indeed, be depended on to suit almost any woman blessed with the slim figure which helps to give an appearance of youthfulness even when the woman's Calvary—middle-age—is already in sight!

And sometimes, too, the navy blue will be provided with the latest Parisian contrast of mifroite grey, in collar facings and cuffs, and, possibly, too, in the shirt-bouse, the popularity of this particular and pretty scheme being foreshadowed, indeed, by the display of quite a number of new boots and shoes carried out in navy blue glaze kid and grey cloth or suede, some of the boots being made still more decorative by a device of black braiding at either side of the laced fronts.



Girlish Street Dress of Light Weight Figured Cloth Trimmed With Kid, Which Daughter, Mother or Grandmother Alike Can Wear.