

RESPONDENCE PAGE OF FASHIONS AND BEAUTY

SMART STYLES FOR GIRLS' DRESSES

I so much the thing nowadays for girls under 16 to wear dresses in cold weather that the Autumn and Winter supplies show them in great numbers. These smart little frocks of linen, lawn, ginghams and chambray, with their simple trimmings, seem somehow always more suited to young childhood than un-washable garments, so when in doubt all the sewing mother has to do is to decide upon a tub frock.

The coats for the youngest girls are both warm and long, so that the possibility of wash dresses giving a cold or even a chilly look need not be feared. It is as smart to wear such frocks in the street as in the house. The little hats that go with them are of surpassing simplicity—very shallow bells, quite round, and babyish in quality, of broad-edged felt trimmed plainly with a pretty ribbon. As her mother grows more foolish in her dress the little girl grows more sensible; which is certainly a point for thanksgiving, for the over-dressed child is never good to see.

Even the best of the imported frocks for girls from 6 to 10 years old show a pleasing restraint, and often a goods will be self-trimmed most prettily. Plaids of all sorts distinguish the small skirts, and for the younger girls the bodice effects are still very long-waisted. It is only when a girl has reached her eighth year that it seems fitting to allow her a belt directly at the normal waist line, but at that age and older the long-waisted bodice is most unsuitable.

There is a tendency to introduce everywhere some suggestion of the primitive, though frequently the unbroken panel will be only at the front of the dress, and end about the shoulders with a very ornamental square yoke. The look of a round yoke will sometimes be simulated with trimming, bias bands of some little check or stripe often being employed with a plain goods upon wash frocks.

With wool materials numerous braids of a silky nature will be used, and also the eternally decorative and stylish black velvet ribbon, which is most often put on in straight bands in graduating widths. Black is a very smart note with children's wear, and it is much employed by the French makers to give further dash to some rich blue or red laines, everything from velvet to taffeta or organza shap-ing the striking note. One very charming little frock of deep robin's-egg blue cashmere showed a band of a heavy black net strung through the holes with black baby velvet.

The dainty white guilpote bodices that children wear with all the low-cut and short-sleeved dresses make the novelty of the black note suitable, and the whole ensemble of such little costumes is stylish in the extreme and not the least bit over-fine. In fact, the most precious materials can be used for a child's frock with perfect propriety if the cut is in accordance with her years and type. It is only fussiness which is tabooed—not handsomeness of material, for there are silk frocks, cloth frocks and frocks of the richest lace.

The week's illustrations show some suitable little models for the simpler dresses of wool or cotton, such dresses as either the child of fashion or the one of moderate circumstances would wear. In figure A is shown a style that is much liked by busy mothers, as the front fastening permits the child to dress herself with ease. Nothing could be simpler to make than this dress, which is practically in one piece, and without the collar and long sleeves which demand so much extra work. A plain wool, cashmere or softly falling cloth would be attractive in this design, and some of mother's old finery could be put to use, with the handling far deeper if the quantity is short. According to the material used, a dress in this style is ready for church or mud pie-making, and where the practical frock may have a simple cambric guilpote, the smart one could show this detail in a white or matching lousine.

For a 7-year-old maid less than four yards of medium width stuff would be needed.

A most admirable model for a 12-year-old girl's school dress is shown in figure B, but the trim style is equally adaptable to more dressy purposes. The picture chooses to display the finer garment, for here the dress is made of blue cashmere with bands of blue and white stripes and a lace yoke. Since plaids are always so suitable for children, this design with plain velvet bands—black, of course—would make a very becoming little dress in any of the Scotch clan wools and would be useful for any occasion.

If the dress were of vivid red with black and white and other colors, a red felt hat with a black ribbon would top it effectively. As to the coat, a black cloth one with a gray lining is frequently shown with these bright plaids, so if the mother has an old black coat of generous proportions of her own on hand it can be ripped and cut down for the daughter. Those who know little of the dyer's rejuvenating possibilities can scarcely realize how beautifully a good cloth or handsome silk will come out of the vat, with another long period of wear assured. The cost of dying, too, is very little, and

where only dipping is necessary, for a lifting and freshening of the old color, the expense is a trifle.

This model will need 7½ yards of material 24 inches wide, 1½ yards of banding, and ½ of a yard of narrow lace.

Figure C offers the convenient employment of two materials, for if a short length is found in figured goods a plain

of the goods, it would do very well for a tub frock.

The dress is suited for girls from 10 years up, and 8½ yards, in 34-inch width, are needed for the age specified.

The last model, figure D, is definitely suited to a stout linen or crash, though a plain serge or mottled suiting would make a very practical school frock in this



FIGURE B.

color may form the front panel most acceptably. Instead of the broad here employed, the panel stuff could be used for narrow bias and the expense of the dress considerably cut down.

As illustrated, the dress is in one of the beautiful new shades of old rose wool, with an old Oriental trimming piped round the edges of the panel, and at the belt with a plain silk. The style at the front of the dress is a little fix for wash goods, but if the sewing is "staunch and true" and the panel cut exactly on the straight

design. For useful purposes serge stands above other textures, for its smooth surfaces can be given a "clean-up," occasionally with a rag dipped in soap and water. To a fastidious mother there is nothing so unpleasant as to see a little wool dress covered with grease spots, but since little girls are little girls this off moment occasionally with the rejuvenating rag. For a 7-year-old 8½ yards of narrow serge are required for the model.

MARY DEAN.

pearls make their appearance in a baby's mouth, for the least uncleanness about the teeth will affect its digestion and health.

Chapters might be written on the danger of allowing a child to manipulate its nose, ears and lips, for small hands are not always clean, and there is always the possibility of many germs lodging at these sensitive points.

Then, too, the plasticity of these features make them easy marks for deformities, and it is not an exaggeration to say that any very ugly change may be effected through constant and rough handling. With equal facility, improvement may be made at all times by the touch of practiced hands—little turned-up noses may be made to grow downward, ears that stand out from the head can be made to behave and little lips smoothed into sweet and pretty lines.

Fond mothers careful of the baby's looks never lay it down without seeing that the tender ear is properly smoothed and laid flat. With the bath, putting to bed and all other convenient times, a gentle pinching of a spreading or pug nose will do wonders for its improvement.

KATHERINE MORTON.

Fall and Winter Accessories

It is the little things of life that decide the big ones. Everyone remembers that once a kingdom was lost "all for the want of a horseshoe nail." So it is with children's dress—or with anyone's dress, for the matter of that. No matter how well made, how up to date, and how tasteful coats and frocks



FIGURE D.

may be, it is the little things, the accessories, that really decide one's claims to stylishness.

Of first importance in the little child's wardrobe are the accessories that keep out the cold and wind and rain of Autumn and Winter. Much easier to wear, and much warmer than most Fall coats, are sweaters. For less than a dollar they are sold in the larger shops, in good, serviceable colors. Navy blue, crimson, gray with red facing and cuffs, and even a good shade of green, are suitable for cool days, and wear to better advantage than the whites and pinks and blues so dainty and attractive for Summer use.

Even in the first cool days, the small child should be taught to wear gloves. For many a case of chapped hands, and many a cough and cold acquired early in the Fall has proved troublesome all through the Winter. But since it is almost as important not to overheat the hands as not to chill them, don't trust woolen gloves until the temperature really demands them. Some children, indeed, whose skin is unusually sensitive, ought never to wear woolen gloves, but less they are lined with silk. Stout goatskin gloves wear well, and are not expensive—especially when the rough drops and cold mixtures that they make unnecessary are taken into account.

An especially attractive apron is made of two yards of embroidered founcing, gathered all along the upper edge, and fastened into a small strip of embroidered insertion for a front yoke, two small strips of the insertion for a back yoke, and two strips joining front and back in the form of shoulder straps. The back edges of the founcing should be hemmed and the yoke fastened with a button and buttonhole.

MARY DEAN.



FIGURE A.

phate of lime may be given occasionally with decided advantage. There are many preparations of phosphates which are beneficial when young teeth show early signs of frailty, but results equally good may be obtained by the use of simple lime water, which can easily be prepared at home.

Put a teaspoonful of clean, unslacked lime in a pitcher and pour over it two quarts of water, stirring until it looks milky. Then let it stand till the water is clear and pour this off and fill the pitcher, if possible, with distilled water. After this is stirred well, a bit of muslin should be tied over the pitcher to prevent dust from falling in. Leave it thus till the water is again clear; then carefully pour this off the lime and put into glass stoppered bottles.

A teaspoonful of the lime juice is generally given a growing child in a glass of milk, but if the teeth are very sensitive and soft from a lack of mineral salts in the system, more can be given without danger.

The thumb-sucking habit so many young children have, and which it is so hard to break, is liable to cause both irregular teeth and an actual change in the formation of the jaw. Protruding teeth and a long and ungraceful formation of the chin may both come from this and once these deformities are begun it is hard to check them.

The inheritance of teeth is curiously mixed up, and, in consequence, the beauty of the mouth often suffers. A little girl may get narrow jaws from mamma, and teeth and a long and ungraceful formation of the chin may both come from this and once these deformities are begun it is hard to check them.

All young children's diseases are a menace to the evenness of the permanent teeth, and to their strength, so great care should be taken after an illness, to build the little body up again. Begin the brushing, too, when the two first tiny

ETIQUETTE FOR FATHER AND SONS

OFTEN visit a home in which there is a very excellent husband and father, who, upon the least provocation, pronounces his young sons "ruffians." The gentle wife and mother is blamed for their shortcomings—if Mary "knew her business" the boys might be gentlemen. Everything is

haven't the nicest sense of honor in their own little business operations and sometimes sink to unlawful trickery with a swap of marbles. Since they have heard father call mother a "goose" more times than you can count they are at last almost persuaded that she is one. And since father does not offer the best easy

lead of their kind, the boys are bidding fair to be veritable "chips of the old block."

In order to get an atmosphere of entire breeding in this family father's own rough edges must be trimmed. He must employ always the speech of a gentleman, even when correcting the unruly "chip." If he has nothing good to say of women, he must keep his tongue still, and stand when they are addressing them. He must show forever the most untiring consideration for the wife and mother and accord her more courtesies than any lady in the land. He must not always look to the lash, which reaches only healthy young legs and very indolent backs, but strive with supreme patience to reach the boys' hearts. He must make his sons his friends, and not feel them an outlaw band to be treated eternally to the court of correction.

"Boys are all animals," declares a wise and great-hearted man who has taken upon himself the public guidance of wayward lads. "Like puppies, they need to be broken." But once the sweetness and sanctity of home is made clear to their understanding they will forever reverence it.

To be a bully boy is all right, but you must teach the lad to be something else—how he must conduct himself at home so that he won't become a nuisance or public pest when it comes to his address in the great world. Notwithstanding this sturdy father's contemptuous "sissy-boy" remarks, it is the lad who is trained to show courtesies to his mother and father, the home's best defender. How else can the man be made to reckon on the perishable quality of a woman's happiness if the boy is taught to despise her? How may the sense of business honor be encouraged in man when the "kid" hears every day of his life some yarn of chicanery which left the other fellow poorer by many dollars and made a greater burden of the heart? How may the man know white truth with all her excellences, if the boy has been suckled on dark untruth?

The polite education of a boy must begin with his first leaping; his moral one must begin in the father before he is born. The tender training of the mother is an important factor with dresses, but the moment the little breeches come it is daddy's time.

"Stand up, darling," the mother must say when the little 2-year-old sits playing with his red ball and Mrs. Jones enters the room. And after the visitor has left the great mystery of this new state of things may be sweetly explained: "You know, dear, a gentleman never remains seated when a lady enters the room. Haven't you seen father always jump up and wait till Mrs. Jones herself sits down?"

And "Take off your hat, son," daddy must say when the first knickerbockers, in all their pride of manliness, pass some little petticoats in the street, or find themselves wedged between the skirts of grown-up ladies in the elevator.

This, too, must have its pleasant explanation—the chap who takes off his hat in the presence of lady-or-little-girl folks is the one who behaves like a father. Behold him now—such a fine sweep of arm, the slight bend of the body and head, which means respect for petticoats—the warm smile which says that lady-people are very nice, indeed, and your friends!

Ah, me, how easy it all is if daddy would only take the trouble, and darling mammae were not too meek in the beginning, but switched the head of the house immediately after the honeymoon when it came to defect in manners!

If that were done, with all the gentle guile which it is in woman's wit to use, there would be no "ruffians" in embryo in the home—no feet on the mantelpiece, so to speak, or nerves to shudder or swear under coarse masculinities. The sweetheart would be assured of her dower of dignity, the wife could count upon her calm pleasure, and the mother realize her peace.

For the boy is the good or bad citizen in the bud, and though the mother's influence counts for much, it is in the father's power to make him entirely in his own image.

Every bow and caper of politeness must have its teaching—Billy must be taught—that a gentleman's courtesies spring from his fineness of feeling—that they are an evidence of character and good citizenship.

The lesson is quickly learned if the father is a schoolmaster, for father's book of morals is the one Billy likes to read. What is etiquette for the boys, then, is certainly etiquette for father.

PRUDENCE STANDISH.

TRICKS THAT ADD TO STATURE OF WOMEN

WHETHER you are plump or lean, you must be tall, says a specialist who makes women correct in figure, "but for the woman who is not very tall naturally there are chances. A great deal depends upon herself and her style, and much can be done by tail dressing.

"The very short woman as a rule lengthens her waist line. This is a mistake. On the contrary she may lift it a little. The slightly raised belt line is one of the French tricks for making the figure look younger. It certainly makes it look taller.

"The woman who shortens her waist will at the same time lengthen her skirt, and this gives her the appearance of height. Let the short woman loosen her corset strings, lift her belt a trifle and allow her skirts to trail front and back, and she will begin to look higher.

"There are short women who always sit on very tall chairs. They are under the impression that a high chair makes them look taller. The reverse is true. The tall chair makes the little woman look smaller than she is.

"The short woman can wear the moyen age skirts and gowns nicely. To be sure they are very long waisted; but to counteract this long-waisted effect, the belt line can be fitted snugly. The hard and fast belt line would be fatal under the circumstances.

"For trotting purposes when a woman wants to look tall—for it is the tall women who are most graceful in walking—corsets may be used. Every little helps. Then there are corset heels which are slipped inside the shoes, and the result is an actual inch of added height.

"Short women should wear plenty of chains of the kind that fall almost to their toes. Small black carved beads made into a chain that goes around the neck and falls in straight lines down the front will do wonders for the very short woman. They give her the up and down lines which she needs.

"Here are hints for the woman who would be a little taller:

"Avoid girlish.

"Never under any circumstances wear a belt of contrasting color. You may think it gives a smart color note, but you are wrong.

"Let all your lines run up and down.

"Do not wear a yoke of the square variety; it shortens you.

"Have your gown all of one material, preferably a light tone.

"Wear long gloves and carry a tall um-brella.

"Hold your chin up to lengthen your throat line.

"Carry your head straight, never tilted to one side. The tilted head is for the tall woman who wants to look short.

"Choose the tall color schemes. Pink makes a woman look taller, while red makes her look shorter. Brown shortens but white lengthens. Black detracts from the height, but light green adds. Study your tone and cling to it.

"Don't wear a flat hat. The battle-ship hat is becoming to short women. Be sure that it has the upturned side and the tall crown.

"Tall hats are for the short woman, but she mustn't wear the tall square or the round cheesebox hats. She must select something high, irregular and graceful.

"Don't dress your hair wide if you are very short.

"Don't walk with or stand next to a very tall, slim woman if you can help it.

"Avoid the very stout type of woman. You will look dwarfed.

"Keep away from tall hanging portieres. Choose draperies and hangings—in case you must stand close to them for any length of time—that are curved or draped rather than those that fall with Greek simplicity.

"Dull materials make you look smaller; shiny materials that reflect the light make you taller. For that reason choose satin whenever possible.

"If for any reason you want to look tall some evening, make the experiment of dressing your hair rather high and not too far over your face. Study the pictures of Marie Antoinette. Her hair was drawn back from her forehead, yet it was coiffed very high. Even in her portraits this gives the impression of tallness.

If you are dressing for height, just for one night—it would be too tiresome as a steady diet—try the trick of having your slippers fitted with quarter-inch cork insoles, and try also the subterfuge of raising the heel from the inside. It is less trying than the two-inch heel, though high heels must be worn just the same.

"A low neck always makes a woman

look taller; the reason is that her neck looks slimmer and consequently longer. Dress the neck as you do the limbs; never say ruffles or with all flutings or with any other round-the-neck ornament.

"Wear your necktie low; never up high under your chin. Avoid the dog collar as you would the plague. Take your dog collars, if you have any on hand, and have them made into long strings of gems that hang below the waist line.

"Keep still, look sweet, and show your shoulders if you can. This is good advice for the short woman in evening dress.

"Don't stoop; not only does it make a short woman much shorter, but it makes her older.

"Don't wear too many rings; bare hands look slender; moreover, they look babyish. Very young hands are never burdened with heavy diamonds. Jewelry comes with experience. To make your hands look infantile, take off your rings, widen the spaces between your fingers and study hand relaxation.

Relaxation is the way to prettiness and height in the little woman. Many short women are positively tense. They look and sit as though cast in a mold. Be willowy; willowiness adds several inches all of itself.

"Don't play the piano. If you are a little woman you have mastered the secrets of the piano stool. Let the train of your gown trail far to one side and slightly over the back of the stool, and don't sit that you sit upright, with your chin lifted.

"Don't see how trim you can be. Tie neat, white turnover, the trig belt, the snug cuffs, the tiny little gloves are the joy of the tiny woman, but they do make her look short!

"Sleeping with the arms over the head and the feet crossed underneath. The little woman will tell you that it straightens the shoulders and makes her taller. She wakens with a supple feeling in her shoulders.

"Some women are shorter than they ought to be simply because they are stiff jointed as to the feet. Their feet do not work with suppleness. When they step they are compelled to step with their foot flat; they come down too broadly upon the soles of the feet; there is none of the flying motion of the girl of 16 who flits over the ground. The little woman should cultivate this fleetness of foot; it means height, or the effect of height."