PREFACE

This book presents practical working directions for the design and construction of women’s clothing, including various kinds of outer- and undergarments. It includes problems embracing the fundamental principles involved in the selection and design of clothing; the theory and use of color; pattern-making and clothing construction.

As the mission of the text is chiefly the exposition of constructive processes, the selection of apparel and choice of material has been treated in a manner as best fitted into the scheme of the book. A more scientific treatment of textiles may be found in the numerous texts listed in the bibliography.

The construction of garments has been approached from the standpoint of those who have had instruction in elementary sewing. For those who have not had such instruction, a review of the fundamental stitches, and some simple processes, have been included in the section on undergarments.

When used in schools and colleges, it is not intended that the subject matter be taken bodily from the text for classroom use, but rather that a selection of problems be assigned by the teacher, that will best fit the needs of students, and the time allotted to the subject in the curriculum; and that the text in the hands of students be supplemented by the teacher’s instruction. It is important that teachers read the section written for them, which is intended to aid in an intelligent use of the text (pp. 426–437).

In the home, the text will, it is believed, serve as a reliable handbook to the woman who makes her own clothing or supervises its construction; while the woman who purchases ready to wear garments will receive help in her selection by the standards suggested here. Special suggestions for the home women are given (pp. 437–439).

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