

SMART DESIGN FOR WINTER



Brown duvety, the most wanted material for winter, is cleverly used in this attractive suit. The choker collar is of beaver. Tan braid lends an original tone to the skirt.

USE FOR THE OLD BLOUSES

Worn-Out Garments May Be Transformed Into Numerous Articles of Apparel.

Old blouses make numbers of pretty and useful things after they can no longer serve for waists. A pink pussy willow taffeta blouse will make a lovely girdle for a white net party frock.

If the silk has begun to slit folds can be laid in a girde or in an under hat band so the worn part will never show and the silk will many times do remarkably long service used this latter way.

An old ruffled pongee blouse that had been worn and washed till it was faded looking, was dipped in deep rose dye and made a most jaunty sports hat, covered over a buckram frame with heavy cords edging the top and bottom of the crown and the brim.

A bisent-colored crepe de chine waist was dipped in coffee to give it more tone and from the whole parts of the blouse enough material was rescued to cover a small toque. Inch folds, running vertically, were laid around the sides of the toque and a loose blouse of silk on the crown gave a stylish tam effect to the hat.

The collar and front of this blouse, which was all in one piece with a hemstitched border, and the cuffs were cut from this waist, to be used to give a new touch to another dress. Thus vestee and cuff set of tan crepe de chine will look well on either a dark brown or navy blue wool dress.

LEADERS AMONG SMALL FURS

Pekon or Fisher Takes Precedence Over Other Small Pelts and Prices Are Soaring.

There are women, writes a Paris fashion correspondent, who apparently cannot be extravagant enough in furs, for one sees full mantles of sable, mink, kolinsky and squirrel, the latter in the sable dye or in the natural gray color. The skins are all worked in striped patterns, some of which circle the width of the mantle, while others run up and down. These mantles represent the height of luxury in fur wraps. They are of very simple design, many without sleeves, but always with big enveloping collars that muffle the throat and shoulders.

Next after these fancy fur garments come those of Hudson seal and nutria cut after the same fashion; occasionally a coat of baby lamb or caracul appears, but these skins are very rare in France.

In small furs, pekon, or fisher, still takes precedence over all other pelts. The smartly dressed woman shows such a decided taste for the pekon that prices are soaring.

Buttons on Baby's Bonnet. Instead of having to rip the stitches from baby's bonnet-strings every time you wash them, fasten them on with a little pearl button; then all you have to do is to unbutton them, and this saves considerable time.

Black and White Checks. Black and white checks make a smart lining for a cape.

FOR HEAVY BLOUSE

Satin and Weaves of Velvet Are Exceptionally Smart.

Sheer, Dainty Models Have Not Lost Caste—Lingerie Blouses Popular for Spring.

The blouse of heavy fabric—not necessarily really heavy, but in any event lacking the transparency of net or georgette—is one of the favorites of the winter season. Among the material favored, satin and the various weaves of velvet are exceptionally smart. In emphasizing this fancy for the heavy blouse, however, it must not be understood that the sheer, dainty models of lace, net, georgette, etc., have in any way lost caste. The heavier models have merely been added, giving even greater variety to the already lovely display.

The sketch shows a very smart blouse, which may be developed attractively in velvet with bead or wood embroidery in contrasting color, or in satin with metal, silk or wool embroidery as the trimming. The blouse shown is waist length and finished with a soft, crushed grade of self fabric, two long fringe-tipped panels distinguishing the blouse in front. The slightly flared elbow sleeves are finished with the embroidery, and the neck has a piping of self fabric.

Another exceptionally smart blouse recently seen was of terra cotta colored satin, cut straight and long enough to reach just to the hips. The blouse was trimmed about the lower edge, the short sleeves and the square open neck with Bulgarian embroidery in an attractive blending of colors.

A smart and severely plain cascade blouse shown in one of the smart shops recently was of navy crepe de chine. It was cut as straight and plain as a Chinaman's shirt, reaching just to the hips, and was finished at the lower edge with two big tucks, each approximately an inch and a quarter wide. The elbow sleeves were similarly treated and the open neck was finished with a three-inch-wide accordion plaiting of self fabric. Narrow tie ends of the crepe de chine were attached at either side, at the normal waistline, and were loosely tied at the back.

An unusual-looking garment also recently displayed in the blouse department was a slipover blouse of knitted



Modish Suit Blouse.

silk in Roman stripes, recommended for southern resort wear with a sport skirt of white.

For spring, according to present indications, lingerie blouses will be very popular. The frilled models of sheer cottons and handkerchief linen are to be worn in the lead.

THE NEWEST NOTE IN BAGS

Moire Velvet to the Forefront; Beads Still in Favor; Miser Bags for Tailored Suits.

Moire velvet is being used for a number of the newest handbags, in combination with shell frames. The bead bags are made in combination of beads and velvet, for the woman who does not want the former variety. White metal is being used for frames, also, in the less expensive bags. Japanese brocade is in high favor, and is often made into envelope purses, their edges bound with gold metal. Crocheted miser bags, hand-made, incrustated with steel beads in midnight blue and beige and blue, are smart with the trim tailored suit.

WORTH KNOWING

When basting velvet, use sewing silk. When the stitches are removed there will be no traces.

When putting a hem in a garment if a piece of cardboard is cut the required width, it may be slipped along and the task quickly and evenly accomplished, as it saves the constant handling of the tape measure, and there is no fear of the hem being uneven, as the cardboard is rigid.

Use rhubarb instead of apples for mince pies. This is much to be preferred even when apples are plentiful. The hot boiled potatoes intended for codfish balls should be put through a potato ricer.

A BEAU FOR KITTY-CAT

By MARTHA WILLIAMS

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"Thar! I knowed we'd better shoo that old rooster clean away. Now he's done crowed right at the door, somebody's shore ter come—and ketch us right in the thick o' peach-dryin'." Mrs. Beech said plaintively to her daughter Catherine. They were under the big oaks in the back yard, peeling for dear life and cutting off the sweet, yellow peach-flesh in deep, thick "cups."

Thus it dried richly flavored. Other neighbors might slice their fruit, or cut it any way—Mrs. Beech always stuck to cups. She likewise refused to dry nought but the big yellow clingstone fruit, as sweet as sugar, especially when one waited until it was dead ripe on the trees.

"I ain't skeered over company," Catherine said smiling. "Everybody in hollerin' distance has been and been. And the circuit rider's down 'tother end o' the county—then it's a full month too early for candidates to be ridin'."

"Don't keer if it is—somebody'll come. I never knowed it fall—the rooster sign," Mrs. Beech said doggedly. Her son Tug, who came from the orchard with a fresh basket of fruit, added teasingly as he set it down:

"It'll be some o' your beaux, Kitty-Cat—you got sech a terrible many of 'em I don't hardly see how we all ever get anything done."

Catherine flushed deeply, but tried to laugh—she was nineteen and had never had a beau. Yet she was not ugly, nor awkward, nor a shrew.

Penny and Jincy, the cousins she came between in age, were both married, and even Ellen Lou, Uncle Ben's girl, only rising fifteen, engaged. It was hard to be set down almost before



"Somebody's Shore Ter Come."

she came to her-self a full blown old maid. But that seemed inevitable—already people talked of her when a likely widower developed as one who would make a mighty good stepmother. More than that, she had twice been sent for to help bake wedding cake. Her mother said with a sigh if it happened again Catherine's fate was sealed—she'd never know the sign to fall—bake cake for three wedding, you'd never go to your own.

"Maybe you will see somebody pass," Tug added magnanimously, again shouldering his basket. "Up high in the tree I seen er whole passel o' men yan side the parster—no they ain't ridin'—jest hoppin' 'erbout and stickin' down sticks and doublin' over like they was a-lookin' fer pins and needles."

"I hope they ain't up to no meanin'—conjurin' ner nothin'," Mrs. Beech said anxiously. "But ef it ain't that, what in the name o' peace can it be?"

She was soon to find out. The surveyors, out locating tentatively a new railway cut-off, came upon her around eleven o'clock, begging and praying for dinner. Five men, young and hungry, were rather formidable—still Mrs. Beech never let any hungry soul get away.

She whirled in and, with Catherine's help, set out such a meal by twelve o'clock as made those who ate it her bond slaves. After a camp breakfast, ham, fried chicken, black-eyed peas, roasted ears, crisp cucumbers and squash mashed in butter and cream were beyond nectar and ambrosia.

Top these off with peach cobbler, very crisp as to crust, very rich and sweet as to filling, and gorging was inevitable. After the gorging the men lay at ease in the shade, smoking, saying little, but looking gratefully at their hostesses.

Thus lying, embarrassment fell upon them. They had meant to pay well for what they got; now the longer they talked or listened to the two women the more impossible became the offer of money. The Beeches were so simply, so joyously hospitable, so eagerly kind, their guests felt instinctively the offer of money would hurt them.

But to go away without making some return was equally impossible. Once Acton, the head surveyor, thought of suggesting that the cut-off, almost sure to come through the out-

pasture, might mean a round price to the Beeches for its right of way. But that seemed rather low—as if he hinted at payment through favors to come. Whispers went about from one to another, behind the backs of hands, or under the pretense of filling pipes from a common pouch. They established the fact that all five agreed—a money offer was out of the question, yet something had to be done.

At last Acton had a brilliant idea—namely, to take Tug along when they left upon plea of needing guidance, and send back by his hand either an honorarium fitting the case or an intimation that the Beeches would get a little later, something more substantial than thanks. The rest agreed, still in whispers, that it was a way out. They were young fellows all, and gentlemen all, therefore they stared at Catherine only when she was looking the other way.

She was not strictly pretty, but there was classic grace in her lengths, her poses, the turn of her head, with its crown of heavy plaits, even in the simple lines of her blue-checkedingham frock. Anderson looked at her least of all—he was the youngest of them, just twenty-one and out of school. After each look he turned away his head and puffed hard, as though trying to settle a perplexing problem.

All things end—even after-dinner rests. By three o'clock the party was away, Tug walking proudly with it at Acton's elbow. Acton drew him out adroitly. Inside of ten minutes he knew there was no pinch of poverty in the Beech homestead, neither any great plenty of ready money. He gathered also that Tug owned in full the family feeling of hospitality.

Boy that he was, he said gayly all of them must come again—come to stay, if the railroad were built that way—and run in whites if it went five miles out. "All you'll get'll be good bees and enough to eat—sech as it is." He added: "But mammy cooks right good—"

"Indeed she does," came in chorus from the gang. Tug smiled. "You oughter eat with us when she has er chance to show what she can do," he said. "Today she jest hustled up not much more'n a snack for you-all."

Further questions elicited that Tug had already a gun, a watch—theirlooms both from granddaddy—a saddle and saddle horse; also that he "didn't keer fer freerackers and sech—mammy was so pizen 'traid of 'em." Any personal benediction being thus stopped, in despair Acton burst out: "Say, Tug, what does your mammy want the very worst? We are not trying to pay—but she saved our lives—almost—we were hungry enough to eat each other—and now we shan't be hungry for a week. We're grateful; we want to send her something. Tell us—there's a good fellow—just what she had rather have."

Tug stared, flushed, turned away his head and shifted on his feet. After a minute he said, very low, almost as though crushed by the saying, "Wish ter patience ye hadn't asked me—but mammy says I must always tell the truth. She don't really want but one thing in the world—that's a beau, a business beau, fer Kitty-Cat—and I don't reckon you could send her that!"

His tone was wistful—so wistful nobody laughed. Instead, all eyes went significantly to young Anderson. After a long look at him Acton said, pressing Tug's hand: "Yes, we can—but you mustn't say a word about it—not till after the wedding."

"I want," Tug promised. And, truly, he never did.

Test for Tearing Force.

A paper-testing machine has been invented by a member of the staff of the forests products laboratory at Madison, Wis. It is expected to render valuable service to the paper industry by supplying data regarding the strength of paper—data that has not been easy to obtain heretofore. The difficulty in testing the tearing strength of paper has always been in securing a constant force of value. Irregularities in the paper structure due to its fibrous nature make the reading of the force required to tear the paper very uncertain. The machine now nearing completion overcomes this difficulty by yielding an average force for the entire tear. It simply measures the work done in tearing the strip. Dividing the work done by the length of the tear gives the average tearing force. The length of the tear is the same in all cases, so that the machines can be calibrated to read the average tearing force.

Triumphant Furnishings.

There has already appeared in the market Victory wallpaper, but it was reserved for Bridgenorth in Shropshire, England, to weave a Victory carpet. This is now displayed in a window in London. The need for a plethora of symbolism would have destroyed (one would have thought) any chance of achieving artistic success. But this has not proved to be the case. The carpet in question, although a maze of doves and olive branches, arms and flags, roses, thistles and shamrocks, is really beautiful in color and design, and a not too observant person could walk across it without so much as being reminded of the war.—San Francisco Argonaut.

See You Soon.

The other night a girl was asked to leave a dance floor because she was unchaperoned and under eighteen years old, says the Indianapolis News. "She was seventeen years and fifty weeks old, to be exact," says the manager of the floor.

The girl left good-naturedly. "But I'll be back in two weeks," she cried as she took the elevator to the street.

Community Vaudeville

Special Entertainment Was Provided for the Children of Washington During the Holidays.



Vaudeville on a trailer was brought to the children of Washington during the holiday season by the District of Columbia community service. The outfit had room for two dressing rooms as well as a stage, and three entertainments were given each afternoon in different neighborhoods without charge to the children.

Hieroglyphic and Cursive Writing Unknown to Tribes Until Almost Modern Times

Hieroglyphic writing preceded the art of cursive writing, and the latter, being at first regarded as sacred, was confined to the priesthood. Before the invention of either, communications between individuals, tribes and nations were made by means of the interchange of material objects, which were regarded symbolically, and a code of signals was thus devised for the transmission of important messages. For instance, Cooper in his "Travels of a Pioneer of Commerce," says that a piece of chicken liver, two pieces of chicken fat, and a chill wrapped in red paper, meant: "Prepare to fight at once." Cursive, or even hieroglyphic, writing was unknown to many savage tribes until almost modern times. About 1295, Taknai, a Kips-bak prince, sent a symbolical declaration of war to Noehai, one of the most influential of Mongol princes. It consisted of a hoe, an arrow, and a handful of earth, which Noehai interpreted as meaning: "If you hide in the earth, I will dig you out; if you rise to the heavens, I will shoot you down; choose a battlefield." The ancient Peruvian Indians used a system of small stones, by means of which they learned the words they desired to remember.

Sea Otter Now Is Extinct; Coat or Cloak Worth More Than Its Weight in Gold

Everyone who has ever done a day's rabbiting knows the ferret. Not so many are aware that the ferret is merely a tame albino variety of the polecat or fisher, and that it is a near relation of the stoat, the weasel and the otter. It is from the weasel tribe, says Pearson's Weekly, that the finest and most costly furs in the market are taken. First and foremost comes the ermine. Ermine, the royal fur, is nothing but the winter skin of the common stoat. This animal turns white in snow time, all but the very tip of its tail, which remains black. The marten is common in Canada, but nearly extinct in England. It is a free-climbing weasel, and it is this animal which supplies that immensely valuable fur known as "sable." There are Russian and Siberian varieties of the marten. As is the case with most other furs, skins from the far North are much more valuable than those procured in warmer latitudes. In southern and central Europe is found the stone marten, the skin of which, though not equal to real sable, is quite valuable. So, too, is that of the Kolinsky marten, which is found in Russia. The otter, it must be remembered, is nothing but a large variety of weasel that has taken to the water for a livelihood. While the skins of the ordinary fresh-water otter have no particular value in the fur market, the pelt of the true sea otter is today the most valuable of all furs. The sea otter is, or was, found off the coast of Alaska, but it has been so relentlessly hunted that it is now nearly, if not quite, extinct. A coat or cloak of sea otter would be worth much more than its weight in gold.

TIPS FOR THE POULTRY GROWERS

Culling the flock of poor laying hens should be done by daylight, when yellow and white can be readily distinguished, according to Roy E. Jones, poultry specialist for the extension service of the Connecticut Agricultural college, at Storrs. No one need hesitate to catch and handle hens in daylight if they are not unnecessarily frightened.

A convenient and easy way of holding a hen for examination is to place the breast bone in the palm of the hand, with the fleshy part of the legs held firmly each side of the forefinger.

The feeling of the breast bone in the palm of the hand at once indicates the quality of the hen. With the other hand it is easy to measure the distance between the pelvic bones, and from the pelvic bones to the breast bone. While doing this, look at the plumage, comb, shanks, beak, ear lobes and vent, and the examination is complete.

It is not safe to judge a hen by any one of the indications of production or non-production alone, advises Mr. Jones. There are exceptions to all rules, and it is only by giving each point due credit that a correct conclusion can be reached.

Most Oriental Nations Write From Right to Left

Most oriental nations, particularly the Semitic, write from right to left, whilst the Aryan nations write from left to right. The Chinese write perpendicularly from top to bottom, beginning on the right-hand side of the sheet. The ancient Greeks used at one time to write in alternate directions, the first line from right to left, the second line from left to right, and so on; whilst the ancient Mexicans wrote in a circle, beginning from the center.

225 Isles in Fiji Group.

The Fiji islands include about 225 islands, of which some 80 are inhabited. The main island is Viti Levu, on which Suva, the capital, is situated; but there are others of importance, such as Vanua Levu, Taveuni, Kadavu, Ovalou and the Yasawas and Lau-groups.

Late Experiments Upset Old Theory That Chilling of the Body Is the Cause of Colds

The question of how we catch cold even now awaits final judgment. The common cold—be it one disease or several—is now regarded as an infection, and colds from infected persons are surely known, but there are still victims who trace their troubles to wet feet, or sitting in a draft. An inference has been that the disease bacteria may rest inert on the mucous membrane of the throat until stirred to action by the chilling of the body. A familiar explanation is that chilling of the skin drives the blood to the internal organs, and by congestion lessens their resistance, but the late St. Louis experiments of S. Mudd and S. B. Grant have shown that there is no such congestion. The temperature of the skin and mucous membranes actually falls with chilling of distant parts of the body surface and rises again when the person is warmed externally. The investigators conclude that interruption of the circulation may bring infection by upsetting the equilibrium between host and micro-organisms in such a way as decreasing the respiration of the cells, retarding waste removal, or lessening the local supply of the antibodies of immunity.

Kangaroo Farming.

Kangaroo farming is an important industry in Australia. The hides are valuable and the tendons extremely fine; indeed, they are the best material known to surgeons for sewing up wounds, and especially for holding broken bones together, being much finer and tougher than catgut.

A Worth-While Lake.

The famous Trinidad asphalt lake has been found of uniform character down to 150 feet below the surface.