

La Belle Otero, the well-known Spanish dancer, whose gowns are traditional for splendour, appeared at the Grand Prix races in a gown festooned with artificial strawberries and their leaves.

A dressmaker, high up in the social scale, as well as the modistic, has

a lot of from four to seven, for it is what is called the Irish Paddy model.

It has a rather short-waisted cut-away coat, a soft shirt, and tight breeches buttoned at the knee, and with it is worn a regular Paddy hat, high in the crown and made of felt.

In London lately it has been noticed that several little boys are

**WEARING THE KILT.**

and it has been said that a war always brings to the front this old dress, which is, by the way, one of the most handsome for small boys, and perhaps, also the most expensive.

Another comfortable and becoming suit is made with a Russian blouse, a leather waistbelt, and short quite full knickerbockers, ending just below the knee. What with these models, sailor suits, and the picturesque Humpty Dumpty, the small men of the community have a very wide field of choice.



**THE LATEST FREAK IN CHERRY FRUIT-LADEN FROCKS.**

made the cherry her particular fancy, and a gown finished by her the other day for a great lady is sketched in this column.

It has adornments of cherries done in velvet, with chenille stalks and leaves fastened to it, and the adhering portions, while sufficient to keep the pretty knots of fruit in place, are independent from the dress, so that there is no effect of embroidery.

Not only rich red cherries, but black ones and the pretty white hearts were constructed, and laid on a background of pearl-grey poplin.

Will this vogue lay the foundations of a new trimming?

The effect of the strawberry garland was somewhat amazing, but the cherry knots were entirely pretty.

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**EVENING BLOUSE.**

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One of the many new toques we have been recently interviewing is that pictured in this figure. It is of very light materials, but then, for an unexplained reason, the toque of the moment is diaphanous, floral, and generally on "airy, fairy" lines excepting as to size, which in most of the models is considerable. The model in question is built of damask red arophone arranged in a novel fashion in thick plaits of three, and dashed up in front towards the left side with a fan bow of the arophone and a bunch of damask roses with their attendant leaves. Reverting to the increased



**A PLAITED AROPHONE TOQUE.**

size of the toques, it is a great pity they have developed this tendency. For those to whom the larger style of headgear is more becoming, there is the big picture hat still in favour at the court of fashion: a thing of beauty and a joy for ever to all but those who sit behind it at a matinee; and the toque has hitherto kept an individuality of its own by being smaller and more chic, which has made a pleasant variety in millinery. It is certainly now "swelling wisely"—as Mr Weller would say—and becoming a massive turban-like confection, losing all its grace and smartness in the pro-

cess. We are promised some very light and pretty basket straw shapes, for which the correct trimming will be broad ribbon knotted in large artistic bows and chou on the one side or in front. These will be very welcome and will go delightfully with our spring tailor-made gowns and coats.

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Satin and velvet, as we all know, rank very highly in popular estimation, and are much worn in the form



**A HANDSOME CAPE.**

of stylish little coats and boleros and extremely elegant capes and cloaks. For a matron on the wrong side of forty nothing could be more desirable than the handsome cape depicted in the sketch. It is carried out in black satin trimmed with lace applique intermingled with lines of very narrow black velvet ribbon, and trimmed with swathing of accordion pleated chiffon, which likewise forms a frill at the edge, and a decorative frontage of stole and of the same diaphanous material caught at intervals by jewelled buckles. A smart toque and a pair of dainty pearl grey gloves form the other items of an exceedingly attractive tout ensemble. In direct contrast to the neglectful matron referred to above is the mother whose superabundant juvenility renders it a difficult task to distinguish her from her oldest daughter, and who is wont to affect tight fitting (or nearly so) coats and skirts, and natty ties, her weakness for mannish sailor hats verging on the border of a mania. Moderation

is to be recommended, as extremes are sure to end in defeat, in the one instance plainly revealing the ravages of time, and in the other rendering the would-be young mother an object of derision to all beholders.

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**DECORATIVE HINTS.**

**HOW GIRLS SHOULD ADORN THEIR DRESSES.**

Cloth bands on silk frocks provide evidence of the season's exotic fancies. Heavy lace, too, such as is used for an entire bodice, is decorated with these



**RICH BRAID LACE IS HERE APPLIED.**

same stitched bands of cloth, silk and panne: indeed, braid lace mingles quite amiably with stitchery, as the accompanying illustration makes plain.

**A BEAUTIFUL COMPLEXION.**

Apply Sulpholine Lotion. It drives away pimples, blotches, roughness, redness, and all disfigurements. Sulpholine develops a lovely skin. Is bottles. Made in London.—Advt.



**A SPRING COAT.**

Here is a sketch of a spring coat which will do quite well for the summer as well, and which can be worn open or closed. I think the most useful colour would be a pale shade of biscuit cloth. The turned-back revers and high collar are faced in with tiny frills or guagings of cream chiffon.

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**SUITS FOR SMALL BOYS. IN HONOUR OF "BOYS" AND OLD IRELAND.**

Little boys are somewhat conservative in their fashions, but just at this present moment there happens to be quite a new suit. It is appropriate and extremely bewitching for



**AN ELEGANT MANTLE FOR SPRING.**