

Small Girls' Summer Apparel is Sweetly Simple

AFTER the extravagance which reigns in the average feminine summer wardrobe, it is a relief to turn to the small girl and her apparel. She shows the simplicity which once marked the summer toilettes of her elders. Perhaps it is a matter of necessity and not of choice. Her athletic practices would play havoc among filmy fabrics and marvellous unwashable creations of embroidery, lace and handwork. Even her Sunday-go-to-meeting and party gowns must stand the strain of youthful exuberance. Perhaps, also, American mothers are following sensible foreign fashions. Nothing could be simpler than the frocks of little French girls.

The long French waist and short bouffant sleeves have been in favor for the very small girl for several seasons. Usually the frocks for these 3 or 4-year-olds are of white cambric or linen, but some of the French shops are showing charming little slips of pale pink and blue muslin. They are either trimmed with lace or with fine rainsook wash embroidery in the same shade.

One of these muslins is in a baby blue. It has the long waist and the blouse is more than usually full. This fullness is drawn in at the long waist line by a white muslin sash with hemstitched ends. The short skirt flares out below with a frill-like effect. The elbow sleeves are finished by a hemstitched band of the white. The striking feature of the dress is the deep handkerchief collar of white rainsook embroidery. It is bordered by a narrow, scalloped ruffle of embroidery, headed by an inch fold of the blue muslin.

The white, wash sashes will be found of great economy for the small girl or boy. In the above frock the folds around the waist are lightly stitched in place here and there and the sash tied in the back in a spreading bow resembling a rosette.

The handkerchief bertha is a popular feature of children's dress this summer. It is simple and graceful, and gives opportunity for suitable trimming. Handkerchief ruffles are also used as a finish for the elbow sleeves.

White pique is always in use for children's frocks. Its very stiffness of fold accords well with the simplicity which rules childish fashions. When trimmed with hand embroidery in heavy white linen, or with rainsook or batiste machine embroidery, it is suitable for almost every occasion. This summer it has a new use in coats. Time was when the pique coat was only deemed fit for infants' wear. This year it is the smart thing for even the grown-up.

A simple coat for the 6-year-old girl is on the recifer order, but shows a difference in the rounded cape collar and double-breasted front effect. It is fastened by large, white pearl buttons, and has the cleverest of pockets. The coat sleeves puff slightly above the straight, narrow cuffs. A chevron, embroidered on the left sleeve, half way between armpit and elbow, gives a touch of color.

A pique dress for a child of the same age has five box pleats, front and back, running from neck to hem. It is cut so as to flare slightly at the bottom. The collar is cut round, leaving the throat bare, and is bordered and ornamented by an applique of flat, white linen braid. The tight-fitting, turnback cuffs which band the full sleeves are fastened with tiny pearl buttons. A three-inch belt of the pique, which runs through slashes in the frocks beneath the box pleats, gives a long-waisted effect.

Another pique dress partakes of the nature of a Russian blouse. The waist line is not quite so deep, and the skirt has less of the nature of a frill. The neck is cut out in a slight V in front, and bordered by a



RUSSIAN SAILOR SUIT OF BLUE SICILIENNE.

A SMART LITTLE PIQUE.

wide-stitched band of linen in a vivid blue shade. The band is continued down the front of the blouse, and similar bands form the tight-fitting cuffs. Instead of a sash, a finish to the waist line is given by wide silk braid of the same shade of blue. It is knotted at the left side, and the long ends are finished by silk ball and cord ornaments. A similar ornament gives a finish to the point of the V neck.

Russian blouse suits are exceedingly popular in all fabrics. They certainly afford plenty of freedom for motion, and, when combined with a dicky and sailor collar of a contrasting shade are always pretty.

Navy blue sicilienne is the material of a natty Russian blouse sailor suit which is suitable for either seashore or mountain wear. Instead of a dicky, it has a pointed vest of the robin's egg blue French flannel, which reaches to the waist line. The very full blouse is belted in at the waist by a stitched strap of the sicilienne, and the skirt is rather scant. The bell sleeves flare at the hand and are trimmed with two-inch wide folds of the blue flannel. These are hand-embroidered with a simple pattern in white silk. The sailor collar is also of the robin's egg blue flannel and is bor-

dered by a band of the white silk embroidery.

Among the frocks of thinner fabrics, valenciennes lace is the favorite trimming. It is sheer and dainty, and wears and washes far better than might be expected from a lace of so fine a thread.

A guimpe dress of dotted swiss is quite elaborately trimmed with inch-wide valenciennes lace and insertion. The full long French blouse is drawn in at the waist line by a white muslin sash. It is trimmed by a shaped bertha of the swiss, finished by triple ruffling of the lace. The puffed elbow sleeves have full ruffles similarly trimmed. The flaring skirt is formed of two full ruffles or flounces of the swiss, each bordered by a band of valenciennes insertion and lace. A round, white mull hat, trimmed with lace, and a parasol of dotted swiss, ornamented by lace ruffles, make a dainty costume for the small girl. The guimpe may be worn over a yoke and sleeves of fine white tucking and insertion.

A white batiste party frock has a square neck, outlined by a wide band of shirring. Over this double bands of white applique interlace to give a yoke effect, and extend

down both sides of the full blouse as far as the waistline. The shirring and the applique bands are continued over the caps of the sleeves. These have a somewhat exaggerated puff, and are finished by deep tight-fitting cuffs of the shirring. The skirt has a shallow yoke of the shirring. The interlacing of applique bands is repeated on it, and the double bands extend down both sides of the front nearly to the hem of the skirt, thus giving something of a panel effect. A soft crush belt of the batiste follows the curved French waistline, and is finished by a soft rosette.

Especial care is being taken in the selection of the stockings, shoes and slippers of the small girl. The stockings may be openwork plain, but they are always in a solid color. Embroidery in a contrasting color is entirely out of place. White stockings are much worn, as well as delicate shades matching the various frocks. Strap shoes and slippers are very fashionable. In either colored or black kid they look well on a small foot. Sandals are a fad for the little tots. They are worn without stockings, and, being both cool and comfortable, find high favor with the children themselves.

HARRIET HAWLEY.

Herb Garden of Our Grandmothers Again in Fashion

AMONG the many old country customs redivivus, none can show more reason from either a gastronomic, medicinal or aesthetic standpoint for its reinstatement in popular favor than the old-fashioned herb garden of our grandmothers.

Fifty years ago she was a shiftless housekeeper indeed whose kitchen garden did not boast its corner sacred to sage, summer savory, thyme, parsley, tarragon, and all those other seasoning herbs whose distinctive flavors lent themselves so admirably to those savory

"Country messes
Which the neat-handed Phyllis dresses."

The garret, come late autumn, was redolent with the pungent, delightful odor of vegetable cure-alls and simples, hanging in dry bunches from the rafters.

Then the custom fell into disuse and American cookery suffered thereby. Dependent upon a drugstore or corner grocery for all such things, the delicate seasoning of stews and soups went too often by default. Not so with the French housewife, whose ragouts and soups are culinary "dreams," for her seasonings are always at hand and cost her nothing, as she raises them herself. If she has no garden, pots on the window ledge answer the purpose. So it is with the Italians.

A bed of sweet herbs is not at all hard to cultivate, even in the circumscribed quarters of a city back yard. It is an especially good plan to start such a bed near a country cottage, for the reason that the country store or vegetable dealer seldom thinks to add any of the seasoning herbs to his stock in trade.

The most useful herbs to raise in the garden are parsley, chives, sage, summer savory, tarragon, thyme, caraway, mint and chervil.

Chervil possesses a most delicate flavor, besides making a pretty salad garnish. It comes up quickly from the seeds and grows rapidly. It is delicious in salads, and combined with tarragon, chives and cress, it makes the famous mince of herbs used by French cooks to season cold sauces and salads.

Tarragon is a hardy perennial which must be purchased by the root to start with. It makes a delicious vinegar, and lends itself to hot cookery as well as salads.

Sage is also a perennial and, besides furnishing its well known flavor to "stuffings" and sausage, it is a time-honored and useful remedy in home nursing.

Hot sage tea will break up a cold if the patient will remain in bed, buried under a heap of blankets. That is what our grand-

mothers prescribed. They also used sage leaves to clean their teeth, and applied it to old, suppurating wounds.

Caraway is another old-timer that, once started, goes on growing forever. Who can ever forget grandmother's caraway seed cakes, now happily revived, or her green apple pie, well sprinkled with the same aromatic seed?

Thyme and summer savory, the favorite seasonings of the English housewife, should be raised from seed each year, as also the most useful of all seasonings and garnishes—parsley.

With parsley to fall back on in an emergency, the housewife may decorate her meat platter and dress her table. Parsley sweetens the breath and takes away the odor of onions. If wanted in early spring, parsley, which is a biennial, may be sowed in September in a moderately fertile soil. During cold weather the plants should be covered nearly to the top with leaves, held in place with brush.

The French herb, pimpinell, known in this country as garden bernet, is another plant that deserves an honored place in the herb garden or kitchen window box. It grows wild in many parts of this country and Canada, where it was introduced by the French settlers. It has a mild, cucumber-like taste, which makes it, when finely

minced, a delicious addition to salads.

A few bunches of chives and borage add much to the culinary value of the herb garden.

Lavender, balm and basil, cultivated in the garden or in pots, furnish in leaf or bloom the most delicious fragrance for the family linen chest.

Frills of Fashion

Very dainty collar and cuff sets are fashioned from Mexican drawn work.

Automobile coats of canvas in a very light tan tone are favored in Paris.

Some of the newest shirtwaist buttons are decorated with art nouveau heads.

Eclat clasps of French gray silver are finished with pendants of the same metal.

Indications point to a generous use of gilt buttons on fancy tailored costumes for fall.

Crochet buttons and ornaments in heavier effects than at present will be used in the fall.

Among the striking novelties is the beetle buckle of hard enamel framed in oxidized silver.

Hat pins of gun metal, in fancy form and embellished with rhinestones, represent a Parisian novelty.

Olive-shaped pearl buttons will dispute fashionable prestige with the familiar round variety next season.

Diamond-shaped medallions of lace, so popular for dress trimming, are being replaced by those in oval form.