

# - Woman and Her Interests -

## THE AUTUMN FASHIONS



It is even yet too early to speak with decision of the autumn styles in detail lest one's conclusions may be found to have been drawn from insufficient evidence, yet the general trend of fashion can already be noticed. These are, it appears, no radical departures or startling innovations. Indeed, it would be difficult to suggest any mode that has not been more or less in evidence, within quite recent seasons. During the

last few years we have been treated to all manner of picturesque styles, from the dashing Gainsborough to the beruffled little lady of the Watteau period; the different 'Louis' modes, the early Victorian and the decade or two earlier in date, and finally the Empire and Princess models, all with a charm of their own.

For the useful coat and skirt suit, there is a return to the more strictly tailored effect in the jacket, which is either hip-length or three-quarter length, and close-fitting. Most of the separate coats, on the other hand, are of three-quarter length, loose in both back and front, or with the front semi-fitted. Some of the 'dressy' long coats still continue to show Empire lines, either real or simulated by crossed bands, revers, and deep yoke effects. The shorter jacket, close-fitting and fastening to the throat has

a trim military sort of effect, particularly when trimmed with strapping and braid. This mode may prove too severe for the ordinary figure, and it remains to be seen whether it will be adopted, or whether there will be a return to the full, bloused front.

The entirely circular skirt has been superseded by the plaited or tucked skirt, of several gores. The box-plaited skirts are considered smart, and the skirts side plaited or tucked in groups will also be favored. Usually this kind of skirt is made walking length, as, if made with a sweep, the plaits are apt to become unfolded and the skirt loses its neat effect. The new skirts fit closely about the hips, and the flare of the gores begins about half-way between waist and knee.

There are rumors of change in that most changeable part of a woman's costume, the sleeve, but as a matter of fact no one can say with certainty what will prevail. Most of the elaborate gowns and separate waists shown thus far have the half or three-quarter sleeve, while the longer sleeve comes in the coats and blouses for ordinary wear.

The woollen goods are delightfully supple and delicate in weave. Plaids are very popular at the moment, in rich but subdued coloring. A plaid skirt is worn with a jacket of plain cloth reproducing the leading color in the plaid; or a plaid jacket in

short, military style, is smart with a plain skirt. For the woman whose wardrobe is necessarily limited, plaid is not a very wise choice, as she is apt to have to wear it so much as to feel it somewhat conspicuous, but otherwise it is a very pretty addition to the autumn wardrobe.

In a general way, grays have retained their popularity, and the gray checks and mixtures are about as well liked as they were in the spring. The red and wine shades, to judge from the many handsome materials, costumes, and hats shown in those colors, will predominate. Bronze and other greens are among leading colors, and it is prophesied that brown will be much in evidence, although we have had a good deal of brown in recent seasons.

As a trimming, braid of a variety of makes is used on all sorts of materials, and in combination with velvet, taffeta, and even lace garniture. Buttons are an important feature in the finish of the Autumn suits. Jewelled and enamelled ones are seen on coats and tailored costumes.

### SOME OTHER MODELS

One of the new autumn jacket suits is shown in a gray overcheck, made with seven-gored skirt having foot plaits let into the front seams, and caught with two gray enamelled buttons rimmed with black and white at knee-depth. The jacket is close-fitting and ends about six inches below the waist, where it is laid in two box plaits. The fronts are turned back and held with the enamelled buttons, showing a white vest braided with soutache. The hat worn with this suit is a jaunty little sailor, with rather high crown, trimmed with Dresden ribbon and a black and white wing.

The princess effect is beautifully achieved in a black chiffon cloth, the skirt in corselet style with wide flare at the foot. The trimming is a plaited band of black liberty satin, edged on either side by a narrow Venice galon with square medallions of the lace worked over with chenille. This trimming is disposed in festoons. The waist has a bolero front and fitted back, with a girdle into which the bolero fronts are gathered. The girdle is drawn up in front to the top of the corselet, where it is finished with a buckle. There is a yoke of the Venice lace, worked with chenille and surrounding this is a shaped piece of velvet that descends with stole effect to the girdle; this is covered with a galon of the Venice lace and the same trims the sides of the waist, starting from the tip of the shoulder, and finishes the puff of the elbow sleeve. The yoke closes on the left shoulder and the left side of the waist, with the velvet band, is hooked over on to the front, which is trimmed with the lace medallion. There are undersleeves of the lace with chenille.

A costume with long, graceful lines is developed in a bronze green cloth. The seams of the long coat, which fits closely with the bottom of the skirt portion circular, are covered with straps of the material ending in three loops near the hem. The fronts are closed, and edged with a diamond braid which above the bust outlines a chemisette of cream broad-cloth trimmed with a narrow mixed tan and gold soutache. Over the shoulder is a circular cap fastened to the garment under a stitched strap which runs from the bust line over the shoulder to the same depth at the back, and finishes with three loops. The cuff of the sleeve is also of the cream broad-cloth, trimmed to match the collar, with a band of the diamond braid above it. The skirt is plain flaring full about the hem, and simply trimmed horizontally with straps of the material.



Dinner-dress of Pale Pink Chiffon.

The skirt embroidered in delicate trails of wild roses and pale green leaves. The bodice is similarly worked and is finished with a lace berthe.