

DAY OF NARROW AND WIDE SKIRT

Present Fashion Predicted as a Forerunner of More Comfortable Styles.

TAFFETA IS FAVORED FABRIC

Because of Stiffness of Material it Aids in Accomplishing the Desired Bouffancy—Brown for Summer Clothes.

Those who study styles closely look upon the full overskirt gathered in at the bottom as a forerunner of wide skirts, writes a New York fashion correspondent. The silhouette has followed the straight and narrow way so long that unless there is a change fashions will become stagnant and there will not be sufficient stimulation to the art and industry of evolving new clothes to keep it at its best. Nor will we enjoy the exhilaration that comes from the wearing of something entirely new. The narrow silhouette, as well as the wide, appears in collections created by the same designers, and this is bound to fill us with uncertainty in ordering our costumes.

At the house of Callot in Paris are shown dresses of the flaring Camargo silhouette, their straight bell skirts fairly bristling with frills cut so that they stand out almost stiffly, and in juxtaposition to these there are Callot gowns so slender in their lines that Grecian draperies are wide compared to them. Many women order both types of frocks, but she who looks into the future and buys her clothes to predate a fashion will give consideration to the wider skirt.

Narrow and Wide at Same Time.

The new skirts puff out halfway between the knee and the ankle. There are several ways of creating this effect, which looks as though accomplished by means of a crinoline or a cage. One is by a clever manipulation of drapery; other times the bottom of the tunic is shirred to a heavy cord. There is always a tunic or overskirt cut to flare at the bottom, where it is brought in to a tight, straight foundation skirt, for fashion still insists that skirts must be narrow at the ankle, and no matter how voluminous they are above, they must decrease to a mere band at the hem.

Taffeta is a favorite material for these gowns, because the stiffness of the silk aids greatly in accomplishing the desired bouffancy. One black taffeta frock is corded in an unusual way. The cords take the form of half hoops, beginning at the bottom of the skirt and curving upward toward the waist. This silhouette aims to give an effect of extreme flatness both in the back and front and a puffiness at the sides.

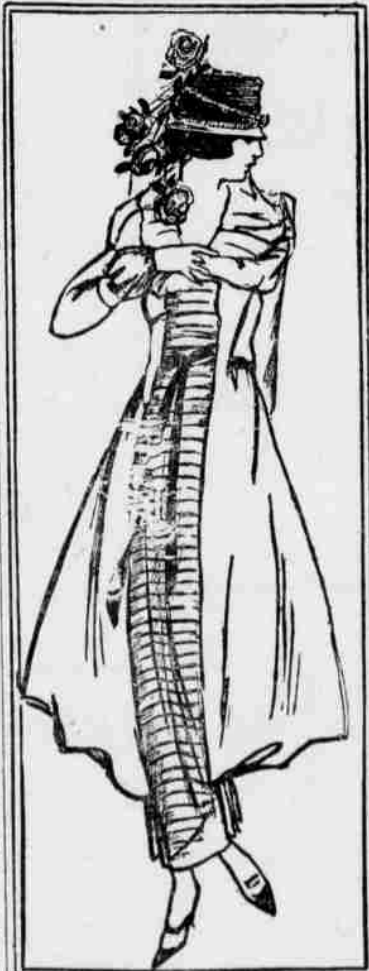
In the skirt just described the front is flat solid cording, with the taffeta setting out stiffly at either side. The flat appearance in the back is emphasized through the skirt being drawn toward the front by means of the shirings. The skirt is considerably longer in the back than in the front.

On one of the most striking costumes showing the new silhouette the tight underskirt has two large wheels

brown, that very soft and mellow brown tone seen in the roots of trees, suggests hitherto unthought-of color combinations. A tendency toward a profuse use of this color appeared first in the French hats that came over this spring; many models from the best Paris modistes were in this shade.

Now one sees on Fifth avenue in the morning shopping hours ever so many smart women wearing accordion-plaited skirts of brown checked or plaided woolen, with short coats of navy blue serge.

At Sherry's one evening recently a pretty dark-eyed girl was wearing an evening gown of deep rose-colored chiffon, girdled with brown tulle that tied itself in a frivolous puffy bow at the back with the ends falling a little below the hem of the skirt. A large fan of brown ostrich feathers completed a striking and beautiful color combination. Often brown is combined with jade green. The latter color also became a fashion favorite through the spring millinery in Paris. It is much



Dress of Black Taffeta With Wired Collar and Underleeves of White Net and Belt of Chinese Blue Ribbon.

used for evening clothes and vies with hyacinth blue for popularity in the evening.

The Mermald Dress.

I want to tell you about one other dress that a Fifth avenue designer has just made. It reminds one of a mermaid. The upper part is of iridescent spangled silver cloth that drapes loosely around the body and low on the hips. It gleams like a shiny body that has just come out of the ocean into the moonlight. The lower part is black satin, which is very tight around the ankles and creeps away into a little fishtail train that undulates along behind one.

Even the realm of parasols has been invaded by new materials. The same feeling for the use of wintry fabrics in this summer's clothes that we have seen noted in both hats and gowns is expressed in parasols. Black velvet frequently is used for them; these are lined with thin silks of contrasting tone, blue being the color most often used.

Ostrich Finds New Place for Plumage.

The French craze for the use of ostrich feathers appears in parasols as well as hats. Many of these imported by American firms are of taffeta bordered with ostrich. Others have the three little Prince of Wales ostrich tips placed at the end of each rib, and still others have the ferrule encrusted with feathers.

Very lovely are sunshades of old-fashioned chintz, such as might have been used by the beauties of pre-revolutionary days. These make charming garden parasols.

The French always make their parasols tub shape, but we in America do not like these shapes as well as the larger English ones, because they interfere with our headgear. A tub-shaped parasol is made of old blue georgette crepe over bright red taffeta and is outlined with red roses. Both Cloisonne and Jade are used for the handles of parasols. For the country there are some charming Japanese umbrellas that are very short—much shorter than the diminutive English rain or shine umbrellas that we have been using. They are almost like a miniature parasol that may be tucked under the arm when going out for a morning walk.

Demand for Gingham.

One of the features of the colored end of the cotton goods trade is the present "tightness" of the situation as it affects dress gingham. These cloths are already in strong demand over the retail counters. It appears. At wholesale the producers have the situation so strongly in hand that concentrated efforts are being made by many well-known jobbing firms in various parts of the country to induce the former to be more liberal in the way of selling terms. That the gingham craze is by no means over is shown by the demand for fall goods of this character on the part of the manufacturing trades.

ROOSEVELT WILL SPEAK AT PORTLAND

To make it possible for Theodore Roosevelt to address the opening session of the state convention of the American Legion, the state committee of that organization of ex-service men has advanced the date of the convention to be held in Portland to September 17 and 18. The original date was a week later and an attempt was made to have Roosevelt change his itinerary and be in Oregon at that time. He wired that it would be impossible—and the mountain having refused to come to Mahomet, the state committee changed the convention date.

On Aug. 15, the executive committee of Oregon will select a convention committee on which there will be members from all parts of the state. To facilitate plans, the active members will probably be from Portland post, as that is the organization which will be host to the ex-service men of the state and who will have to handle the detailed plans.

Roosevelt, as is generally known, is a member of the national executive committee of the American Legion and one of the overseas officers who visioned the great after-war organization at the Paris caucus. The St. Louis caucus cemented the ties between the forces still overseas and those in this country and a working organization was formed which is to continue at work until the national to be held at Minneapolis on November 11, anniversary of the signing of the armistice.

At the Oregon state convention delegates will be selected to the national convention and permanent state officers will be elected. The temporary officers are E. J. Elvers, tary and Barge E. Leonard, treasurer. W. B. Follett of Eugene, is state representative on the national executive committee. Charter applications for more than sixteen posts throughout the state have been sent to New York for verification and about as many more have been received by the state committee Liberty Temple, Portland.

All that is necessary to start a post of the American Legion is for 15 honorably discharged service men to get together, elect temporary officers



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and apply for a charter. Any ex-service man with a good record may appoint himself organizer in his section of the state if no post is being started and write to Secretary Walker for information as to the proper procedure.

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Gown of Black Taffeta, Featuring the Fitted Bodice, Which is Taking the Place of the Chemise Lines. The Marie Antoinette Fichu is of French Mull.

formed by shirring narrow pieces of taffeta and setting them in circular fashion on a plain skirt. The same treatment is carried out on the sleeves.

Mellow Brown Comes Once More.

We have always thought of brown as a winter color. Now it is being used for our summer clothes, and used with a haunting effect. A new shade of