

Approach of Spring Opens Shirtwaist Season

INAUGURATION OF THE LONG-CUFF FINISHED SLEEVE IS MET WITH PROTEST BY SHORT SLEEVE DEVOTEES



SHIRTWAIST season has arrived. To be sure, the shirtwaist, to a degree, is an all-the-year-round institution, being worn with the jacket suit through the winter months as well as in the summer, but it is not until early spring that the shirtwaist, in all its cool, simple, attractive glory, comes into its own. The winter shirtwaist must, of necessity, be of warmer texture, or be augmented by wool sweater or heavy coat, and the shirtwaist of spring and summer not only assumes added importance by reason of being all-sufficient in itself, but its coming marks the passing of old styles and the coming of the new mode.

What will the new shirtwaists be like? This question has been circulating around, without definite answer, for some weeks past, while modistes and home seamstresses have been hesitating between long sleeves and short ones, between plaits and gathers, and wondering whether we are going to open up the back this year, or down the front, with stiff, detachable collars instead of soft, lacy ones fitted on at the neck.

Open rebellion has met the threatened inauguration of the long, cuff-finished sleeve.

For too long, and with too much comfort, femininity has rejoiced in the practical freedom of the short sleeve to give it up without a struggle, and according to the leading local outfitters, the rebellion will result in a compromise. Thus it comes about that the spring stock of the local merchants show both the long and the short sleeves, and all inlaid has to do is to make her choice.

The smartest shirts and shirtwaists, however, it is contended, will tend towards the strictly tailored, with laced collars and cuffs, and a full stock of these is being carried. But while the merchants are endeavoring to push the sale of this variety, they are very quick to assure the rebellious shopper that they also carry a fine assortment of the short-sleeved lingerie waists.

The accompanying pictures show the various types of waists now being offered as the correct things for spring wear. The charming little waists of silver-embroidered lace, shown in No. 1, has sleeves that are bobbed off short, and without attempt at compromise, just at the dimple line, elbow. It will take more than the rumored decree of Dame Fashion in Paris to kill the popularity of this comfortable, pretty and practical type of waist, particularly here in the extreme West, where dove-tail fashion and fad is always more or less tempered with individual inclination.

Picture No. 2 shows a type of the mode of lingerie waists at which will be eagerly welcomed by those to whom mannish severity is most attractive.

Pictures No. 4 and 5 show two types of the new silk shirtwaists. The new silks come in the gayest of gay stripes and all the new silk waists are much befrilled, or trimmed with trills of lace.

strictly tailored, mannish shirtwaist shown in No. 3. This waist has the long sleeves, ending in cuffs fashioned for link buttons, opens down the front with visible buttons, and is to be worn with a stiff turn-down collar and mannish bow tie. Very smart in appearance and very fine in linen texture and of faultless cut and make, this style of shirtwaist will undoubtedly claim its due of popularity. It is billed as the leading new feature of the spring stock and will be eagerly welcomed by those to whom mannish severity is most attractive.

In No. 3 the lace style of trimming is shown, the falls of creamy net at the front contrasting prettily with the blended blue of the silk. This waist has the compromise sleeve, not quite long and not quite short, with lace cuff by way of another compromise. The

severer tendency is shown in No. 5, which has the long sleeves and band cuff, with a plain collar of the material; the silk is a blend of reds and browns, with creamy stripes, and a full plaited ruffle of brown silk runs down the front.

WOMAN PROSPECTOR HAS SEARCHED FOR GOLD ALL OVER WEST, WITH FINAL SUCCESS

Mrs. Gertrude Stiner, With Her Little Son, Has Braved Dangers and Discomforts of Border Mining Camps.

TO HAVE visited every mining camp of any consequence in the Western part of the United States and Southwestern Canada in the last 12 or 14 years and to have prospected at each place for the hidden treasure would be a remarkable feat for a man, and all the more remarkable when undertaken by a woman, yet such is the record established by Mrs. Katherine Stiner, who is now in Portland.

Mrs. Stiner's experiences read like a chapter from a romance of early Western life. She is a native of Pennsylvania, and shortly after her marriage back in the Keystone State, accompanied her husband to Jerome, Ariz., where, during 1884, a gold excitement had sprung up. This trip initiated the courageous little woman into a career which has taken her into every prominent "discovery" since that date. She has experienced all the trials and deprivations that fall to the lot of the prospector, and in spite of her sex has survived them all, and is today possessed of clear title to a number of valuable claims, which she expects to make her independent in the very near future.

During the last two years of her adventuresome career, save for the companionship of her young son, she has traversed the wilds alone, for in 1906 Stiner went to Alaska, leaving her wife and child in British Columbia. Mrs. Stiner objected to the terrors of a cold, bleak Alaska winter, and as she anticipated that there is enough gold to be found in America, she elected to stay behind, and now she is about ready to clean up on her claim at Hawthorne, Nev., which she is certain is a source of revenue from which she can live independently. If not become vastly rich.

The career of this woman in the wilds of the West is most interesting, and is demonstrative of the fact that a woman who possesses rugged health and a determination to succeed can accomplish as

much as a man in any and under all circumstances which tax the strength of human endurance. To compile a complete history of her career in the 14 years she has been in the West, and to enumerate the many thrilling adventures with which she has come in contact, would require a book, but an outline of her experiences is told in the following story related to an Oregonian reporter by herself:

"Some people think it strange that a woman should take up prospecting. It is simply because they do not know of the actual conditions that exist, and through ignorance are inclined to become prejudiced and bigoted. During all the time I have spent among the mines, I have never been insulted, even by the lowest type of men, some of whom are said to have been outlaws, with prices on their heads. Any woman who has attained the age at which she knows how to take care of herself is as safe in a mining camp as she would be within call of all the law-making officials in Christendom. My boy and myself have undergone many trying experiences and have been alone and defenseless in camps of 100 and 200 men, yet never one word of insult or harm has been done to either of us.

"After residing in Portland for several months, Stiner decided to go to Alaska, but I objected on account of the boy and also because I do not like the extreme cold and long winters of the North, and he decided to go alone, and I went to Los Angeles. While in Los Angeles I heard of the discoveries at Searchlight, Nev., and decided to try my luck there. Part of this journey at that time had to be made on horseback over one of the worst trails in the West. It was on this trip that Mrs. Stiner killed a rattlesnake which was about to strike her son, who was seated on the ground by a campfire while she and the party rested.

"On reaching the searchlight district, a man named Anderson and myself 'jumped' some deserted claims, and stood guard with rifles night and day. Hearing of some better locations 12 miles away, we journeyed overland in a terrific storm during which the alkali dust was blinding, and were completely exhausted when we reached our destination. My boy stood this trying trip like a little hero, and we located several claims that are

most promising. These claims are 25 miles from a railroad, and I wished to go to Rhyolite, and in order to do so was compelled to drive that distance over a rough trail. Donald was my only companion on this trip.

"From Rhyolite to Goldfield is another wild drive and on our trip we experienced the hardest rainstorm I have ever witnessed. At Goldfield the rush was so great that there were no accommodations to be had and my son and I were compelled to camp in a deserted house. After this we traveled 30 miles on horseback into Mono County, California, where some valuable copper mines were discovered. I next visited Buckskin, Nevada, and rode from there to the new district at Yerington and located 11 claims, all of which are promising. On my return to Goldfield I was successful in purchasing an interest in two of the most valuable claims in the new Hawthorne district.

"The reported discovery of gold in the Death Valley district in California, next attracted me, and against the advice of my friends, I went to Lida on the edge of that gigantic waste. I started into Death Valley, but after entering about 10 miles I was persuaded to abandon the trip because of the hardship it would prove to my boy. In coming out I discovered how terrible an experience it is to be caught in a sandstorm. For five hours amid the blinding storm I kept tracing our direction in the sand for if you once lose the trail you are lost. Finally the storm abated and by the mark I had maintained, was able to proceed in the right direction and returned to Lida. I was told by friends of mine who had entered Death Valley and returned, that they had come upon 19 skeletons on the desert of persons who had died while digging frantically for water.

"Along the route I had traversed were numerous skeletons of animals, and I witnessed one of the alluring mirages which have caused so many poor unfortunates to their death. You are led to believe that you are approaching a cool secluded spot where water flows in abundance, and yet it is but a freak of the atmosphere, and in some instances, of the thirst-crazed mind of the adventurer.

"I shall work my Hawthorne claims this summer and expect to realize enough from these mines to enable me to take care of my boy and his education and provide for us during the rest of my life. Donald is attending school in Portland

for the first time in his life. He is only seven years old, but has endured experiences that some grown men have qualified before."

While in Portland Mrs. Stiner is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas L. Shafer of 154 Third street.

(Copyright 1908 by Mrs. Katherine Stiner.)

Tolstoi Has a Relapse.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 21.—A dispatch received from Yasnaya Polayana says that Count Tolstoi, who is ill with influenza, has suffered a relapse. The gravity of his illness is not stated, but it is said that he suffers from lack of strength arising from the continued strain of his work. He refuses, as always, to follow the advice of his doctors.

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