

## TAILORING---DEMONSTRATION

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THE Bible tells us that the first clothing worn by man was the leaves of the trees and the skins of animals: "And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons." "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them."

The skins of animals continued to be used for clothing for both men and women until the tribal relation of man merged into the more settled forms of government, being finally succeeded by cloth made from the hair of the animal and the lint and fibre of the plant. Every man, however, was his own tailor. The wool and the cotton were gathered, cleaned and spun into cloth at home, and the cloth was made into clothing by the wife or some other member of the family. Some became more expert than others, hence followed the choosing of trades or the beginning of the division of labor. Later great factories for spinning, weaving cloth and making ready-made clothing, or hand-me-downs, as distinguished from tailor made, came into existence. As the demand for the former increases the latter diminishes.

At the present time the work is highly specialized, both in the great manufacturing establishments and in the large tailor shops. The designer, the measurer, the cutter, the try-on man and, lastly, the maker or the tailor, make the system a complex one. And again the tailor's work must be divided and we have the expert coat maker, vest maker and trouser maker.

Educators are beginning to realize that a trade is a part of a boy's education as well as the other long established studies; for this reason trade schools are being established in which a knowledge of different trades can be learned or a boy may enter a tailor shop where in a few years he may learn the trade.

Upon entering a shop to learn the trade a boy is usually submitted to a bit of humiliation. He may be given a coat to make; the more ordinary course, however, is for him to be given a broom and a mop and to be told to clean the shop. This is essential. Few tailors will succeed in untidy shops.

The use of the machine, tape measure, tailor's square, irons, cloths and various other tools necessary to a well regulated shop is soon learned. Much time, even, may be saved in learning how to thread a needle rightly, and for a boy to be continually dropping his thimble is evidence of extreme awkwardness.