

THE WORLD OF FASHION.

(By MARGUERITE.)



THE BLOUSE OF VESTING.

With the first but unmistakable sign of autumn already upon us, we have to say farewell, reluctantly enough, to many of the airy garments in which we have been delighting during the summer. And the first change to be made is almost always in the blouse, for the thin coats and skirts may still do duty for some time if the muslin or lawn blouses be replaced by something more cosy. Flannels are already to be seen displayed, and the new patterns are very dainty and can be had in every imaginable variety, so they are sure to meet with favour.

THE BLOUSE OF VESTING MADE UP IN MANY STYLES AND COLOURS IS A FAVOURITE THIS AUTUMN.

A number of new silks have been introduced this autumn which develop in to charming little blouses. They are all of the softest and most supple quality. Nets, too, made up over silk, are a great deal used; while crepe de Chine, plaited chiffon, and a fine quality of Liberty satin are all of equal popularity.

Many of the tailor suits have a blouse of cloth to match, as well as other blouses in the lighter fabrics; and with these suits are also worn the embroidered blouses—made of flannel, with the front, stock and cuffs worked with floral designs in silk floss. Here, again, the present law concerning the harmony of blouse and skirt must be borne in mind. If colours are used, they should be shades of those which enter into the suit itself.

FOR MORNING WEAR.

Cotton vesting, French flannel, and plain silk of durable quality are all materials well suited to the morning blouse. Plaits or tucks and embroidery, as a usual thing, constitute its only trimming.

The heavy washing materials are steadily increasing in favour for winter blouses. The grades of cotton vesting now shown are quite warm enough for use in colder weather if a high-necked and long-sleeved bodice be worn underneath.

Women of leisure favour the cotton blouse because of its beauty and comfort, while business women applaud its utility. It is possible to keep it always trim in appearance, and a fresh-looking blouse is of infinite importance to the woman who spends her day in an office.

To meet this increasing demand the manufacturers have put out a large number of novelties in vesting this season. Many of the meretricious weaves come close to silk in beauty. In fact, you will look twice before deciding whether

some are really cotton or basket weaves in silk.

WHITE STILL POPULAR.

White still leads in favour for the cotton blouse. When a coloured or figured material is preferred, one should be selected which harmonises well with the suit with which it will be worn. A vesting having a grey ground covered with a design in black, for instance, would be suitably combined with a skirt of either black or grey. Many attractive patterns having black figures on white grounds are also obtainable, and these, too, combine well with skirts in black or grey.

Shades of blues and tans, or white materials figured with these colours, may be chosen when the suit is of tan, brown, or blue. Pippings are a great deal used on morning blouses of both cotton and flannel. A white blouse, its plaits piped with a colour harmonising with the skirt, gives a very smart effect. Sleeves of the morning blouse are, as a rule, much smaller than those for more dressy wear. They are cut on simple lines; usually the fullness is held in with plaits or tucks for a few inches below the shoulders, and the wrist is gathered into a deep cuff.

Different arrangements of tucks and plaits serve to produce variety in styles among the morning blouses. The most novel and effective designs are shown in the artist's sketch.

Among trimmings are many new features. The application of cloth bands to produce a harmonious effect in blouse and skirts is the most striking novelty. Deep collars and cuffs of the skirt material, handsomely embroidered, are used on some of the blouses to bring about this same result.

A NOVEL IDEA.

Braid as trimming for blouses of silk and Liberty satin is another novel idea. A year ago we should have called such a combination incongruous, yet, now that it has been given the stamp of approval, we find it both pretty and effective. Silk braids of the straight "military" order are those employed.

Laces of all kinds are, of course, very much used in blouse trimmings, and the

entire blouse of lace is by no means out, though it is not so new this year. Some beautiful silk and liberty satin blouses have deep transparent yokes and cuffs of hand-made lace. These may be worn either with or without a silk slip beneath.



A GIRL'S AUTUMN DRESS.

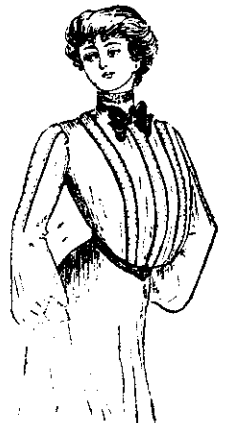
A design for a girl's dress for outdoor wear, I may say, has been asked for, and I hope the sketch will satisfy, not only the requests—one in particular—but a much wider circle who have to clothe and see after girls just in their teens. The frock is a very becoming and

comfortable style, and is one of those which can be easily made at home.

The Russian style of blouse is again fashionable, but this season the basque is much favoured and seen in every variety of shape and length. The coat sketched is arranged with this fashionable feature, and also with a small shoulder cape, for the cape is an indispensable feature of our outdoor garments this season.

The costume sketched could be fashioned of serge, frieze, homespun, or tweed, and the ornamentation could be of embroidery and a little piping of any colour to contrast with the material selected. With navy serge a piping of green to the cape would be very smart, when the tones of this should be carried out in the embroidery. Again brown—which is to be, it seems, the fashionable colour this season—could be trimmed with the same and look particularly well. Red or green could be piped with black, with black and white embroidery on the collar, and so on.

The skirt is quite plain except for a few rows of stitching round the foot-part.



A TAILOR-CUT FLANNEL BLOUSE.

The blouse which is here sketched is a trimly-fitted pretty garment, quite easy to make and capable of being adapted to many different occasions. The secret is in the pattern, which is styled tailor-cut, and has a shaped seam concealed under the side plaits both in the front and back. By means of these seams the blouse is fitted to the figure, and all superfluous fullness is avoided. The box plaits are only laid on and stitched, but the effect is the same as if they were folded in the material. The quantity of flannel required is three and a-half yards, and if, as in the model, the pleats are edged with a piping of silk, three-quarters of a yard of gauze will be wanted for that. The flannel itself was of dark blue, with small dull red flecks on it; the pippings were of red silk to match, which also formed a natty little bow tie at the throat under a turn-down collar of embroidered grass lawn.