

What is Going On in Woman's World of Fashion



SMART TOURIST CLOTHES FOR AUTOMOBILE AND STEAMER WEAR.

NEW YORK, Aug. 21.—The styles which have as yet presented themselves for September display fewer faults than is generally the case. Everywhere one sees a tendency to correct the exaggerations which come from the popular acceptance of an idea, and skirts bid fair once more to adapt themselves to human possibilities. The short, closely fitting, pleated and box-pleated skirts of the summer, which had such a "bobbed-off" look with their long-tailed coats, are conspicuous by their absence.

There is a pleasing relationship between the length of the new coats and their attendant skirts, and both show a comfortable increase in width. The tails of the fitted coats are in some cases extravagantly long, but a careful flaring of them at the hips results in an easy fall, more becoming than the late skimpy fit.

Skirts, too, are much wider, and a sensible arrangement of the ready-made sorts is to have the front and sides only of the top put into the belt. The back breadths are left to be pleated or gathered in—or even pulled in with a drawstring—and, as almost all ready-made skirts need to be altered at this point, the new condition of things is a happy advance over the old one.

The coats, costumes and hats shown for first autumn use run largely to outing effects, for styles displayed as early as these must in a measure fit the conditions of late summer. Stunning long-coated gowns of novelty brilliance, available for sea voyages, are to be seen. One such in brown and white displays a narrow band of plain brown, put on with a novel heading of brown silk cord. This outlined the neck and front of the coat and edged the bottom of the skirt, the trained sweep of which seemed very graceful.

Of course, short skirts are both useful and hygienic; but, because of its more elegant possibilities, the trained jupe still wins the blue ribbon in the race for lasting favor. Nevertheless, short skirts for practical street wear will still be seen in stuffs which lend themselves to a dapper tailor finish, the difference from former styles being that they will be less like sausage skins and more like human garments. With these will go tailor coats of reasonable length, with the still fashionable puff sleeve modified in size, and the necks finished with small turnover velvet collars.

For such costumes, colonial shoes of black Russia leather with Blucher fastenings are approved, though the feet which attempt such shoes must be tolerably small to carry them off properly.

The long coats of rain-proof silks fashioned for automobile use are more captivating than all the other autumn things put together. These, with muffing caps fashioned to go with them, reveal such coquettish possibilities that no one is surprised that the "auto" fever has become so prevalent. Tartan effects are frequently

observed, the coat and cap sometimes displaying the same clan, which, however, is one that often originated alone in the French brain. Everything to grist which comes to the French fashion mill, and the plaid of Stewart may show a Campbell stripe. Not without profit, too, as Scotch plaids are not always the most harmonious things in the world. A plaid of the most audacious French description was shown in a long "auto" coat of red and blue rain-proof cloth. The yoke of this garment was its most distinguishing feature. Dipping down over the puffed sleeves till the deep points almost reached their cuffs, it formed a striking ornamentation for them. The accompanying cap was of deep red rain-proof silk with a patent leather visor and an enclosing curtain of the silk.

This shrouding species of headgear, with goggles elaborately constructed, is more used for out of town automobiling than a more dressy get-up. But for a brief spin through the park, or up the favorite city drives, one sees the most coquettish flower and tulle of straw hats enveloped in lace veils of equal elegance. These, folding tightly under the chin, hold the head in a gauzy bag, the ends of the veil crossing at the back and tying in front in a smart bow.

Numberless are the trifles and toilet conveniences offered for the fair automobilist, who may now have her watch and powder box in one, or extract her purse from her long boot top.

A correspondent writing from Paris declares that nine out of every ten women automobilists carry their small change—"Monnaie"—in a tiny purse attached to the front of their long boots. Bloomer underwear lends propriety to the extraction of the change, but so leveling is this brisk sport that even the cool and open lifting of flounced petticoats for the fishing up of a tenuous piece is not regarded as a grave indiscretion.

Chain charms in the shape of tiny gold and silver automobiles abound, some of these even displaying a chauffeur or chauffeuse in full and dashing "auto" attire. Leather belts with pendant leather set watches are other automobile novelties, as well as lace veils with mica eye coverings set in, and leather gloves with perforated palms.

As long as the fever for the sport lasts, commercial genius will cater to it, and when it ends the hundred and one trifles which honored it will end also. Meanwhile ordinary people look on one moment in admiration, and the next long for a gun and the privilege of using it. It is hard lines to dodge incessantly for life, and only the prettiness of the feminine costume and the grotesque ugliness of the masculine atones for the outrage.

But to turn to the frills and flounces of femininity. Softer examples in their autumn finery display a strong leaning toward these always delightful details. The

flounces which ornament the newest of the silk and other light material skirts, being of circular cut, are almost as flat as folds. Different widths are put together until often nearly the whole skirt is covered and the last flounce is no more than three inches wide. Buttons enclosed in a ruche of ribbon, the whole shaping a large rosette, form another novelty likely to be carried over to the winter for house and carriage gowns in airy, dressy textures. The ornaments thus made not only deck the fronts of short jackets, but are variously disposed over the entire costume, two perhaps appearing at the back of an elbow sleeve, two upon a belt, etc.

Any effect which borrows or savors openly of a departed mode seems to be fashion's fad for the immediate future. So the short, squarely-tied, lace cravats of the Louis periods are with us, together with flounces, frills and undersleeves of the "60s" and high heels of the powder and patch decades. Hats, even, it is predicted, will take on their share of ancient elegance, and a few of the crowns already conceived by designers are as high as the present ones are low.

Whether or not these will take with the smart world remains to be seen, for novelty and effectiveness in the hand may be very different when perched upon the head. Look at the fate of the "Victorian bonnet," a delicious straw poke which a few London elegantes tried to make the thing this summer. One even had the temerity to cross the ocean—a ravishing creation in cream straw and white glaze ribbon, with even the old rosebud face trimming—but one brief appearance settled its fate, as the fate of these in London was settled.

Society is not yet prepared for the more picturesque of the old fashions and only borrows from such as will not seem out of place. One rain-proof traveling coat in Scotch plaid silk—green and blue—had acquired quite an ancient fullness in the tail, suggestive of the time when waterfalls and bustles were in fashion. The rounded fronts accentuated the antiquity of the idea, as well as the puffed sleeves, which were slashed at the back to simulate a flowing effect.

September styles for children are not appreciably novel and seem to depend more on a change of material than on cut. A smart traveling coat for a girl of 8 was made in the box-pleated, belted model used in the spring. Black and red plaid mohair composed this effective dust cloak, to which a red patent-leather belt gave a stylish finish. A departure from conventional styles was seen in a ready-made dress for a maid of 6, which had a picturesque Greenaway flavor. Made of green and white challie, with narrow green ribbon bands, short sleeves and a cut-out neck, this dainty little frock was plainly a revival of Mother Hubbard days. Plain

green challie formed a slashed bertha around the neck and for cool days a white wash gamp was provided.

MARY DEAN.

Frills of Fashion

Wool laces were never so much in vogue as this year.

Medallions will be much worn during the coming season.

Scarlet, brown, blue and green with lace, is much in evidence for trimming just now.

Point d'Art, a course kind of thread lace, is much in evidence for trimming just now.

The newest boa has a broad round patterned collar behind and two long stoles fronts.

Gold and silver tinsel with spangles to correspond are conspicuous in the new trimmings.

Wide bands of lace edged with quaint ruchings are to be employed as garniture for evening gowns.

In two-toned veillings exceedingly artistic and effective patterns have been introduced for the coming seasons.

Round hats of pongee, with stitched brims, are set off with scarfs of heavy silk in Roman colorings.

The fashionable woman of the early '70s would find familiar the new parasols with folding handles and trimming of fringe.

Some of the latest effects in embroideries show the Tenerife design, either in its original cartwheel form or an adaptation.

A smart outing hat is one of the three-cornered white felts, trimmed with a fold of white silk and with a military pompon in white on one side.

For millinery use ribbon will be largely used during the coming fall and winter, with three to five shades of one color blended in some novel design.

Jet is conspicuous in fall jewelry, long chains, necklaces, old-fashioned brooches, hearts, crosses and many other articles being introduced in the latest productions.

The chief characteristics of the new dress fabrics is the soft blending of shades. Green and blue are the principal colors, but in nearly all combinations black has an important part.

Deep purples are seen in the new hats and with the popular mauves entire costumes are worked out, the gown frequently showing shades of the colors, those most prominent being the delicate mauves working up to the purple hat.

The popularity of shirring as a form of trimming for gowns and accessories has brought about the introduction of shirred bands of mousseline de soie ready for use by the dressmaker. These bands come in black or white, bordered with juby ruchings, fancy and plain braid or fringe.

At a recent outdoor function one of the loveliest costumes on view was an amber mousseline de soie with many forming flounces all edged with narrow siltken fringe in various shades from lemon to orange. The hat worn with this gown was of white chip trimmed with pale yellow ostrich plumes and a white osprey.

Miss Leary, who is the leader of the fashionable Catholic set in New York and Newport, will immediately go into mourning after the death of the pope is announced. It is understood that the Mackays, the Plants, the Delaney Nicols, the W. K. Vanderbilts, Jr., the Nelsons, the Roosevelts (family of ex-minister to The Hague), the W. R. Graces, Charles Astors, the John D. Grimminses, the Oelrichs, the F. F. Colliers and other prominent Catholic families will cancel many of their social engagements for a month at least.