

# THE DAINY SPRING TAILOR-MADE'S

by *Hester Winthrop*



Tailleur of White Khaki Kool with Touches of Pretty Color in Cuff, Belt, Pocket, and New Scarf-Collar

Velvet Topcoat in Gold-Brown Velvet with Fascinating Ball-Tassels and Smart Scarf-Collar

Distinctly 1918 is the Jacket of Plain Color over a Skirt of Foulard

PHOTOS BY JOEL FEDER



Etons are a New Joy in Little Suits of White Serge with Embroidered Silk Trimmings

Gray Wool Jersey with White Silk Facings—Hat and Footwear must Also be White

Unless Her Spring Suit Is Sternly Utilitarian It Is Very Gay and Dashing—Short Coats, Slim Skirts, Pockets Banished, all for Conservation of Wool-Variety in Skirts.

THEY MAY SAY what they like, over in Paris, about the altogether desirable qualities of the top coat; but no American woman feels she is rightly outfitted to fit the spring picture unless she may sally forth in a fresh, crisp, trim little spring suit. The material thereof does not much matter—the spring style's the thing!

And French couturiers are very willing to please the American wearers of their clothes. If America demands tailored suits, a plenty will be sent over; in fact, they have already been sent over. This minute they are on display in the shop windows and in the costume departments of the big stores, suits to stir the feminine heart with their daintiness and their spring-likeness—after a long winter of cold and storm.

War-Time Fashions Based on No Style-Era.

For the first time in years the new modes owe no inspiration to any par-

ticular period of history. The main thought in designing them was to use as little material as possible, and the new fashions are specially designed fashions, evolved from an ideal of stern necessity. Simplicity and conservation are the keywords of the new modes and though the spring suits are strictly original creations, they are creations that fit in with the requirements of the hour.

The simplicity—and one does not like to call it skimpiness but that is the word—of the spring suits do not make them any less attractive. Some of them are actually made of the prescribed four yards of fabric that the French Government insists upon; but a Paris couturier would never be balked by four yards of fabric. He would simply cut his garment according to his cloth and the result would be enchanting. For one thing, the

new suits make women look slimmer; for another thing they make her look younger. It is not likely that anyone will be found to object to these qualities! One way of saving material is to do away with pockets; another way is to add a waistcoat of contrasting stuff so that less cloth is needed for the coat fronts. A most clever method is the one-sided fastening with a single slanting rever instead of the conventional two-rever idea that naturally demands more material.

Short, jaunty jackets.

Of course, when Fashion found fabric must be conserved, she attacked immediately the superfluous length of the jacket. Long jackets are an absurd waste of material in spring and summer time, and the shorter the jacket, the more material—for instance—for smart collar and cuffs. For when you cut a whole suit out of

four yards you have to do some considering. The shortest jacket possible for a tailor-made is the eton jacket, and the new suits with these graceful little coats prove what a pity it was that the eton was ever dropped from favor. Eton suits are of serge, of gabardine, of silk poplin, of Shantung, of khaki-kool and of mohair. One does not see the etons in suits of home spun or other rough-and-ready stuffs. Pictured is an adorable little suit of white serge with a straight, loose eton jacket buttoned down the front and opening from a turned-down, eton collar. This collar, the exaggerated cuffs and long swinging panels or "ties" on the coat are of white silk embroidered in shades of tan. The white silk hat is trimmed with dull gold lace and tan silk stockings are accompanied by white pumps—a very pretty color scheme. And the tan silk parasol must not be passed over!

Gris Mode The New Gray Shade.

It may turn out a "gray spring" after all; but one refers to costumes and not atmosphere. Gray is strik-

ingly smart and the best shade is gris mode, the new French gray that has a rose tinge; it is much more becoming than blue or slate gray and looks well on both blonde and brunette types. Of gris mode wool jersey is one of the suits illustrated, and a deep rose colored parasol and pink straw hat with rose chenille balls intensify the pinkish cast of the costume. With the gray wool jersey white satin is used with striking smartness in pipings and facings. The scarf collar with fringed ends that toss over the shoulder is particularly new and modish. The pink straw hat is trimmed with white satin and rose chenille and white footwear accompanies the gray and white tailleur.

Coats of Contrasting Fabric.

A great many of the new suits have coats that seem not intended for them at all—until you notice that the skirt material is incorporated in the coat to put an end to any doubt about the matter. Cotton has a particularly smart suit of this type: it is of pale gray silk poplin and black and white plaid silk. The plaid skirt has a center section—horizontal—of the black and white plaid, set in with tiny pipings of pale yellow. And all the seams of the jacket are piped in yellow also! This jacket comes only to the waistline at the front, but it has high-length sides and back in peplum effect, a narrow belt passing all around at the waistline except at the center front where the belt goes under the jacket. The front fastens obliquely and the coat has a tall, turnover Inevitable collar of black and white plaid silk edged with pale yellow silk. The cuffs, which come almost to the elbow are in the same effect. The costume pictured, which shows a plain jacket and plaid skirt, is in the new onion brown shade combined with cream white. The jacket is of onion brown satin, the skirt, collar, cuffs and waistcoat of onion brown and cream foulard. The waistcoat which comes below the belt overlaps an inner waistcoat of cream satin which extends up to the collar. This maid wears a hat of brown and white foulard trimmed with festoons of little brown ribbon bows; her stock-

ings are brown silk, her pumps, brown and cream kid.

Scarf Collars Give Sport Suits Much Grace.

Very wide, crush belts, and long scarf collars which may be tossed over the shoulder, make the new sport suits very graceful; an instance, the white khaki-kool suit in the picture with trimmings of jade green khaki-kool. There are pockets on this jacket as you see, but they have been economically made out of scraps of the material and are set on in sagging effect, their limpness harmonizing with the soft crush belt and crushed scarf collar. The belt crosses in front and fastens at either side with big pearl buttons. There are buttons also on the pockets, but none on the coat itself. The sport hat which matches this pretty costume is of tan straw and white silk with a jade green band on which are tiny bunches of green leaves and pink rosebuds. The summer girl this year will have two sport suits: one of white or tinted khaki-kool or silk jersey something like the model just described, and another, sturdier suit of mixed homespun for rough-and-ready wear. These utility suits of home spun are extremely smart and they are exceedingly simple in style, their good lines and knowing cut giving them distinction. Favorite models for Southern wear have had loose box coats falling just below the hip with mannish collar and lapels and narrow turned back cuffs buttoned at the outer side. Usually a coat lining of old gold or onion colored silk adds its note of modishness.

For sport wear also, and for general summer wear, are the velvet jackets which look well with all skirts, whether of dark or light material. One of these coats is illustrated, a model in

golden brown velvet with the almost inevitable scarf collar tipped with ball tassels and some white pearl buttons to give definition to the slant of the wide belt.

Many Novel Skirts.

Not all suit skirts are straight and plain. The new short coats give opportunity for elaboration of the skirt and designers have taken advantage of this opportunity. There are the top skirts, pleated into the belt, with the pleats attached closely near the hem so that the skirt is narrow at the foot but bulges above. With the girth and cutaway jackets wrapped together look well in the skirt and sometimes a skirt has swinging panels lined with silk like the coat-lining. But whatever the style of the skirt, it is always narrow at the hem.

"CLOWN" GRAB-BAGS DELIGHT THE YOUNGSTERS.

THE JOLLIEST KIND of grab-bag for the children's party is a big white cotton cloth bag shaped to look like a clown, the voluminous garment of "Pantaloon" being gathered into two—supposed—ankles from which project masculine shoes, stuffed artistically so that they have a life-like look. The full sleeves of "Pantaloon's" costume are also gathered at the wrist over stuffed pig gloves. The head is merely the top of the bag drawn in by a draw-string below a stuffing of cotton and a clown's distorted, grinning features may be daubed on by even an inexperienced hand. The bag is filled with tissue-wrapped gifts for the little folks and when the draw-string at the neck is loosened the presents will come tumbling out of the opening where "Pantaloon's" garment is buttoned or hooked up at the back.

## Don't Forget the Salt!

AWAY BACK in the dark ages of December, when pounds of sugar were given as valuable bridge prizes, and housewives going home from market tucked the precious package of sugar into the bag of potatoes, so that an observant neighbor with whom one passed the time of day might not be tempted to drop in later on borrowing intent, a rumor began to go round that salt would be the next household supply in which there would be a shortage.

But fortunately—perhaps because nobody felt panicky about such a humdrum thing as salt, scarcely to be compared with the luxury of sugar as a seasoning—people did not rush to stock up with salt and hoard it away in ten pound bags against the threatened shortage. And so the shortage never took place at all. As a matter of fact, however, a salt famine would be a serious matter, far more serious than a sugar famine. Salt is one of the things nobody thinks anything about—until he misses it. Salt is like the very air we breathe, part of our daily existence. One can live, not very happily perhaps, but still with moderate comfort, without sugar in one's tea; but beefsteak and potatoes without salt—well, just try it for a week and see!

Chloride of sodium, or just plain salt as you and I know it, is essential

to the life of all higher animals. Salt exists in all parts of the body; it is more abundant in the blood than any other ingredient except water. It is taken into the body as a natural food and also as a condiment to increase relish for food. As a food, its purpose is to replenish certain tissues and to aid in the transference and absorption of combustible nutrients. Sugar provides heat and force but one can live without it, gaining heat and force from other foods—fats, for example, and starch; but without salt one would be badly off indeed.

For one thing, salt supplies the acid of the gastric juices that help digest food. We should very soon become actually ill if salt were taken from our diet. The Dutch, ages ago, used to condemn criminals to a saltless diet and the unfortunates suffered terrible physical pains, which mercifully, soon ended in death.

An adult person requires from a fourth of an ounce to half an ounce of salt in twenty-four hours. Some people take less than this; others considerably more. And not seldom the taste for salt grows so excessive that a good deal more of the mineral than is beneficial is taken daily into the system. Indeed, there are said to be "salt drunkards" just as there are alcohol drunkards. Unless salt and more salt is added to every edible

consumed meals become flat, stale and unprofitable, and dining-out becomes a misery because nothing is salted to taste—to the perverted "salt taste" that is. At every boarding house table there is always one individual who is continually asking for and corraling the salt shaker, and such a dining-out at a home table—will ask for salt whether or not it is on the table, and whether or not the hostess, who very likely considers the request an insult to her properly cooked viands, is offended or not.

The over-user of salt is usually an individual who has become enamored of highly seasoned foods and condiments of all sorts. People who like very simple food rarely care much for salt, beyond a necessary dash of seasoning, and children whose tastes are still extremely simple in food, seldom know whether edibles are salted or not. Not so the epicure, who will instantly detect any suggestion of flatness in soup, vegetable, salad or even breadstuffs, and passionately demand the salt-shaker.

The difference between a good cook and an indifferent one is that the good cook never forgets to season properly, while the indifferent cook over-seasons or under-seasons in hit-or-miss fashion. And it is rather a nice knack to get just exactly the right amount of salt—and no more, into every article



What Oil Is To Smooth-Running Machinery, Salt Is To The Flat-Iron's Polishing Base.

of food prepared and served. Only a born cook never makes a mistake in this respect.

There are so many things that a pinch of salt makes ever so much more delicious—not enough salt to betray its presence by the taste, but just

enough to give zest to its environment. For instance, a dash of salt gives a wonderful flavor to a pot of coffee. You do not guess the salt, but you are likely to remark on the excellence of the coffee. Salt—just a dusting-on of grapefruit is much more delicious than sugar and brings out better the flavor of the fruit, but you must cultivate the taste, as you teach yourself to prefer vinegar-and-salt instead of vinegar-and-sugar, on lettuce.

A pinch of salt will make the whites of eggs beat up more quickly and lightly; salt sprinkled on hot toast will supply a flavor that will keep the toast-consumer from piling on butter. Salt should never be forgotten when you cook oatmeal or other cereals. The flat tastelessness resulting from its omission may not be remedied by sprinkling on salt at the table; the condiment must go in during the cooking process. It is important too, to remember to salt vegetables while cooking. Have a bowl of salt and a small spoon always on the kitchen table and add salt to potatoes, beans, peas, corn and other vegetables when they are put into boiling water. Do not, I beg of you, forget salt when mixing the pie crust—just a tiny bit is needed here; not a quarter of a teaspoonful, but the lack of it will leave your pie crust dull and uninteresting from a gastronomic standpoint. Muffins, biscuit and all hot breads should have their pinch of salt; so should puddings—even boiled custard should have a dash of salt when sugar and eggs are beaten together. Salt should not be added to

soups during the cooking but just before the soup goes to the table; and it should be added with utmost discrimination, for nothing is so frequently over-salted as soup.

Salt is a prime helper in the household also. It keeps the flat irons smooth and slippery; it brightens carpets when sprinkled on before the sweeping; it takes out wine and berry stains from table linen if poured immediately over the spot. It "sets" the color in blue ginghams and linens, and (with vinegar) in pink or green fabrics.

A QUAIN SUPPORT FOR THE BIRD CAGE.

THE NEWEST SORT of hook or wall-bracket for a hanging bird cage or flower pot is in the shape of a flying crane, and is about eight inches long and made of white metal. The graceful crane seems to be flying, with white wings outspread and his bent head and neck form the hook. His long legs projecting backward fasten him securely to a nail in wall or window casing, but so beautiful is the poise of the bird that he seems to be floating on his wings, ready to fly away with whatever is hung about his neck.

A PHONOGRAPH FOR THE NURSERY.

A SPECIAL PHONOGRAPH for the children's play room has been put on the market. It will take either a ten-inch record or any of the smaller records, and besides having a really excellent tone

