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Spring Offers Us a Change

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Homemaker as Citizen

LEAGUE OF NATIONS DEFINES RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Right of the child have been defined by the Assembly of the League of Nations and are published in a report of the health committee of the league.

This definition is to be known as "The Declaration of Geneva," and it reads as follows:

"By the present Declaration of the Rights of the Child, commonly known as the Declaration of Geneva, men and women of all nations, recognizing that mankind owes to the child the best but which it has to give, declare and accept it as their nationality or creed:

"1. The child must be given the means requisite for its normal development, both materially and spiritually;

"2. The child that is hungry must be fed; the child that is sick must be helped; the delinquent child must be received relief in times of distress;

"3. The child must be the first to receive benefit in times of distress;

"4. The child must be put in a position to earn a livelihood and must be protected against every form of exploitation;

"5. The child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellow men."

THE WADSWORTH AMENDMENT

The Wadsworth Amendment to the Constitution, which is to come up during the last hurried weeks of the short session of Congress, is receiving home opposition. The following, taken from an editorial in the Woman Citizen, indicates the stand taken by that magazine:

"The desire to make so difficult as to be practically impossible any change in the Constitution of the United States. This has been virtually admitted by both sides.

"Let it be understood clearly what the amendment provides. It is a substitute for the present method of adopting a constitutional amendment which allows ratification (1) by state legislators, or (2) by state conventions called for the purpose. The first way is the only one that has been used. The Wadsworth substitute requires ratification to be made by three-fourths of the states, either thru conventions elected for that purpose or thru the direct vote of the people at elections to be held under the authority of each state, and the state selects either method. The states have never chosen the convention method. It is too expensive. Since delegates elected to such a convention would have nothing to do but vote yes or no, it is obvious that this method would never be adopted. This leaves only the referendum method, but no provision is made for this in the amendment. Each state must pass a law authorizing a referendum election and make an appropriation for the expense of it. Unless at least three-fourths of the states do this, any referendum held in any one state will be futile. Meanwhile, if one-quarter of the states reject the amendment, it is killed automatically—that is, thirteen states may prevent any further consideration of an amendment passed by three-fourths of both Houses of Congress. This is not all. If in eight years from the time the amendment is first submitted, the entire far-fetched and complicated procedure is not carried successfully thru in thirty-six states, the amendment is killed.

"It is evident that the real question at stake is: do we want to bar the way to any change whatever in our Federal Constitution? Are we so sure that we know what changes the years will bring forth?"

WOMEN AT THE POLLS

In "Current History" we find a report of the activity of American women at the polls. It is estimated from quite reliable sources that 35.3 percent of the women in the United States voted in 1924, while more than 60 percent of the men took advantage of their opportunity.

Reasons for the low percentage of women voters seem to be these. Namely, lack of a political tradition, pressing home duties, lack of direct interest in politics and a feeling that voting for women is undignified.

"Current History" goes on to say that absolute statistics as to the principles supported by women are not available but the general impression is that they favor "moral" and conservative forces and hence will make the organization of a strong liberal party more difficult.

Spring Offers Us a Change

By MARGARET TAYLOR

S IT any wonder that these glorious spring days make us eager to change from our heavy winter attire to fresh, new clothes? There is always the ques-

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tion of what styles are to replace those of the past season. Let us investigate. We are constantly changing, but surely are no more fickle than the "Mistress of Fashions" herself.

Besides the straight line dress which was so popular this winter, there is this spring a basque with a higher waistline and extremely full skirt. The first style is somewhat similar to that of the past season. There is either no waistline or if present it is variously placed. However, it tends toward normal. The new note in dresses is the fullness which is introduced at the bottom of the skirt by godets or pleats, and which is revealed when the wearer walks. The pleats are set in the skirt much as godets are. Although the godet is still popular, especially in soft materials, pleats are generally gaining in favor. Pleating is "set on" the dresses probably as much as it is "set in." The unpressed pleat is set something new and smart. It is placed in the material in the usual way and left unpressed. The inverted pleat is also used a great deal.

The basque type mentioned is not as popular as the straight line dress, prob-

ably for the reason that the full skirt cannot be as easily adapted to sport and street wear as can the straight lines. It lends itself better to evening and dancing. This basque gives straighter lines than does the bouffant style. The two should not be confused. A dress of this type is charming made of the new, soft, spring taffetas which are so very popular. Other materials such as printed, flowered chiffons, flat crepe, faille and satin are also very desirable. While speaking of evening dresses, it might be interesting to know that the bustle is reappearance of yokes is accompanied by the return of lace, which is used for yokes and also jabots. The latter is conducive to the new flare in the straight line dress mentioned earlier. Jabots may be of the same material as the dress, contrasting material and color or of lace. Many lingerie collars are finished with jabots—either short or full length. These are used on both skirts and bodices. Collars and pockets of fine ecru lace add an interesting touch to a simple frock.

The mannish tailored effect in suits and top coats is good again this spring. The two piece suit still has a place but it has been supplemented by the ensemble. There is a change from the short jacket to the longer one which is slightly fitted about the hips. The short jacket is still worn but it is not so boxy as it was a year ago. Many of the skirts are pleated or panelled Sport top coats may be man-

less. However, high collars are coming into vogue again and high starched ones are stunning with the mannish types of coats. Lace is predominant at present. The yoke, which has been almost ignored for several years, is again seen this spring in various types. Or is this occult Constitution? Are we so sure that we know what changes the years will bring forth?"
nish, three-quarter or seven-eighths length, beltless and double breasted. Many of the coats used for dress occasions are fur trimmed and button at the side, nearly under the arm. Spring capes are fitted over the shoulders. One of the newest notes in spring wraps is the taffeta, or rep coat which is very tailored. Ensembles are also developed in taffeta.

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One of the newest notes in spring wraps is the taffeta or rep coat which is very tailored. Ensembles are also developed in taffeta. One of the most outstanding numbers in the line of sports is the jumper dress usually made in flannel or woolen Cashmere in various colors. The inverted pleat is featured extensively at the side or in the front or back. Ivory white crepe de chine or tailored blouses are worn with it to a certain extent but the peasant blouse is most favored. Many of the jumper frocks are accompanied with short jackets or long capes.

The general line of sport materials seems to be homespun, tweed, jersey, flannel, kasna, and camel's hair. Broad stripes and shadow plaids bring in a different and unusual note. Cross-barred surrahs and woolen mixtures are important, also. White flannel is extremely smart for this season and makes pleasing sport outfits for those who do not object the cleaning bill.

Belts are being worn a great deal for sports as well as for dress occasions. Wide leather ones with metallic touches accompany the simple sport dresses. Sash treatments for afternoon are very good, the knotted girdle effect being especially popular. Many of the afternoon dresses have large, floppy, ribbon sashes, some types tying in a small soft bow at the front of the dress. All belt lines are near the normal waist line.

The question of skirt lengths is another thing which has puzzled us. Altho dresses are much shorter, the extreme ones are not in general favor. The important thing to remember is that the length varies with the individual. Our aim in this as well as in other lines should be, of course, to dress to accentuate our own personalities rather than to be the “slaves of Fashion.”

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