

HOW A MONTREAL WOMAN SOLVED THE PROBLEM OF CLOTHES

By MADELAINE MACLAIN

LAST spring a Montreal woman suddenly found herself face to face with the necessity of maintaining herself and three children on half the income that had previously been available for her use. Her husband had joined one of the early formed volunteer regiments and had gone to the "front." The family savings account was not large, and the mother of three realized that in order to provide food and clothing for herself and her children—two girls of seven and ten and a boy of five—on her reduced allowance, she would have to practice greater economies than those to which she had been accustomed.

A real problem was the matter of clothes. She had always taken pride in dressing herself and her little ones attractively. But now not only did she have less money to spend, but every article of clothing had increased in price. Unfortunately, this woman had never learned to sew, and this meant she was entirely dependent upon ready-made clothes or the rather expensive services of a dressmaker.

Then one evening, when she was beginning to realize the pressing need of some new dresses for herself and new clothes for the children for summer, she read in one of the women's magazines of the wonderful work being done by a school of domestic arts and sciences in New York which taught dressmaking and millinery entirely by mail. The article told of how hundreds of women with no knowledge of sewing whatever had learned by this new method in their own homes to make stylish clothes and hats for themselves for half or less what their clothes had previously cost them.

The story seemed almost too good to be true, for she could scarcely believe that the art of dressmaking could be learned entirely by correspondence. But she realized that if it could be done satisfactorily, it would solve her own immediate problem. So she wrote to the school and in a few days received a delightfully interesting book that explained clearly just how the instructions were given and gave a complete description of just what the course would enable her to do. Furthermore, the tuition

asked was so reasonable that she saw she could quickly make it up through savings on her own clothes. So she enrolled as a student.

The other day I met this little woman on the street. She was faultlessly dressed. In fact, her clothes struck me as being quite beyond the means of one in her circumstances. And the two little girls with her were wearing the most charming frocks and coats that I have seen this season. Of course, I remarked about her clothes—I just had to compliment her—and then she told me all about it, just as I have told you.

"It is just a few months," she said, "since I read of the Woman's Institute, and to think that in so short a time I could learn to make every article that the children and I are wearing. I have even made most all of Bobbie's clothes. We are all better dressed than we ever could be before, and we have more clothes than we had last season, although they have cost less than half what I was counting on having to spend. I think it is really the most wonderful opportunity that has ever come to women."

"And another thing," she said, "it has answered a big question that has been way back in my mind all the time. If anything should happen, I can now earn a comfortable living for us all."

The case of this brave little woman interested me so much that I have been making inquiries and find that, at the present time, no less than five hundred women in all parts of Canada have learned by this new method to make their own clothes—all with a success quite as great as that of my Montreal friend. And so I thought I would tell this story so that every reader of *Everywoman's World* might know about it. If you are at all interested in saving money on your clothes, or in taking up either dressmaking or millinery as a profession, I suggest that you write direct to the Woman's Institute of Domestic Arts and Sciences, Dept. 16-W, 425 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., telling them whether you are most interested in home or professional dressmaking or millinery. They will send you a charming illustrated book telling all about their courses and methods of teaching.

Fashions and Patterns

A Smart Dress, Suitable for Many Occasions. Waist—2182. Skirt—2181. Composed of Ladies' Waist Pattern No. 2182 and Ladies' Skirt Pattern 2181. Figured shantung, in tan and green, is here combined with Georgette crepe in a contrasting shade. The sleeve is new and novel. The collar and pocket are also new in their shaping. The waist pattern is cut in 6 sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. The skirt also in 6 sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. For the entire dress for a medium size it will require 6 yards of 36-inch material. The skirt measures about 2½ yards at the foot. This illustration calls for two separate patterns, which will be mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents for each pattern, in silver or stamps.

A Simple Dress for School and Home Wear. 2176—This style is good for gingham, serge, cashmere, lawn, voile,

raglan style and made with one seam. The pattern is cut in 5 sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. Size 38 requires 6½ yards of 54-inch material. A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents in silver or stamps.

A Smart Style for Home or Porch Wear. 2001—Ladies' House Dress, with or without back yoke, and with sleeve in either of two lengths. Gray and white striped seersucker is here shown. The waist has gathered fullness beneath a square yoke, which may be omitted. The sleeve, in wrist length, is finished with a band cuff. In shorter length, a neat, pointed cuff forms a suitable trimming. The skirt has roomy pockets and is a three-piece model. The pattern is cut in 7 sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 and 46 inches bust measure. It requires 6½ yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size. The skirt measures about 3 yards



batiste, organdy, repp, poplin, silk or percale. The guimpe may be of the same material as the dress, or of contrasting goods. The pattern is cut in 4 sizes: 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires 1¼ yards of 27-inch material for the guimpe, and 3½ yards for the dress, of 36-inch material, for a 10-year size. A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents in silver or stamps.

A Pretty Summer Dress. 2171—This model is lovely for soft crepe, silk, gingham, organdy, challie, batiste, voile and lawn. The waist is finished in shaped outline, below the waistline. The sleeve may be in wrist or elbow length. The pattern is cut in 5 sizes: 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires 3½ yards of 44-inch material for a 10-year size. A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents in silver or stamps.

A Dainty Model, a Good Coat for General Wear. 2185—This model is good for pile fabrics, zibeline, corduroy, velour, wool mixtures, double faced cloth, also for silk and velvet. The sleeve is in

at the foot. A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents in silver or stamps.

Some New Things for the Baby. 2186—Infant's Set, consisting of a cap, a sack, a nightgown and a dress. Muslin, cambric, flannel or flannelette will do nicely for the nightgown, while lawn or nainsook is suitable for the dress, with embroidery, tucking and lace or edging for decoration. The sack will look well in silk, cashmere, flannel, or flannelette, and the cap is suitable for lawn, silk or "allover" embroidery. For the dress of flouncing, it will require 1¼ yards of 36-inch material with 1¼ yards of plain material for yoke and sleeves. Of nainsook or lawn 36 inches wide it will require 2¼ yards. The gown will require 2½ yards of 24 or 27-inch material. The cap, ½ yard of 18-inch material. The sack requires ¾ yard of 27-inch material. A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents in silver or stamps.

2173—Dress for Misses and Small Women. This is a very attractive style, good for linen, silk, lawn, gabardine,

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