

70% of Hunter Girls Rebel at Long Skirts; Called Impracticable and Uneconomical

The girls of Hunter College—theoretically 6,000 strong—turned from the ancient classics last week to ponder the trend of current events. They discussed the crucial problem of the day, and 70 per cent of them revealed themselves as rebels. They do not like long skirts.

Ever since the Paris fates—Chanel, who plans; Lelong, who spins, and Patou, who clips the thread—decreed the return of the feminine silhouette there have been dull mutterings on the Hunter campus. Yesterday the Journalism Club announced the results of the survey conducted among the students, and the mutterings became an outspoken protest. Thirty per cent of the girls favored the long and flowing lines, but 70 per cent were emphatically defiant.

There are, say the 70 per cent, many things wrong with the long skirt. It is impracticable, uncomfortable and uneconomical. It is inconvenient in the subway, impossible to accommodate to the length of a coat, and bad in its psychological effect on the wearer because it banishes the sense of freedom and comfort which,

it seems, goes with the short skirt. Twenty-eight per cent of the girls objected to the long skirt on hygienic grounds. The new mode, it was contended, is not new at all but "a long step backward in the progress of woman's emancipation."

The thirty per cent who favored the new fashion spoke of individuality, "the vogue," and a return to femininity. On the authority of Mary Garden, they declared that short skirts had robbed women of their most fascinating attribute—mystery. The majority was inclined to hoot at this romantic value, although some admitted that perhaps the long skirt had its place in formal attire. But for street and campus, never.

There is a feeling on the campus that the protest will have some effect. There have been objectors to the long skirt before, the girls point out, but this is the first time that so many girls have presented such united opposition. Meanwhile, the Journalism Club is preparing a similar survey among the woman faculty members.