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## Women's Column

Address all Communications to Women's Column, Buffalo Socialist

### WOMAN'S DRESS

We hear a great deal these days about woman's dress, or, as some say, the lack of it. Everybody is having their say and their criticism depends upon their point of view. The question is whether the skirt that is too narrow to allow a full stride in walking is in better taste than the development which receives very little attention. The all-absorbing question is "Are women's clothes immoral?" and we have been asked for an opinion on the subject.

Personally, neither we nor our friends are much given to fads or freakishness either in dress or other things. We think one should use common sense from time to time just as other things, but in this matter we have found a factor that does not enter into most other problems—that of fashion. It is the style to dress so and so, that "you might as well be dead as out of style" is no joke to most women. This "style" is an insidious thing; no one seems to be able to entirely escape from it or its effects.

In order that fashion makers, dress and cloth manufacturers can have a constant source of revenue, and all women must abide more or less by its decrees. And why do they follow it? In order to be agreeable, companionable, pleasant, etc. and above all to make themselves attractive. As Comrade Claude says, the natural future of women is married life and consciously or unconsciously, practically all are prepared for it.

An attractively dressed girl, even though she may not be very pretty, has the advantage of being attractive. And if she is not, she will be much affected upon by women's dress. Woman will wear what she will when she will, and neither prison bars nor the anathemas of the elect will prevent it. We do not, however, see any sense in these exaggerated or abbreviated styles, and they will not be worn to any extent by Socialist women, for we realize that there are things in life more worth while than keeping up with the latest fashion.

We do not believe that laws passed against the skirt should interfere with the right of individual expression, but we believe it would have much effect upon women's dress. Woman will wear what she will when she will, and neither prison bars nor the anathemas of the elect will prevent it. We do not, however, see any sense in these exaggerated or abbreviated styles, and they will not be worn to any extent by Socialist women, for we realize that there are things in life more worth while than keeping up with the latest fashion.

The opening day of the International Congress of School Hygiene revealed the fact that the educational forces of the world have felt the influence of economic conditions and must recognize the power of the social conscience and collective action to regulate the evils that so directly affect the children of the world.

The chairman of the afternoon session, Mr. Clappier of Cincinnati, devoted entirely to the discussion of child labor, remarked in opening the discussion, that this was, perhaps, the first meeting held, recognizing the intimate correlation of child-labor and the health of school children. Mr. Clappier, who is superintendent of "The Progressive," a newspaper of Cincinnati, dealt particularly with the newsboy problem and mentioned definitely that there had been an evolution even in the industry of selling newspapers and blacking boots. The newsboy problem and mentioned definitely that there had been an evolution even in the industry of selling newspapers and blacking boots. The individual newsboy no longer being exploited for himself, and little Greek and Italian boys were being exploited by blacking-blacks.

"This project has been in my mind for some time because our labor is not standardized and we are surely ostracized."

Today the domestic servant works long hours, often under unfavorable conditions, has few friends and her sources of culture and amusement are limited. How can a girl driven from home and society find a place of her own? She has become estranged from association with scrub-pail and frying pan? Not that these things are of themselves degrading but we need social advantages to give us a new and broader outlook on life.

"We will hear where every girl works, her hours of service, her compensation for such service, where she sleeps, the food she eats, her hours off duty, and whether she has social advantages or not.

"I know of many instances in Buffalo where the girls are poorly paid and underfed, where the hours of service are slavish, where rooms are so hot in summer and so cold in winter that comfort is impossible. No wonder girls are driven on the street for a little relaxation and change."

"We can and will remedy these conditions when we are well organized. We do not expect antagonism or opposition from any class of people, but we feel they will be willing to co-operate and urge the girls to join the organization."

"Standardizing the work will bring about better relations between employer and employee. It will recognize the truth at once."

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." It makes girls just as stupid and this organization's aim will be to make life worth living."

The next meeting will be held at Johnson Park Hall, September 2, at 9 P. M. We hope you will be present.

Carrie, Wm. H. Schubert, on that sub-

ject is to speak. One of the delegates to the International Congress of Hygiene has been secured to address the girls at this meeting.

Patronize our advertisers, and tell others to do likewise.

Ella Reeve Bloor, August 29, 1913.

## BUFFALO SOCIALIST

## Socialist Party News

Address all Communications to Party News, Buffalo Socialist

### AN OPEN LETTER

To Every Socialist Party Member.

Dear Comrade: Here is some inside

information that concerns YOU.

Unless we have 400 Lyceum contracts

by Sept. 1st, there is danger that the

Lyceum will be stopped on that date.

We may not be permitted to even try

for the required 400 contracts during

September.

A doubt has arisen as to the meaning

of the National Committee motion con-

cerning the Lyceum, which provided

that if 400 contracts had not been se-

ured by Sept. 1st, the question of con-

tinuation should again be submitted to

the National Committee. There is a

desire to postpone the Lyceum until

September 1st.

This question has already been sub-

mitted to the Executive Committee.

We dare not wait until they make their

decision. To be safe we MUST have

400 contracts before Sept. 1st.

In this emergency I turn direct

to you.

To date, Aug. 14, we have contracts

for 243 Lyceum courses. I know of

over a hundred Local that have voted

to take the Lyceum, but have not yet

seen their contracts. So you see we

don't need very many more to make it

safe, but WE MUST HAVE THOSE

400.

Agreement blanks and fall partici-

pation lists have been sent to the Secre-

tary of your Local and Branch.

Please make it your personal business to

see that the Lyceum agreement from YOUR

Local or Branch is mailed in time to

reach this office before the first of Sep-tem-

ber.

If we fail in this effort it will have

a depressing effect on every other

Party activity, local as well as national.

It will hamper every undertaking for

the coming year.

If we win the result will be positively

electrifying. Those of our members

that are now sleeping in the trenches

will be called to arms and there will

be such a forward charge all along the

line as our Party has never seen.

When you read this, there will be only

a very few days left.

It is the duty of the Local

Committee to rally the forces

of the Local to help the

International Congress.

It is the duty of the Individual

Member to rally his forces

and to help the International Congress.

It is the duty of the Branch

to rally its forces and help the

International Congress.

It is the duty of the State

to rally its forces and help the

International Congress.

It is the duty of the National Com-

munity to rally its forces and help the

International Congress.

It is the duty of the International Com-

munity to rally its forces and help the

International Congress.

It is the duty of the World to rally

its forces and help the International

Congress.

It is the duty of the Party to rally

its forces and help the International

Congress.

It is the duty of the Com-

munist to rally its forces and help the

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It is the duty of the Socialists to rally

its forces and help the International

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It is the duty of the Socialists to rally

