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THE LOST MOUSE

ONCE there was a white mouse who traveled with a circus. He had pink eyes and long white whiskers and he belonged to a clown. When the clown was walking about the ring of the circus he would pull the white mouse out of his pocket and let him run up and down his sleeve and pretend to be very much afraid of the mouse, and the mouse would pretend to bite his ear and they were very happy together. All the children used to laugh and shout when they saw the tiny thing on the arm of the clown, and the people in the back rows would crane their necks and try to see what was happening away down below.

But one day the white mouse slid through a hole in the pocket of the clown's ragged coat and got lost. He looked and looked for his friend, the clown, but he could not find him, so he set out in the world for himself. He ran across the circus ring and frightened the big elephants nearly into fits, then he ran faster and faster



"I Am Going to Speak to Him."

along the sawdust ring and at last came to the edge of the tent under the rows of seats. Outside the tent was the great world which the white mouse had always wanted to see for himself.

The great world was so big that it frightened the little white mouse. "My goodness," he said, "the sky is even farther away than the roof of the circus tent. Isn't that funny?" And he went on gazing at himself through his long white whiskers, to keep up his courage.

Before long he came to a house though he did not know what it was. "What a queer brown thing, bigger than an elephant," he said to himself, stopping his whistle in amazement.

"Now I wonder what's the use of that?"

He was a brave little white mouse, so he hurried to find out what the big brown thing was, for he had never been inside a house. Luckily for him there was no dog and no cat in the house, for he quite forgot to be careful. In front of the big brown house there was a big hole, which was a door although he did not know it was a door. But he knew that holes could be gone through, so in he went.

Inside the big brown house there lived a family of very well-behaved mice, brown, all of them, who never made a noise in the walls at night or nibbled the loaves of bread in the pantry.

They were always on the watch for what was going on in the big house and so it happened they saw the white mouse just as he came in the door and they nearly tumbled over themselves in their astonishment, for they had never before seen a white mouse.

The brown mice crowded to the edge of the mousehole, peering at the white mouse and I expect they felt very much the way the poor Indians did when they saw a white man for the first time.

At last one of the bravest of them said: "I am going to speak to him, he has whiskers just like ours and a tall just like ours and eyes just like ours; maybe he fell in the milk pan and could not get it washed off."

"I don't believe that," said the sister of the brave brown mouse, her little nose wiggling in a funny way. "He looks white all the way through."

When the brown mouse who was brave enough to speak to the stranger said, "Can I do anything for you, sir?" in his very grandest manner, little white mouse stared, for you see little white mouse had never seen just an ordinary mouse before.

But at last he got over his fright and brown mouse persuaded him to come into his wall home and when brave brown mouse's sister told white mouse how nice it was to live there he decided he would not try to find his way back to the circus tent.

And so one night there was a wedding in the walls of the brown house and little white mouse and pretty little brown mouse set up housekeeping and I expect you may be surprised by seeing a white mouse run along close to the wall of the room where you happen to be sitting, and if you do, perhaps it will be one of the children who looks like its father, little white mouse, who ran away from the circus tent a long time ago.

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Chic Clothes for Misses' Wardrobes

Velvets, Crepes, Voiles, Soft Silks and Georgettes Are in Vogue.

In the tailored styles for young people are some exceedingly smart, picturesque suits, observes a fashion writer in the New York Times. One that is especially popular this season is a kilt skirt of plaid wool, cut a length to show the knees; a tailored blouse of pongee, and a box coat of homespun in plain or mixture. This is called a three-piece suit and is made for a young lady of ten or twelve years, though the utility and chicness of the model have created a demand for it in smaller and larger sizes. With it, for the younger girls, are worn a soft felt hat with narrow brim, or an Angora tam, heavy wool stockings and flat-heel catkin shoes. There must be no mistake about the stockings or shoes, for a little lady recently admonished her mother against the impropriety of wearing silk stockings and dressy shoes with any sort of sports clothes.

These three-piece suits are done in a number of combinations, usually with the plaited skirt, which may be so conveniently worn with any jacket or blouse and which is so comfortable for indoor every-day wear when the coat is laid aside. Varying the plaid and plain goods together, some smart little suits are made all of the homespun and tweeds, occasionally with a narrow tailored skirt. Charming costumes for more dressy occasions are made of velvet. With all these, pretty soft overblouses of crepe or pongee are worn, and many of fine white linen or muslin, that always give a girl's toilet such an appearance of crisp freshness.

Velvet is quite the rage this season, more especially for children's garments. Black is most popular for suits, coat and skirt, to be worn with any pretty waist and for the one-piece frocks for Juniors and misses with which the gumpes of sheer muslin are so becoming. These, of course, must be finished with needlework, trimmed with a bit of lace, Irish, valenciennes or flout, and some of the prettiest are smocked.

Velvet for Children. A stunning suit for a girl of fifteen, is made of black velvet, the jacket and skirt banded with white rabbit fur, the blouse of white crepe de chine, with motifs and a slight edging of baby Irish lace. To complete this little fairy princess toilet is a toque and a quaint round muff of rabbit. Squirrel is used in trimming another suit of soft green, and one of Havana brown is untrimmed. To be worn with it are a soft, ribbon-trimmed beaver hat and a scarf of brown fox.

The party dress is the piece de resistance in a girl's wardrobe, from her first birthday frock to the momentous costume for her introduction to the social world. Lovely poetic things are designed for the girl who is having her first holiday from boarding school—the happy days when there is a round of festivities in her honor and her own little crowd has a full program of frolics.

For these there must be a number of semi-dressy toilets for the matinee and luncheon and the many excursions about town. The velvet three-piece suit, plenty of fresh gumpes, two or three soft one-piece dresses of crepe



This Cute Little Lady is Dressed for a Party in Felt, Satin.

in color, a sports top coat and a dress coat, and then the "party" dresses, complete the equipment for a campaign that is likely to be as full of thrills as any in the years to follow.

The Useful One-Piece Frock. One-piece frocks are designed for every occasion, the difference being a matter of material. In the mid-winter models velvet is modish. It is so flattering to the complexion of youth, so serviceable equally for daytime and evening. A ravishing affair for a lady of twelve years is this little cardinal in scarlet velvet, with nothing to contrast with the flaming shade. A deep plaited frill of scarlet chiffon falls from the shallow round neckline, and the frock is steekless.

Another model in aquamarine blue velvet is edged about the neck and quarter-length tight sleeves with squirrel, and is worn over a gumpes of fine

Velvet is Favored in Winter Frocks

Material Holds Popularity for Semi-Formal and Formal Wear.

Velvet loses none of its charm for us in winter progress, writes a fashion correspondent in the Kansas City Star. It is deservedly popular for evening wraps, where its warmth, beauty of color and sheen, and its soft, draping properties are most appreciated. Metal fabrics also still keep their grip on our affections, and frequently form either alone or in combination with velvet, the material of the evening cloak.

Fur and silver tulle form another combination of great attractiveness, but the use of these two together requires the judgment of an experienced eye and the quanta of a practiced hand.

In all cases the lining should be as rich as the outer fabric and the wrap itself must be voluminous, so that it may cover one from head to foot in its cozy and becoming amplitude.

Mid-winter brings out the luxury of the winter season and a glimpse of the season ahead. However much it seems to be lifting the curtain on new fashions before the height of the great season, the fact remains that the accessories of the winter wardrobe very often herald colors of coming seasons.

Many social affairs see the return of pink, just old-fashioned, blue, pink and deeper shades, the shades that had for several seasons seemed to belong to the debutante. It is here, no longer, Callot, Drecol and Paquin all have sponsored, this shade in evening dresses of velvet and chiffon, for the matron as well as maid. Often this delightful shade is combined with bands of dark fur and made over a neutral cloth slip.

Chiffon velvet, a favorite for semi-formal, as well as formal occasions, is developed in rosewood shade for an attractive frock. A cascade of white falls over one shoulder, harmonizing with the diagonal lines of the skirt, a new effect. Gold lace, introduced in labor effect, on an interesting gown, is held in place by the lace.

Women are welcoming back blue, corselet blue, the blue that matches eyes, the blue that matches. Orange lining copes in the lively shade. Fans and headresses are brought out in this, becoming color.

Whatever else the mode of winter has introduced, or passed over, the fur has had a place on gowns for ever.



Chiffon Velvet is a Favorite for Formal Occasions.

along and daytime wear. Long, elegant effects, lashed by fur are the height of fashion. The kind of fur depends on the dress, contrast is required, white fur on black, dark fur on light fabrics. But what kind of fur? Many have the fur covered in white, ermine at all, and that nature have equalled the furrier's eye for in producing variety. In fox and squirrel fur, just as well not care what kind of fur are used for trimming.

Embroidered Material Still Strong Favorite

So great was the vogue attracted by embroidered materials in the season just past that one would have been justified in thinking that so far as fashion was concerned they were definitely done for. On the contrary, they have never been more firmly established.

Often there is a mingling of many shades, but the effect is never cold, and many of the most distinctive combinations are to be seen.

One of the most successful models of the year is a straight, slim coat of black velvet, collared with chincheilla and entirely covered with mock, to have with a most exquisite design done in silver, and sometimes thread. Self-tied embroidery is rather extensively employed and when this is done the pattern comes in for even more attraction.

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