



SHIRTS FOR THE HOME DRESSMAKER



Where The "Home Made" Tot Can Score Over Her Ready Made Sister.



THE question what to choose for the serviceable heavy outer coats for the small boy or girl this year is fashionably decided by getting diagonal cloths for boys and checked Scotch tweeds for girls. These checks are as nearly as possible like the inside of the double faced gait cloths of two seasons ago. They are the novelty of the year for the small girl's everyday coat and are cut almost invariably in a couple of deep plaits on either side of the double breasted front. The backs are loose, with attached belt to button on at the waist line and the turn back cuffs and collars are finished with dark velvet facings to harmonize. One of the prettiest is in black and white check with black velvet facings and black velvet covered buttons, with the lining harmonizing well in gray tailors' satin.

These coats, which are full length, are heavy enough to do away with all flannel interlinings, and in fact the Scotch tweeds in which they are made are so heavy they are difficult to obtain just now at the ordinary shop counter, as the trend of women's fashions in the last year or two has been steadily away from heavy materials.

A tailor shop is really the best place to buy the cloth for these little coats, which are just one of the little novelties which are found in the best of the ready made trade, but which are not yet provided for on the counters.

When at first the weight and nice tailoring required on these coats are considered it seems almost needlessly ambitious to attempt them at home. The truth is that it is just another case of the difference in cost between making and buying, in which the balance of expense is entirely in favor of making when it is the height of the season and everything is selling for full price. It is also just the other way at the late season of reduced prices.

With the small person whose length takes on inches between seasons there is always the necessity for keeping up with the calendar, and the mother who makes one of these little coats can count on a saving of one-third at least. From \$20 to \$25, which is the store price of the

nice soft qualities, is after all a good price to pay for a girl of 5 or 6 for everyday wear. Especially true is this when it is considered that these goods can be bought for from \$3.75 to \$5 by the yard, and that two or two and a half yards are ample for 5, 6, and 7 year sizes. There is also every advantage in getting the thoroughly good material, which, with simplicity of design, is the main thing which distinguishes the belongings of the best dressed boys.

For the dressier and smarter coats the expense of getting them up at home is so comparatively small that it will give many a little girl a dress up change, which at the ready made price would be prohibitive. One of the prettiest outfits of the year is a black crushed plush with collar, cuffs, and belt of stitched red velvet. The red is a vivid scarlet and the lining is white, and it makes the most stunning dress coat imaginable, and still it is one with serviceable qualities. The price of this for a girl of 6 was \$20, and it could not only be exactly duplicated for much less but the same idea could be effectively carried out in black albatross, or which a pretty quality comes at \$1.50 a yard.

Broadcloth in strong shades, especially many new tones of red, is a charming choice for "Sunday" coats, in which it would be a delight to array a small girl. These come in beautiful strong shades, especially of red. A soft, warm raspberry shade and a soft yet bright coral are seen in two little broadcloth models, which are made with an overlapping front laid from the neck in inch and a half box plaits, stitched down into a little yoke. There is a little straight band collar made of black fur or "fur cloth," and a little piece of the cloth runs down as far as the yoke effect extends, to conceal the fastenings. One pretty style is in dull blue broadcloth with large circular collar (which can be bought ready made) in black braid openwork, which has a lacey effect. Extremely fanciful white broadcloth coats are made with gray and white fur linings turning over at throat and sleeves into little collars and cuffs, the fur of these being so soft and

"young" looking that it plainly suggests "kitten" instead of squirrel.

Another suggestion for a dress up coat is in white albatross, which might also be adopted in a black one. An extremely wide Hercules plaid braid in black and white was used just like cloth in making circular cuffs and collar. Over these and holding them in place were straps of black velvet tacked down at the ends with gilt buttons. Never are the advantages of the little "home made" girl, especially if she is home made of the best quality, felt so keenly as when inspecting the simple lines of the new valisees dresses. These are the newest and most exclusive "dresses" wear this year for these small persons, and there is nothing else in which they look so patriotic as in one of these frocks in dark, rich colors. A good model was made with a slightly kilted skirt and blowing waist, which crossed over in surplice fashion. Upon this surplus was laid a long turnback collar made of white broadcloth, edged with insets of Irish lace. A more serviceable idea is to make the collar and cuffs which match it of cream linen with the embroidery.

For the mother who is looking for service rather than luxury the little three-quarter Peter Thompson rears are good again this year, and many mothers who buy these ready made get them in the sections where boys' goods are kept, as the goods are more durable and they wear better. Where this is done two sizes larger should be taken for a girl than for her small brother of the

same age on account of more bulky sleeves and waist trimmings.

Answering the demands for room in the coats on account of the fuller fashions this winter, there comes a girls' referer made in Peter Thompson styles which exactly duplicates her small brother's except that it has special "girls' sleeves."

For the larger schoolgirl a coat is always beloved that completely envelopes the figure. She is apt to adore something which will cover school defects at short notice and make her ready for incursions into other fields as a member of society. The best of models for this young person is pictured in the full length coat in which the fullness is stitched down in box plaits intersected by lines of black silk braid. A bright navy is a good choice with dome shaped buttons of unpolished gilt.

One more word about coats is to relate the plan of a mother who cleverly contrived a coat for her 10 year old in a dark green cloth. It was cut in a comfortable semi-fitting shape with loose sack back and was finished at sleeves and the sloping neck by a plain facing. Two sets of collars and cuffs were made, the collar a large one that was pressed to turn well in and to baste easily inside the edge of the coat. The cuffs were finished separately and "blind stitched" on. Green stitched velvet was the goods used in one set and biscuit colored broadcloth the other, both of them being made on a backing of the green cloth.

Fashions For Boys

THERE is an increasing demand for the sailor suit in dressing the small boy. Where a boy used to wear a Russian blouse from the time he was two and a half up to eight or ten years, he is now more often than not jumped into a sailor suit at five. These little men are making fashion for themselves by objecting strenuously to the further buying of blouse costumes after they get to years of discretion, or to years in which they observe what is worn by the next boy bigger.

It is not only well to let them have their way about their own clothes as far as possible, but there are one or two reasons why the mother becomes the gainer by so doing when it is in the preference for the sailor suit over the Russian blouse. The father of some particularly well dressed and distinguished looking little boys has always taken a hand in deciding what they shall wear. From the time they were small two year and a half urchins just getting out of kilts they have worn sailor suits, and for the simple reason that they were easier to put on. In these they soon got so they could dress themselves to the saving of the mother and to the acquiring of a sturdy independence. The Russian blouse is finished so generally with the Eton collar that the dressing of his neck is impossible for the small chap, and if there chances to be a sailor collar and dickey upon the blouse this is also arranged with a series of impossible hooks.

In the sailor suits there is one special design which has the feature of easily getting and staying in place. This is the waist that goes under the blouse and which is simply a thin lining to which the shield is firmly and flatly stitched, and to which buttons are sewed, to which are attached the trousers. When this is on, the shield is held in place under the blouse. With a blouse that either goes on over the head, or a double breasted one that fastens in front, the boy soon learns to dress himself, and he is comfortable beyond the dreams of the boy with the starched collar.

In making these sailor suits a buttonhole should be put under the collar for fastening to the top button of the waist in the back. Large buttons and buttonholes should be used on these waists, making only three or four necessary.

The Russian effect is also noticeably giving way to a box coat effect in the overcoats. Boys from five to sixteen are all wearing the same model coat, except that in the older styles it is of three-quarter length. This length is also to be worn by the younger little fellows who have hitherto worn full length coats. Gray diagonal tweeds are a favorite material this winter, and black velvet collars are used on nearly all of them. There is also a return to the cord Brandenburgs for fastenings. Peter Thompsons with chevrons is one of the styles in the three-quarter length which will be worn by the boy up to ten.

Picturesque Greenaway Hats

THE lingerie hat has no sooner become a thing of the past than its place has been taken by a new felt creation which is built upon nearly the same lines. This is the plateau hat, old in idea but new and much improved in treatment. As these hats have been evolved lately in the waltzes, creams, and pale blues that are best suited to baby faces, they have a luxuriance of effect which would become small princesses. As a matter of fact, in spite of their elaborateness of outline, they are no more impossible of home execution than the lingerie hat.

They can either be made out of the felt or out of the plateau which come for the purpose and which are mounted over a wire frame. These plateaus are not all of them flat as of yore, but have been evolved into a kind of a Tam o' Shanter shape which is weak and floppy in its natural state and utterly impossible to do anything with until it is mounted over a lining and a wire frame. A plateau of this kind in the French felts is priced at \$7 or \$8, but when the fact is considered that the hats made up from them come as high as \$30 the ease with which they can be "set up" makes them worth trying. All of this luxury is not expended, either, upon the youngest of the family, as girls as old as from 12 to 16 who are of the picturesque type wear them with fascinating effect for "dress up" occasions.

A plateau of the \$5 grade was made up charmingly

with the wire frame lined with chiffon over which was stretched a thin piece of white lace. Around the edge of the frame and projecting beyond the felt was a double ruche of gathered chiffon, and in under the brim at one side was a little "face trimming" of a sprig of pink roses. The outside was simply finished in a stunning bow of cream ribbon. This, like the most of these hats, was set up on a bandeau but in as in the ordinary chapeau.

One enormous but lovely piece of headgear of this kind might have been called a lingerie hat but for the fact which was on the outside. The ruffles, which seemed to be doubled and trebled around the edge of the frame, stood out away beyond the felt part and were exceedingly full and effective, being of thin white silk, plaited and edged with Valenciennes lace. The plaited silk reached clear under the brim and the top cover was from a large circular piece of white felt which was filled up into a kind of Tam crown with the edge coming out in such a way as to form a brim over the silk ruffles. Ribbon bunches which stuck out from under the crown were the only trimming other than the marvelously ornamental ruffles.

This hat could be made with far less expense than the kinds in which the plateau has to be bought, as it was cut from the piece felt. Two circular pieces are usually taken to make a hat, one of them being hollowed out to form the brim.

