

HOME DINNER GOWN THING OF BEAUTY AND REAL COMFORT

By **MARTHA GOODE ANDERSON**
PERHAPS the most satisfactory dress for women which has ever been evolved is the home dinner gown born of the need for something to wear in the hours of relaxation from war work which shall be both comfortable and beautiful. Both of these attributes this lovely thing has.

The designers have evidently considered this before going into the question of comfort at all. The home dinner gown is in effect a sort of glorified tea gown. It is made as a rule of very soft, supple fabrics which drape perfectly. The lovely draperies, intermingled in the indescribably harmonious color effect, are arranged in loose, comfortable lines, hung generally straight from the shoulders.

A wonderful assortment of these gowns has just arrived from overseas. For the most part the Englishwomen have put their approval upon them and wear them in the intimacy of their homes and on occasions when a sort of trailing evening gown can be worn, and at the same time one desires absolute comfort. All busy women know the need for such a garment, and what woman is not busy now? While formal entertaining and social functions are for the time being in abeyance, the little informal occasions have not stopped, and probably will not, as they offer the needed letup from the anxiety of these strenuous times.

Many Kinds of Fabrics Used.
 As to the gown itself there are no restrictions in its development in any sort of fabric or fashion. As many English country homes are normally cold and have been colder than ever since the coal scarcity, naturally the

Soft, Supple Fabrics Drape Perfectly, Velvet Being Used Freely—Long Sleeves Give Much Character

first impulse would be toward warmth. Velvet, therefore, has been a standard material.

One of the very lovely dinner gowns developed in velvet is made of the softest and most supple weave, the sort that drapes but does not crush, a rare attribute in any fabric of this nature. The velvet is black and relieved only by loose, flowing sleeves of black georgette. Over the sleeves are banded narrow strips of ermine, which, by the way, is bidding for favor at every turn because, we are told, Paris means to make this a white winter, meaning thereby that white is to be favored and used wherever possible.

To return to the black velvet home gown, let me say that it is the most

beautiful and artistic thing for its purpose that one can imagine. It is a sort of robe not easily worn by every figure, especially since it is unbelted and therefore follows its own lines rather than the lines of the figure.

Long Sleeves Give Character.

Another very beautiful dinner gown of this sort is made of several layers of blue georgette in different shades, carefully and cleverly put together in a chemise slip of horizon blue china silk. Down the back and the front are straight wide panels of two tones of blue georgette. The charming effect of this robe is produced by extremely long flowing sleeves of sky blue which not only fall from the shoulder to the hem of the dress but extend in trailing lengths on the floor.

A curiously jeweled belt is worn well below the hips. The hip line of the dinner gown, it must be said, knows no rules. It may be up under the arms in Empire fashion or clasped

the knees in the most Moyen age effect. A very lovely dinner gown is made of petunia blue velvet, a shade which is neither purple nor blue but a curious blending of the two. This gown falls from the shoulders in unbroken lines, slipping over the head in 'chemise' fashion. The very long sleeves loop at the elbow, but have a depending streamer from the elbow falling quite to the edge of the skirt. The bottom of the gown falls away in a long train faced with bright blue satin, and in front the hem of the skirt is slashed at several places to show the blue facing, visible when the wearer moves about. A sky blue petticoat, all flouncings and veerings but without fulness, ripples underneath the comfortable garment.

Comfort an Essential.

Of course the dinner gown has been developed in all sorts of effects, none, however, departing from the first intention of being a slip-on, comfortable and easy garment and at the same time one of great beauty. A French adaptation of the dinner gown just arrived is a narrow chemise-like frock falling from shoulders in unbroken lines. There are no fastenings, as the frock is slipped over the head and the arms pass through the very loose kimono-like sleeves.

The material used is dark blue chiffon velvet embroidered around the neck with a lighter shade of blue in very heavy silk thread. The same sort of embroidery is used to outline a belt well below the hips.

No further adjusting of lines is necessary to make this garment suit its wearer after the first fitting has conformed it to one's lines. It is only ankle length, thereby doing away with the great expense of flowing draperies so many women dislike.

Still another French adaptation shows a black satin frock with a narrow slip

for the foundation. Over this falls a loose coat of handsome flat lace becoming and very easy to make. It must be borne in mind when making this sort of wear gown (for such it really is) that the first essentials are to make it possible to wear it without any trouble to the wearer—no fastenings to fumble with, no saashes to tie or belts to adjust—just the sort of thing you slip over your head and it falls into place. That is the most perfect development of the thing.



Atty E. Underwood

Home dinner gowns of navy blue meteor with Roman stripe chiffon, of purple satin with tomato chiffon, of Burgundy velvet with fur, of Chartreuse velvet and of sand velvet with black satin.

NEW COATS FOR GIRLS IN MILITARY STYLE

THE new coats for little girls and their schoolgirl sisters show a decidedly military cut. In fact for the most part they are counterparts of their brothers' overcoats.

The new materials lend themselves excellently to this very smart, trim effect. Inverted pleats trim the backs of the utility coats for the larger girls, thereby giving sufficient fullness to avoid all appearance of skimpiness. One rarely sees a coat of this season without a belt. Exactly as the soldiers wear their belted models, so girls will find their winter coats, neither more nor less than overcoats.

Last year and the year before the fashionable cut was that of the coat which hung straight from the shoulders with a flaring skirt and much fulness. This has given way almost entirely to the straight, belted lines seen on most overcoats.

The new silvertone, so called because of the silvery white thread flecking its surface, has been made up

into some very smart outer wraps suitable for school and general wear. Straight collars are added to the neck, the ends being left long enough for one to slip through the other in a cravat effect which relieves an otherwise extremely plain collar. The sleeves are long and tight, with an extra cuff buttoning around stylishly.

It is interesting to observe that one finds fewer dark blue coats this year than ever, that is among the school-girls' models. There are two reasons for this, the first, of course, being the desire for wool, or rather dark blue serge, conservation, and the other the demand young girls nearly always make for lighter colors—old rose, robin's egg blue, wood browns and even Burgundy or a lighter red.

Some extremely smart coat capes are made up in the fine Scotch chevrons with a pleasing mingling of several colors. After all, these coat capes are extremely smart and satisfactory wraps. Fitted with the tight, sleeveless jackets, belted in at the front and forming a waistcoat, the cape hanging from the shoulders gives not only extra warmth but a great deal of style.

This sort of wrap has lost nothing of its popularity through having been worn all summer. Because there is a general desire to have military effects one finds many stunning coats of navy blue cloth faced with scarlet, fastening with brass buttons and equipped with a velvet collar exactly like the capes of officers in the navy. It must be stated, though, that these capes are not long.

Velvet of finest texture is made up in dressy coats. They have all the fine lines and finish of the coats well dressed women delight to wear. A beautiful brown velvet coat with a good cut has a trimming of beaver. By the way, beaver seems to be the fur for the future. It trims so many things made especially for this young person that I sometimes think it

should be left entirely for our growing girls. Beaver is not an expensive fur and has such lasting qualities, surviving almost every kind of treatment, that little surprise is felt at its choice for schoolgirls.

Many young girls delight to have a rather narrow stole of this fur or some other equally suitable, and unattached to the coat. The ends are run down each side of the front to be caught in the belt, surplice fashion, except that they are not crossed. This will be the favorite way this winter of wearing all fur stoles.

The end thrown over the shoulder has gone out of date. Even with the stunning angora scarfs now fashionable and the knitted ones, too, this arrangement is sanctioned by the best dressed. As the separate scarf is undoubtedly in vogue this year most of the coats for school girls are left without fur trimmings of any kind.

For the little girls Bolivia cloth, exquisitely tailored and beautifully modeled, leads all other fabrics. Their coats are cut after the same straight lines seen in the coats for older girls. Belts are placed on them also. For the most part they are double-breasted, fastening at one side, invisibly, or by means of bright buttons down one side. The single-breasted coat has never been popular for children too small to know when the wrap is rightly buttoned across the chest as it should be. One of the prettiest coats imaginable is made of rose broadcloth with an edging along collar and cuffs of beaver. The collar is one of the new sort, go-

ling straight around the neck to fold over the button invisibly under one ear.

The lining is of satin of the exact shade of the coat. And when mothers come to buy these coats they will be appalled at the prices. For instance, coats of this kind of exquisite soft duvetyne cost \$55; but are worth it when one remembers their rare beauty, durability and perfection of make.

Chinchilla cloth is always a favorite and the gray chinchilla coats have been fitted this year with small gray squirrel collars, making them extremely good looking. For general wear these heavy coats will be found smart and practical.

Cheviot serge is a new fabric this season. It is made up only in dark blue and has a rather wide, heavy stripe which will not always recommend it for a small child, though it is stylish. The dressier coats for little girls are made up in velvet, but the broadcloths in the soft pretty baby shades are more favored.

So many mothers want their littlest girls in white that the white fuzzy coat is always to be found, though it is never so pretty as broadcloth or even a very heavy rep silk thickly interlined to give warmth. It is difficult for a small child to wear furs; therefore, whatever fur trimming is used for them, it is always best to have it put in place on the garment itself and not to plague the child by worrying lest it lose its little muff and tippet. Deep fur cuffs which can be turned down over small hands take the place admirably of the muffs which have to be swung by ribbon or cord about the neck, and at that are always getting lost.

A trimming of some sort of fur, in very narrow banding, dresses these cloth coats beautifully, the dark fur contrasting handsomely with the light colored material. A favorite color is rose, next in popularity being the lovely blue known as Belgian.

Military capes for little girls are seen, but as it is hard enough to keep small folks warm in the tightest fitting garments the capes are not practical. Heavy coats of fur are very smart, nutria especially, and gray squirrel being most desirable.

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS.

The engagement of Miss Phyllis Salomon to Harold Rosenthal has been announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis H. Salomon of 919 Riverside Drive.

The engagement of Miss Florence A. Hague, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ainsworth Hague of Newark, N. J., to William A. Becker has been formally announced. Since her graduation from Smith College in 1909, Miss Hague has been engaged in civic and social work and for the last year has been in charge of all supplies sent to the Spanish relief unit in France.

Mrs. H. Baumann of 75 West Tenth street announces the engagement of her daughter Miss Leonie Baumann to Harry G. Tania.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton E. Stern of 500 West One Hundred and Fortieth street announce the engagement of their daughter, Helen M. G. Hartfield, to Maxwell S. Marshall of Norfolk, Va.

Dr. A. E. Drugman of 163 West Eighty-fifth street announces the engagement of his niece, Miss Helene B. Worth, to Alfred Brossard.

Mrs. Paul Devereux Langdon will give a Hollowe'en party on Wednesday at her home, 140 West Fifty-eighth street.

apartment for the winter at 4 West Ninety-first street.

Miss Julia Avery Fish and her brother, Albert H. Fish, have returned from their country home at East Marion, L. I., and are at the Clarendon, 57 East Fifty-eighth street, where they will spend the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert F. Egert have returned from Quogue, L. I., to their home, 156 East Seventy-ninth street.

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Baxter Mills, who spent the early season at Westhampton, L. I., and afterward were at Atlantic City, are occupying their home at Tenafly, N. J., where they will spend the winter.

Miss M. Katharine Husted, who spent the summer at Broadbill, N. Y., has returned to town, and is at 920 Park avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Strahan and Mrs. Joseph E. Strahan have returned from Stratton Beach to their home, 219 West Ninetieth street. Lieut. J. C. Strahan has been for more than a year in France with the American Expeditionary Forces.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Jones have returned from Beechwood, their summer home at Sayville, L. I., to 610 Park avenue.

Miss Katherine Grouse has returned from their country home at Green's Farm, Conn., to 88 Central Park West.

Mrs. Marion Benedict Colgren has moved from 11 East Ninetieth street to 61 West Ninth street.

Miss Marjorie Lewis Street has returned from Mount Clemens, Mich., to her home at 255 Bedford, Jersey City.

Mrs. Charles Sumner Burr, whose son, Reginald E. Burr, is regimental sergeant-major with the American Expeditionary Forces in France and is now attending the army candidates' school near Paris, will spend the winter at 61 Piermont street, Brooklyn, where she and her daughter, Miss Marjorie Burr, have taken an apartment.

TODAY'S BEAUTY HELP

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