THE ebb and flow of the tide are regulated by the moon—, but nothing seems able to control the rise and fall of the waist-line. This spring, in some of the collections, an attempt was made to launch a raised line. A few months before, among the very young and lissom in America, there was even a transient revival of the belted normal waist. And for two or three years, in the hush that preceded the great unveling of the mode, one has heard whispers of that brief bodice that flourished upon Madame Récamier and the Empress Josephine.

BUT, despite all these things, the waist-line does not rise appreciably. It fluctuates within a very few inches. Sometimes, it is eliminated altogether, and cut and trimming that usually appear a bit higher than the waist-line would have been, make up for its absence. It has undulated, sometimes falling in front and back and rising at the sides. It has dropped to a low "V" in the back. It has wound around the hips in a wavy line. And it has risen in front from a very low line at the back.

VOGUE believes that the last mentioned is, perhaps, the most significant at present, both as a defined fashion tendency and as a transition to the showings of the autumn collections. Vogue feels emphatically that there will be no abrupt change to a high waist-line. But, its present uneasiness may quite possibly point to higher things.

THE richness of jewels continues in Paris, with diamonds as the solid foundation on which practically everything rests. They are combined with sapphires, with emeralds, with rubies—all the royal family of jewels—in brooches, in bracelets, in necklaces, in earrings. Almost without exception, these jewels are cut square or oblong. One can not help wondering what has happened to the round stones of a not very distant past. These jewels are so large and so much in evidence that their veracity might be doubted but for the fact that their authenticity is established by the identity of their wearers. Lucky are those women who have the family jewels to call upon.

The close, moulded hat, in very lightweight flexible felt or the new satiny felt, is the smartest hat for the first days of autumn.

For cooler days at Southampton, the jersey sweater, made like the top of a two-piece dress, is often combined with a kasha or flannel skirt.

"Briquets" (cigarette lighters) are being carried by all the smartest Frenchwomen, as well as by the men. Dunhill makes them of dark green shark-skin, with a cigarette case to match, both initialled in diamonds. Cigarette cases, boxes, "briquets" and clock frames, all of great elegance, are being done in shagreen. The large-grained skin is never than the finer grain called "gelukat."