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DRESS

BY ANNE RITTENHOUSE

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Curious Capes That Are Featured at the Resorts Where Fashionable Women Foregather.

Paris, Aug. 15.—No Parisienne has any idea of giving up capes. The Americans insist that they have been worn long enough and that our public is weary of them, but such talk falls on deaf ears.

If we are showing a spirit of independence that surprises Paris quite as much as, at least, it has no effect on the designers or the French public. One feels that in their independence is their strength and their inspiration, and yet, in the independence of the Americans there must be an element of anxiety to the French houses which garner so many dollars from our buyers.

"The Americans will not accept this," has become a current phrase among the dressmakers and the buyers from over the sea. And as the August openings were mainly for the Americans the statement was ominous.

What We Do to French Fashions. Whatever we buy or do not buy the French women are not influenced. Therefore the divergence between the fashions of the two countries may be wider than it is now. Undoubtedly we will take the ideas contained in every gown, catch and accept the inspiration, adopt the color schemes and then change several of the fundamentals, which is exactly what the Paris designers are opposed to our doing.

For instance, they resent the fact that hundreds of gowns are sold by American houses which bear their names, but are materially altered from the original. The fact that most of these alterations are made by the French houses themselves does not seem to matter, for they insist that the gown is entirely wrong when it is thus altered and should not be advertised as their product. One feels the justice of that claim, yet one feels sure that the resentment would be far deeper if the gown were sold as a creation of the American house that imported it. So what is to be the outcome? No one has any reasonable solution.

All of which is to say that while there is trouble aplenty between the commercialists of a kind that is most friendly to the Parisienne has no reason to bother her head about it. What she prefers in this world is apparel that is made entirely and altogether

for her; for her figure, her temperament, her environment, and her manner of life. She has never troubled her brain with the thinking that any other country than her own, as she has never thought of their art, architecture or literature.

Now that she wishes to continue wearing capes instead of coats, she will do so no matter how strenuously the Americans say they are finished as a fashion in America. She opens her lovely eyes (for it seems that every French woman has lovely eyes) and regards you with a curiously puzzled expression as though your remark had not penetrated her comprehension. The trouble now is that the American goes on saying it, where heretofore the American subsided.

And what curious capes she has discovered! Imagine one worn in the morning that is of a heavy homespun weave trimmed at all its edges with huge hanks of slightly twisted wool just as it comes from the shop. The tops of it are as thick as the arm, and how it is held in place is a mystery of the sewing room. It does remain in place. The woman moves, and eats and walks with the cape swung around her, and yet one has an impulse to hold out the hands, and take the skeins out to their length and ask the woman to begin winding.

In the Italian Fashion. Take another cape worn in the evening at a small theatre where the play is so boring that one enjoys the acting and the wonderful clothes without knowing what half of it is about.

The material is copper velvet, the trimming yellow and brown fur. One side of the front is much longer than the other and is thrown around the shoulders in the Italian manner. On the chest is a great plaque done in gold and dull jewels. Then one armhole drops to the hem of the skirt beneath and is edged with masses of fur while the other armhole is conventional size. The pocket that falls well over the shoulder is weighted with the largest tassel, surely that was ever launched in regulation costumery.

Inconvenient, of one sat upon it.

THE HOUSEHOLD

Edited by Anne Rittenhouse.

THE HOUSEWIFE'S EYE
There is a sort of faulty sight that comes to housewives, that comes, in fact, so often to that worthy section of the body politic that we might almost call it "the housewife's eye." And it isn't anything that can be corrected by eyeglasses, or maybe a vacation might cure it, but the housewife afflicted with it would go right back to her tasks with the same peculiar faults of vision as ever. However, sometimes that is all that is needed—a complete rest, a different sort of job, some big absorbing interest.

You know the victims of this malady, don't you? Take them into the coziest little living room in the world, the sort of room that has grown up through an entire generation without having become too cluttered or too complicated to be harmonious—a room full of sunshine and personality and books and flowers, and what does this sort of housewife see. Perchance she sees a visit from the radiator brush the last time the radiator was cleaned. A few specks of dust lie between the radiator-pipes, or maybe one of those who frequent this room has scattered some cigarette ashes on the hearth and it has not been swept up, or this roller shade may be a fraction of an inch higher than that, or a picture may be just a little askew where the breeze has blown it. All the rest escapes the housewife. She is on one eternal visit of inspection in every room she goes into. She is always playing the role of the housewife who goes about to see that the housemaid is doing her duty.

And in the end with these housewives, what a vexation houses are anyway! Every additional room is just one more place to be kept speckless, one more territory for the eternal quest of dust. Silver is only something that must be kept from becoming black. Brass can never give a sthetic delight because there is always the awful thought that even if it is beautiful when it is allowed to turn brown and green it isn't really clean. It ought to be polished. And glass is just something that must be kept shining and something that is very apt to chip, and flowers in the house are a source of annoyance. Their petals drop and the water has to be changed.

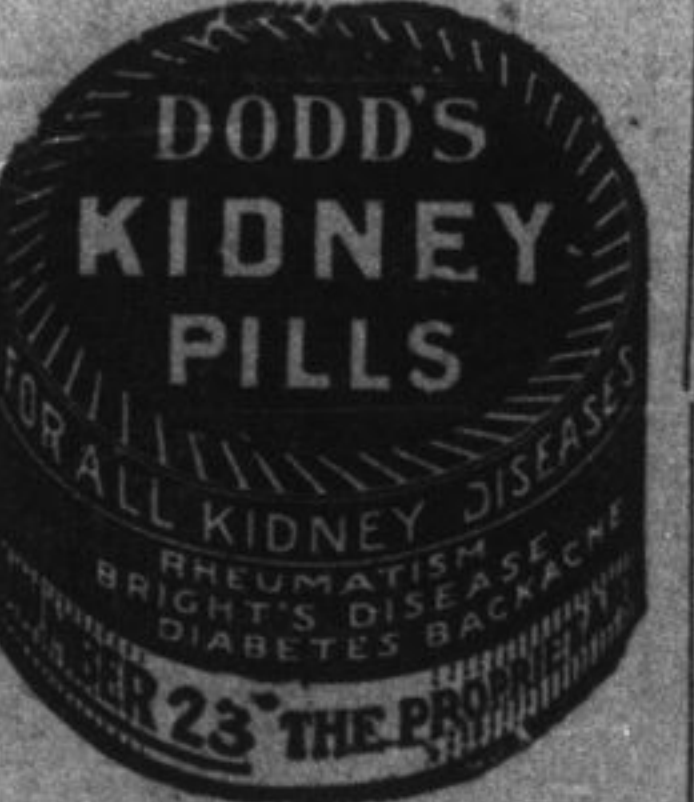
Fortunate, indeed, is the woman who can see things with the narrow scrutiny of the housewife, who can when the working hours are over see things in the comfortable way of a true home-maker and home-lover.

Denbigh Settling.

Aug. 19.—Mr. and Mrs. Goul A. Stein and sons and Miss Emma Stein, who were for a month welcome visitors at the Denbigh House, have left again for Sault Ste. Marie, their present home. Mrs. G. M. Meskel and daughter of Ottawa and Mrs. Thomas Wilson of Waukegan and daughter, who also spent a month here at their old home, have also returned to their present places of residence. William Bernott, who came to assist his parents during haying and harvesting here, also returned to his hometown in Manitoba, George Ball, who also intends to try his luck in the far west. The lady teachers from this vicinity who attended summer school at Sault Ste. Marie, have all arrived home again, except Gladys Stein who went to Ottawa to enjoy a visit with relatives before the new school term begins. Miss Hilda Marquardt of Fardwood Lake is spending a few days here visiting relatives.



Cape of black velvet strikingly trimmed with fringe of monkey fur.



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