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Cloche de mélusine avec ruban gros-grain et piqûres.
Modèle suisse.
Melusine cloche with grosgrain ribbon and stitching.
Swiss model.
Sombrero « cloche », de melusina con cinta de grosgrén y puntadas.
Modelo suizo.
Kleine Melusine-Cloche mit Grosgrainband und Steppgarnitur.
Schweizer Hutmodell.

Photo Schmutz.

Dans un atelier de fabrication de cloches pour chapeaux.
Making hoods for the millinery industry.
En un taller de fabricación de cascos para sombreros.
Fabrikation von Filz-Hutstumpfen.

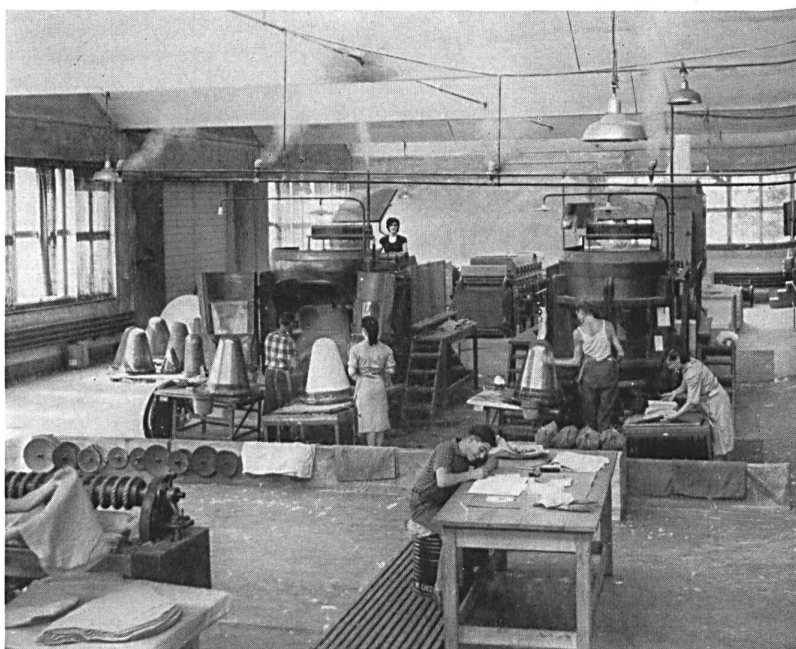
Photo Hans Bickel.

Cloche de feutre rasé piquée.
Modèle suisse.
Cloche in smooth felt with stitching.
Swiss model.
Sombrero « cloche », de fieltro rasurado y punteado.
Modelo suizo.
Gesteppte, kurzgeschorene Filzcloche.
Schweizer Hutmodell.



Winter hats, felt hats

In winter felt hats reign supreme. Felt that is supple and soft to the touch, or dull in a chine type with a slight down of short hairs, or melusines as shiny as silk. Draped toques, rounded cloches coming down over the temples or big, wide shapes. A craze for what is known as « false shades » of black and white: black with greenish or bluish tints, grey greens, silver white or yellowish green. Other fashionable colours are bronze and Sherwood green, violet and plum, sandy beige and brown, bright red and a brilliant yellow. Materials, shapes and colours all conspire to give hats a bright, animated look.



The Swiss felt industry — which supplies the raw material to milliners for the winter season — consists of a large number of concerns with reputations well established on foreign markets.

La Moderna Felt Factory Co. Ltd. at Giubiasco, for example, which was recently brought to the notice of the press by the Swiss Association of Hat Manufacturers, alone supplied, during 1955, some 200 000 hoods, 80 000 of them for export. In the making of these hoods it used 55 000 lbs. of hare and tame and wild rabbit hair, which had to be submitted to a large number of mechanical and manual operations necessary for the manufacture of perfect felts. After being washed and mixed into a light, even mass, the hairs (from 70 to 150 grams of hair depending on the size of the felt) are blown into a cone pierced with holes to form the hoods which are then rolled by hand and machine, impregnated, and finally submitted to various other treatments during which the felt takes on a firmer consistency and shrinks in size.

Once dried and dyed to order, the hoods are sent to the hatmaking factories. These, briefly, are a few of the stages in the making of a hat, that indispensable fashion accessory that puts the crowning touch to a woman's outfit.

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