

# School Wear Shows No Marked Change of Style

Common Sense and Utility Are Prevailing Ideas — Lines Resemble Those of Summer.



SERGE REEFERS AND CRAVENETTE RAIN COAT.

KINDERGARTENERS AND THE BIGGER FRY ARE EQUALLY SMART.

THE garments now being made up for Autumn school wear display no marked changes in children's styles. The lines are virtually unaltered from those of the Summer, though many little improvements in cut and individual touches in trimming are encountered. Some of the color effects, too, of the hot season have been carried over, especially the black and white checks and bolder plaids in the same combination, though, for that matter, plaids in all colors will be worn by children, with black band trimmings to give them distinction. Upon plain stuffs, wide and narrow tartan braids will also be used.

Of course, in getting up a practical school wardrobe, the fundamentals are the first things to be considered. The everyday suits for lad and lassie, stout boots, correct headgear and a wrap and raincoat, not forgetting overshoes for mud and snow, a neat umbrella and gloves of several thicknesses—these are the first requirements. And after they have been carefully chosen, for even the purchase of an umbrella requires thought, the decorative element of the trousseaux may come in.

Beginning with the wrap, which is really the first essential of a good Autumn outfit, the best ready-made styles are to be recommended as having some advantages over garments made to order. For one thing, it can at once be seen if the style chosen is becoming to the child for whom it is intended. This is an extremely important point, especially for ungainly and sensitive children, who are conscious of all their defects and are made supremely wretched by any comment upon their appearance. So, for spinning maids and boys, in both suits and coats, a certain looseness of fit is suggested, with the costails falling scarcely more than hip length.

Pretty and practicable Autumn school coats for girls from 5 to 10 are the little reefer of serge, flannel and coatings so long worn. Such styles are again seen in great numbers, perfectly new models for the larger girls showing fancy braids, and sometimes skirts in the same texture. These last, which are excellent for rainy-rides, are sometimes supplied with ribbon suspender straps, and made of double-faced golf cloth in a light weight. Flannel or wash shirtwaists will be worn with them, and the skirts, which are in the majority of cases only attached, are for the most part made with a plain apron and pleated side breadths. With plaid gowns for the same ages, which have gamp or high bodies, the serge, gill-buttoned reefer may match a dominant line in the dress texture. So with plaids and checks in which red or blue prevails, the little coat will often be in one of these shades, with a scarlet reefer and scarlet hat, perhaps, for black and white.

For elder girls school coats are longer, some three-quarter, some skirt length, and some in useful raglan or ulster length. The raincoats of cravenette and shower-proof silk for the missy ages are very swaggy, and unless the cravenettes are pajama raincoats in style, they are sufficiently heavy for first Autumn wear. Those in the shower-proof silks are "grown-up" and plainly for bad weather. In rich automobile reds and blues, some of the loose, baggy models are supplied with attached automobile hoods, which give them quite a worldly air. In gown textures, the tiny checks and larger plaids are without doubt the newest materials for any age above 7. The latest wools in them are more smooth than hairy, with some of the imported sorts almost as tightly woven as men's suitings. The black and white designs, in whatever pattern chosen, are considered very smart and eminently suited to schoolgirl wear. Narrow pipings of bright color are sometimes used with stylish effect upon these, especially if the costume is of a "dry" description. But with plainer frocks, such as the Russian blouse styles worn by the smallest girls, only a belt and tie of color are admitted—both in a flaming scarlet, maybe, and the cravat tying under a high turnover linen collar.

The high linen collars are enormously in vogue for both children and grown-ups, and, after the somewhat negligible effects of the soft stocks, they seem very stylish. But as the unstiffened collars are more comfortable, as well as less damaging to the throat, it is likely that more little frocks will be seen with the easy stocks and neckbands than without them. Many of the more youthful and dressy of the little toilettes are still made with gamp bodies. Gowns for older girls are invariably high necked, with smart collar effects and trimmed skirts, though the latest child skirt is the plain apron and fitted model described.

Such serge, flannel, tweed and cloth gowns as are trimmed employ simple garnitures—narrow braids, ribbons and velvets put on in the old Greek bands and graduating rows. The thinner stuffs, such as challie, cashmere, delaine, etc., run mostly to self-trimmings, quillings and puffs, edged with black velvet or taffeta. The deckings are all taken from the 1830 period, which, it is claimed, will likewise lend its high-crowned hats for missy's dressy headpieces. The elbow-length sleeves for this time will also be seen for smart wear, puffed at the upper arm and ending with stiff quillings. This delightful arm covering has quite set aside the longer and heavier sorts, and may run through the entire Winter. It will be worn by girls as young as 6, whose finest skirts will imitate with their robe fronts and trimmed side breadths other ancient quaintnesses. But children's styles are, in the most part, conventional, and as far as school clothes are concerned they seem scarcely even new. School headgear is especially familiar in silhouette—for girls will wear the flat brim shapes with single ribbon and velvet bows, and boys tweed caps and felt alpinas, scarcely diverging a thread from former styles. Only there is a tendency to trust the derby forward as the only possible dress for boys of any age.

# Return of the Girl Feminine: The Family Dorcas

She Is the Up-to-Date Young Lady Who Delights in Doing the Family Sewing.

THE return of the girl feminine in the guise of the family Dorcas is a physical expression of the mental tide which has set in for the garment stamped "made for you." The ready-made garment is no longer in vogue, hence the revival of Miss Dorcas in all her former charm.

The family Dorcas has discovered that the secret of tailored effects lies in the finish. She selects a reliable pattern, fits the dress carefully and has the stitching and pressing done by the tailor on the next block. But the blouse more than any one article of feminine dress is responsible for the important position in the family now occupied by Miss Dorcas. The ready-to-wear blouse at a reasonable figure is not satisfying to the American girl's love of daintiness. Many a young business woman has stopped in front of a shop window and gazed longingly, almost tearfully, at a \$25 blouse, in the realization that if she only had the time she could do handwork fully as fine herself. In fact, not only would her handwork be as dainty and artistic, but the seams of the blouse would be better sewn and the small final touches, such as hooks and eyes and catches, would be more secure.

The girl who is bright, naturally artistic in designing and making color combinations, and who has also a natural bent for sewing, will really do well if she takes in her family the position of general dressmaker. One young woman has made a bargain with her two sisters, who work downtown, and with her mother, who is actively engaged in club and social duties. She has taken entire charge of the family sewing—for a consideration—and she goes at it in as business-like a fashion as any modiste, who swings to the breeze the sign "Robes et Manteaux." She designs, buys and makes every gown worn by the women of her family, and she makes just as good an income as either of her business-like sisters and has easier hours. At first this happy condition did not prevail, because she did not understand how to manage her work. She allowed herself to become nervous, and for many weeks her hours were too long. She sat up late at night to finish off bits of work that could very well wait another day, and she acquired a case of indigestion.

Now she sews systematically and regularly. As a rule she goes down town twice a week and is at stock shops when the doors open. During what is known as her rush season she has a girl to help her with the stitching and finishing. So well has she systematized her work that she is able to attend an occasional afternoon function of concert even in the busiest season. Her sewing-room is on the top floor of their old-fashioned house, and a skylight which cost \$50 was the father's gift to the enterprise, which, make-like, he heartily approved. The bare floor is oiled and the walls are covered with a soft green paper restful to the eyes. In Winter she has a thick jute rug on the floor, but in Summer she prefers no covering at all.

The most important article of furniture in this room is a discarded bookcase of the old-fashioned sort, with glass doors. Arranged on its shelves are dressmaking supplies, linings of all sorts, bindings, featherbone, and the different trifles that go to make up a well-ordered dressmaker's shop, and rolls, are kept pieces of the gowns made up, so that if repairs are needed she can easily lay her hands on a scrap of the goods. In the two drawers on which the glass bookcase stands are kept button boxes, threads of all kinds, hooks and eyes, and other small articles.

Another useful article of furniture for the family Dorcas is a circular coat rack suit rack with projecting arms, such as can be seen in any suit department in a big store. From this she hangs individual coat racks carrying dresses under way or gowns to be repaired. It is rather high, preventing the gowns from dragging and gathering dust. To further protect them she has a balloon-shaped cloth of unbleached muslin which she over them, stand all, at night. This does away with the practice of laying a half-finished garment in mussy condition on a table or bed.

A device which economizes strength and nervous force is a drop-leaf attached to the back of her sewing machine. This leaf can be raised when she has a large, heavy piece of stitching to do, and saves her the effort of supporting, as well as guiding the goods. Even a home dressmaker needs the strength required to hold a heavy dress skirt in place during the stitching process.

Another attachment for the machine which is comforting in hot weather is a small fan designed after the fashion of electric fans. It is operated by the mechanism of the machine, and as the wheel revolves so does the fan, sending grateful breezes toward the sewer.

Every woman who has knelt on the floor to cut out garments, or struggled to keep her pattern straight on the soft foundation of a bed, will appreciate the cutting table which this family Dorcas has made for her. It is a pair of broad, planed boards riveted together and set firmly on a pair of supporters or horses, such as paper-hangers use. Like the paperhanger's table, it is built rather high so that Miss Dorcas does not stoop to the injury of her figure and her health when she is cutting a garment.

A cutting or basting table of smaller dimensions, which she uses when seated, was the gift of her two sisters last Christmas. Instead of the ordinary folding sewing table with folding legs, this pretty mahogany rests on a brass stand and turns up and down when not in use like the inland card tables. It is a good imitation of mahogany and has the yard measure marked off on it.

An adjustable skirt form for draping and hanging skirts, and a bust form for draping blouses, arranging trimmings, etc., are other essential features of her equipment.

It is amazing, the number of pretty little gifts this fair Dorcas has received since her hobby has become known among her friends. An observing young man sent her a pair of buttonhole scissors with the regulation adjustment screw and handles of gold inlaid with mother-of-pearl. She has two gold thimbles, and one of her girl friends last Christmas sent her a little box filled with glove threads. Her sisters had never known before that silk thread cuts kid and that glove threads can be bought to match every fashionable color in gloves.

Miss Dorcas has brought to bear on her work a degree of intelligence which makes it pleasant and easy. She never fails to visit the notion counters regularly and to keep in touch with all the innovations which simplify the dressmaker's work. She keeps in stock petticoat yokes which fit the various women in her family. These have three buttons and buttonholes in the back and are fully as good as anything which can be made at home. For wash shirtwaists she buys the regulation neck bands, kept in stock by haberdashers for men's shirts.

This particular Dorcas took a course of lessons in cutting and fitting, for which her father paid, saying that she had as much right to a train-

ing for this work as her sister, who is a stenographer, had to her course at the business college. Many girls are "born dressmakers" and succeed without a course of training, but the latter gives a sense of security.

Miss Dorcas has been urged by her friends to enlarge the scope of her work, and make frocks and furbelows for women outside the family circle, but for her health's sake she clings to her original purpose and sews for the family only. She has no desire to succumb to the nervous strain which

comes with the dressmaker's shop and its scores of apprentices.

Her sewing-room is a pleasure as well as a business office. Flowers bloom at the windows. A few attractive plants are on the wall. An easy couch on one side of the room, which,

when raised, shows a deep cavity for holding material, is especially comfortable chairs, for Miss Dorcas' friends have learned to drop in for a social chat and do not expect their busy hostess to stop her work because of their coming. Few parents could withstand the pleadings of a Dorcas for such a room as this.

As a result of her cheerful training it affords the girl, the family saves that item on the dressmaker's bill which

reads "Findings, \$—." For it is on the findings that the dressmaker makes and her patron loses, but, fortunately, such a room is a rare incentive to work, and many a girl who struggles almost tearfully with the family sewing in narrow quarters called sewing-rooms would do better work and do it gladly and cheerfully in harmonious surroundings.

ANNA S. RICHARDSON.

THE girl of the hour pays almost as much for her rainy day outfit as for her ball gown. In fact, a thoroughly up-to-date equipment of rainy day togger is one of the most extravagant items of a woman's wardrobe. The efforts of manufacturers to get away from the odorous, heavy materials connected in the past with waterproof garments has resulted in some fabric marvels, but they are exceedingly high-priced.

Last year the height of comfort in rainy day fabrics seemed to have been reached in light-weight cravenette. This year a silk rubber cloth not much heavier than a good quality of taffetas, is the correct thing for rainy day coats. It comes in pure white, and in the most brilliant colors, such as blue, green and red, and in the more quiet browns, olives and tans and in plaids. Rainy day coats follow very much the lines of automobile wraps, and seem almost too long and sweeping for street wear.

An English model in a fine blue rubber silk has a very large sleeve with a turn-back cuff, a deep shoulder cape and a high collar. On the cuffs, cape and collar are appliques of light blue silk edged with black braid shot with gold, and it is fastened down the front with large gold buttons. This coat has a decided dip in the back, and is best suited to motoring in stormy weather.

A much more sensible model for the woman who walks in the three-quarter length raincoat is a tan-colored rubber cloth. It has two deep capes, the longer one coming to the knuckles when the hand hangs straight at the side. The second cape just covers the shoulders, and the turn-over military collar is very high. Down the front of the coat are straps or tabs of the rubber cloth, piped with crimson silk and buttoned across with brass cabochon. The cape and coat throughout are lined with crimson silk to match the piping.

The number of ivory white silk rubber coats shown is simply amazing. Some of them are lined with pale blue or pink, and look fit to wear over evening clothes only. Others are piped with black and have appliques of black silk on the capes. These will be much worn on the street in large cities this Winter, and they are less perishable than they seem, as they can be easily cleaned with a sponge and tepid water.

Business women who expect to be on the street a great deal in rainy weather in the coming season will do well to think what the weather, are having shirtwaist suits made from cravenette. These are very expensive, but they give the effect of a Norfolk jacket and are exceedingly trim for Fall wear. They are finished simply with buttons covered with cloth to match that used in the dress. Hats of brass buttons from collar to hem in the front, two rows of smaller brass buttons on the sleeve and the enormous

buttons on the girle in the back. Heavy cravenettes in elaborate designs are being offered as well as the more simple with fur. They are exceedingly warm.

Women who prefer to face a light shower clad in a cravenette suit or coat, without the additional bother of an umbrella, are also buying a rain hat. A fine quality of felt in a broad brimmed alpine shape with a silk scarf in neutral tint is preferred.

Umbrellas come in colors to match all the new waterproof cloths, in plain silks and plaids. The woman who doesn't feel that she can afford to own several umbrellas, and who has a good black one in stock, has a case made to match her rainy day dress or coat. But in the new umbrellas the smartest models are shown in such colors as green, blue, brown and dark red. Carved wood handles showing grotesque animals and quaintly carved bits of ivory are popular. The range of Spanish-headed shoes has disappeared entirely.

The question of footwear is always a vexed one with the rainy day girl. She utterly despises overshoes, yet her shoes are not built on lines or from materials to shed water. The nearest approach to the rubberless rainy days shoe is a heavy calf-skin boot made with rubber soles. For the Cuban or Spanish-headed shoes rubbers now come with specially deep dents for heels, but the girl who wears French heels must content herself with sandals, with the advent of heavy walking boots for women the storm rubber has practically disappeared. Both white and gray overshoes are offered this season to correspond with the light-colored footwear, but there is not much demand for them.

Supplication.

Anna Laestla Waring,  
Father, I know that all my life  
is partitioned out for me,  
And the change that will surely come  
I do not fear to see;  
But I ask Thee for a present mind  
Intent on pleasing Thee.

I ask Thee for a thoughtful love,  
Through constant watching mine,  
To meet the glad with joyful smiles,  
And to wipe my weeping eyes;  
And a mind to leisure from itself,  
To soothe and sympathize.

I would not have the restless will  
That hurries to and fro,  
Seeking for some great thing to do,  
Or secret thing to know;  
I would be treated as a child,  
And guided where I go.

Wherever in the world I am,  
In whatsoever estate,  
I have a fellowship with hearts  
To keep and cultivate;  
And a work of lowly love to do,  
For the Lord on whom I wait.

So I ask Thee for the daily strength,  
To none that ask denied,  
And a mind to blend with outward life,  
While keeping at Thy side;  
Content to fill a little space,  
If Thou be glorified.

Miss Eiderleigh—I see by the papers that the craze for the antique is dying out. Miss Young—Yes, dear; but I hope for your sake that it will last through leap year at least.

—Chicago Daily News.



THE FAMILY DORCAS WILL SAVE HER RELATIVES MANY A DRESSMAKER'S BILL.