LESSON X.

The Princess dress, like the tight fitted lining, is a difficult subject, but when it is thoroughly understood nothing is more artistic nor displays more real skill in the making. Fit yourself with a plain, tight-fitting Princess pattern as near your own measures as possible, or of the person for whom the garment is being made. Alter according to rules already given for tight-fitting linings, that it will correspond with measures taken. Then cut a lining from muslin or cambric, baste up and fit. If there are any more alterations to be taken, take them, and then rip apart the lining and lay on your cloth for your Princess. Pin securely, cut accurately, and baste still more carefully; fit again and you will find that your garment is absolutely perfect. Stitch a shade on the outside of your bastings, pick bastings and press. If the Princess is only a foundation lining, the bones can be inserted the same as for a tight-fitting waist, only they extend farther below the waist line. But if this Princess is to be finished up as an outside garment, then insert all bones by hand, as care must be exercised not to have stitches show on the outside. A Princess should not be fit too snugly. Finish the closing in the same manner as for a tight lining—using a narrow strip of the material under the eye side for a fly. The plain tight fitting Princess should be fitted up with a pair of long tight-fitting sleeves—no short, fussy sleeves nor low-cut neck can be tolerated on the tailored Princess frock. Such a garment may have heavy motifs or insertions or fancy braid or button trimmings—this all being left to the taste of the wearer. To make an elaborate Princess there may be dainty hand-run tucks, bits of hand embroidery, or perhaps some set-in bits of trimming that are herringboned to the garment proper.

The Princess may be either tight-fitting or semi-fitting as fashion demands. The cutting of the semi-fitting Princess is done after the same manner as the tight fitting, only it does not fit so closely at waist. The semi-fitting Princess is usually cut on tailored lines, and the garment admits of little trimming and fuss work.
Either style of garment is usually built up with a panel both back and front. This panel may be perfectly straight and plain or it may be cut in designs, strapped, braided or embroidered. To braid a panel for a Princess, first have it stamped, then sew by hand with small back stitches, the braid, following carefully the line of stamping.

The Princess may extend about two-thirds the distance of the skirt and have the lower portion of the garment cut away and in its stead have a straight plaited flounce, the joining of which to the skirt is concealed with a wide tuck on skirt portion or perhaps a row of braid or bias band of the material.

All seams should be nicked and bound as carefully as in a tight-fitting lining. Or if the garment is an outside frock, the seams may be finished as lap seams, French seams, tuck seams or welt seams. If the garment is to be tubed, do not bone it.

The plain tight-fitting Princess may be used as a lining foundation on which to drape an outside garment. It is really one of the most satisfactory methods of lining a garment that is to be draped, as it is a perfect fitting foundation, and the finished garment cannot help being a success if handled carefully.

It has often been a question, who should wear the Princess? Tastes will vary in this respect, but the safest basis is a good figure, be the subject tall or short. A perfect figure is most essential for real success with the tight-fitting Princess, as it displays every defect of the form. The short, stout woman can safely gown herself in such a garment, providing she has good lines and carries herself well. The Princess accentuates height, therefore it rightly belongs to the woman who needs must make herself appear taller. The tall woman can safely depend on the Princess providing she is not too thin. The small or medium-sized person with no hips or bust should ever shun the tight-fitting garment, as it only exaggerates her thinness and makes more prominent her bones and hollows.

ADVICE TO THE LEARNER.

The utmost familiarity with this lesson is necessary that the learner will not hesitate when she is called upon to build a Princess either for lining purposes or an outside garment. She must not hesitate a single moment to decide whether such a garment is suitable for the woman in ques-
tion, for while the garment may be made to fit her figure perfectly, the woman's figure may not have been made to fit a Princess.

The learner who shirks the labor necessary to thoroughly master every rule and principle in each lesson and apply the same in her work, may safely conclude that she has not the necessary qualifications to succeed in dressmaking, or any other profession where close application and faithful study are necessary to success.

FIVE RULES TO REMEMBER.

1. If material has a figure or flower design you must be very careful and watch in your cutting out and see that the pattern is all running the same way and that it matches.
2. Sometimes skirts that stand out around the feet are stylish. If you wish a skirt so, use skirt featherbone in bottom of hem of lining.
3. All waists drape prettier if they fasten in the back; avoid fastening elsewhere if possible.
4. In removing a waist from the form, handle with utmost care so that the pins will not drop out. Baste at once.
5. To press velvet seams, you must lay the iron down on the table and pull seam over the edge of the iron; never set an iron on velvet.

QUESTIONS.

1. Who should wear the Princess?
2. Describe fully two methods of trimming the Princess frock.
3. What about the boning of the Princess?
4. What about the closing of such a garment?
5. Name the five rules in this lesson.
6. Tell in detail how to cut a perfect-fitting Princess.
7. What about the sleeves that belong with the Princess?
8. How would you finish the seams of this garment?
9. Why is this lesson important?