



Fashionable Styles in Sports and Holiday Coats

[For the latest Paris and London modes—Beath's, Christchurch.]

Summer is not a season when the womenfolk of these Fortunate Isles waste much time in studying the vagaries of fashion. Formal gatherings and social functions really do not count with us during the festive season. It is our holiday time.

We live our summer out-of-doors: on the beaches, touring in the country, sight-seeing at favourite resorts, enjoying the sport of kings, playing tennis, dancing, yachting and indulging in many other forms of pleasure and health relaxation.

Our wardrobes should consequently be selected with a view to affording comfort before elegance, while still being stylish. Hence summer gowns must be simple. They can be practical and suitable for wearing for most occasions without the need of elaborate accessories or requiring tiresome changes. The essential idea to bear in mind when choosing a holiday outfit is to see that it does not take up much space and will not spoil in packing.

This season Dame Fashion offers a garment at once new and smart, as well as being economical, in the reversible wrap. The designers no doubt took their pattern from those fascinating Eastern shawls that travellers in India know so well: a garment of delicate crepe-de-chine, black on one side and, on the reverse, one of those matchless colour schemes of the Orient, such as a sunset of flame seen through a tracery of fantastic bamboo branches.

The adaption that has become so fashionable at Home makes an alliance of fine voile and smooth-face cloth, such as a biscuit-voile, backed by a deep wine-shade face cloth, the reverse and cuffs on the lighter material being of the deeper shade of cloth.

These wraps should be much in evidence at our fashionable race-meetings and still be useful when

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visiting. Someone has parodied the old song thus:—

*The lining to every coat
Is always bright and shiny,
We, therefore, turn our coats about
And always wear them inside out,
To show the pretty lining.*

Another new feature for sports wear, which is decidedly fashionable in the Mother Country, but may be slower in attaining a vogue in New Zealand, are rather severe grey flannel sports suits. They are light, extremely serviceable, and attractive when worn with silk or cambric blouses.

The coat is short, double-breasted and caught with link buttons. The skirts are shorter than usual and frequently furnished with box pleats on the hips. The flannel used varies only in the shade of grey. Handkerchiefs, stockings and even shorts, are made to tone, and the whole is extremely trim.

Of all the materials to choose from for holiday clothes, nothing, of course, can quite take the place of kasha. Not only is it uncrushable, and therefore ideally suited for travelling wear, but it possesses as well the unique distinction of being cool for wear on hot days, and warm for wear in colder weather; and it comes in all those shades of beige which are so eminently coloured for travelling wear.

One of the simplest yet smartest of travelling costumes is composed of a skirt of striped kasha, pleated in front for preference as pleats at the back are too likely to crush after having been sat on for any length of time in a long train or motor journey, a jumper of plain kasha trimmed with bands of the striped material, and a little felt hat, bound and trimmed with a narrow corded ribbon to harmonise with the costume.



The Finishing Touches

(W. Recell Reynolds, Auckland.)

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