

the peculiar feature of this hat; it is made of four nearly fan-shaped pieces of green velvet, each of which is gathered at either end into side plaits and finished in the centre with a rhinestone buckle. These velvet pieces are made of buckram and covered. The back is finished between the fans with two crushed rosettes of green moire ribbon, while an osprey, springing from a built tower of the ribbon, gives the needful effect of height. The crown is covered with gold passementerie.

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No. 6 (the 'Bryan') is a pretty toque in grey velvet. The tam crown of the velvet has the looseness set well up toward the front. The rolled brim is likewise of the grey, and is given a pretty effect by gathering and setting up at regular distance in tiny erect tucks or double frills, like a series of wheels. The crown is finished with passementerie, while a large bow of pink and grey Dresden ribbon and rhinestone buckle at the back, and wings and osprey at one side, complete a quiet, yet charming hat.

COATS AND JACKETS.

The short coat is again in evidence for the fall and winter season. The woman who possessed a short, jaunty coat last year, may rejoice in the fact that very little alteration is needed to make her winter wrap perfectly *la mode*.

In looking through the mantle departments of the large stores, we notice that the coats are of two kinds, with slight variations in each. Both are short, reaching a trifle below the hips. Regarding the length, we quote the words of a Toronto importer. "When we gave our order to the German manufacturers for the present stock of coats," he said, "we left it to their judgment to make them longer or shorter, if the intervening months showed any change. The result is a slight increase in length. Last season the coats were from twenty-two to twenty-four inches; this season they are from twenty-four to twenty-six."

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In cloths, fine beavers, tweeds, and curled bouclés are chiefly shown for jackets. The latter when of good quality are very becoming. But a cheap curled bouclé should never be chosen. The tendency for good jackets is towards the smooth cloths of brown, Prussian blue and black.

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I spoke of two fashions in the season's short coat. One is loose front and double breast, with plain, close-fitting back, whose skirt fulness is not a ripple or flare, but a loose plait. The other fits the figure closely, and may almost be called tailor-made.

The first is perhaps most in evidence and will be especially popular with younger women, but the second will be much affected by women of fine form.

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Extremely large buttons are seen on all the short coats, varying in number from one to six. They are of white or smoked pearl, black, brown or blue bone to harmonize with the cloth. Frogs and tubular braid, high collars and cuffs, side and breast pockets, decorated seams, everything indeed that can conduce to jauntiness, is in style for the short coat of the season.

One stylish German coat of Prussian blue beaver cloth has a military effect with loose front, close-fitting back with flare skirt. The seams are defined with a rich silk tubular braid. The deep collar and cuffs are of black astrachan.

In the case of the double breasted front with the one or two large buttons, it is customary to make the genuine button hole and use it; but to supplement with a 'fly' and small buttons which fastens the remaining length of the front.

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The lower edge of the coat is cut nearly square in front, but curved prettily around the hips. Several coats are shown with round fronts.

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The new French back, which is taking the place of the flare, is a box plait about three inches in width with a single ripple on either side.

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A remarkably pretty and stylish coat of dark blue cloth shows the seams outlined with narrow fur.

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The collar is a peculiar feature of the present season. In the close-fitting or tailor-made coats it is of one piece, with the coat shaped in the cutting and flaring out directly beneath the



chin. Only perfect fitters should attempt this, since the least wrinkle would be disastrous; but the effect is extremely modish.

The other collars are a separate piece; but the 'storm' collar has been modified into a straight high band, with a deep ruff above it which encircles the neck.

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Usters are not to be named for women during the present season; the semi-waterproof or storm cloak is its nearest approach. But some remarkably pretty ulsters are shown for little girls from nine to fifteen years. One of blue grey flecked frieze has plaited back finished at the top with a strap; a double cape, the upper one being shaped and finished at the edges with a white piping. Collar, strap and pockets are also edged with the piping. Another picturesque ulster is the Gretchen, made of brown frieze in mother hubbard fashion with yoke and box-plaited front and back. The sleeves are finished at the shoulder with epaulets slashed with brown velvet. Another has a Watteau plait carried down the back, with Carrick cape, the upper one of brown velvet.

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Picturesque and jaunty effects are striven for throughout in the season's coats, and this is attained in the main by pockets, buttons, frogs, braided effects and seams defined and outlined by various trimmings.

The sleeves still remain large at the elbow. For although tight dress sleeves are certainly 'in,' they are not yet in general use.

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In cloaks, last season's styles will prevail, since no improvement can be suggested on the fur-lined half-length of rich brocade with its fulness of ripple and border and collar of soft becoming fur. These cloaks will prevail for elderly ladies, to whom indeed they are a source of comfort.



NEW DEVICES IN DRESS.

The crowds of pleasure seekers who are flocking back to the city every day are hunting industriously for the changes in fashion. The godet skirts and huge sleeves are surely among the rapidly departing styles, and fashion threatens to go to the other extreme and return to close, clinging skirts. The new gowns are reduced to almost one-half of the fulness that formerly prevailed, and they fit so closely about the hips that they will be exceedingly trying to very slight figures. The tight sleeves are equally trying, and many women are moaning over the lost fulness that has been so becoming to their extreme slenderness. The sleeves in this transition period are a very important part of the dress, and although they are clinging from wrist to shoulder their shape is wonderfully relieved by the many devices employed to ornament the top, such as puffs, frills, epaulets, points, and other trimming to match the bottom of the skirt.

While the sleeves were so large, all women and all gowns looked much alike; but now more individuality of form and more taste and skill will be shown in new effects in the combinations of the silks and woollens which will be used in the demi-season toilettes. The skirts and bodices will be very much trimmed with a new coarse lace, Bulgarian, Croatian, and other embroideries, in ivory or a pale cream tone. The embroidery is protected and relieved by an edge of colored braid, gold cord, or narrow black velvet. Yokes of velvet covered with lace will be found on many of the fall gowns. Narrow Valenciennes lace will be just as popular as it has been all summer. Buttons will take a prominent part in the trimming of the fall gowns. Some of the skirts will have the front breadth outlined with buttons on both sides corresponding with the two rows on the double-breasted waist. The new buttons are very artistic.

MADAM,

