

the least of her charm comes from the suitability of her costume.

Types of solid build and dark coloring find in white cloth costumes, made up with an exaggerated plainness, rejuvenating aids to looks. White is now much used for both day as well as evening wear, white gowns, hats and furs appearing at all smart afternoon functions. Then brown and white is a kindly combination for indifferent complexions, and it is one superbly effective when in the shape of a corduroy gown with ermine trappings.

The horse show, which virtually establishes modes in New York, demonstrated the fact that brown and white was to be the color combination of the season. Numbers of plain brown velvet and brown corduroy gowns were seen there, the half fitting Hussar or blouse coats topping bodies of brown, ecru or white lace. The ermine neckpieces were of varying lengths, but generally in stole shape, and the smartest muffs always in flat bag form.

The most effective hats for these costumes were the huge boat turbans, milliner-made, of long-haired beaver. A brim band of ermine trimmed many of these, while others were encircled by wreaths of velvet berries. Still others showed at the left ear stiff rosettes of white or black lace, or chenille with long swinging tassels below. Some of the most effective of the horse show toques were of tuckered or shirred tulle with a gilt rosette and tassels at the side. Indeed, the trimming that swings is the thing, and the woman of fading beauty turns to good account the long silk fringes of the hour.

One of the most delightfully gowned women seen this winter was a dame of at least 55 years of age, the shoulder portion of whose white fox pelerine hung with a deep ivory silk fringe. Her gown, made absolutely without trimming, was of dark plum panne, and around her plum velvet and white tulle bonnet went a wreath of white velvet raisins.

Raisins have succeeded grapes in the millinery world. White fur muffs, intended to go with a raisin trimmed hat, are sometimes decked with a large bunch of the purple and white fruit. From the openings of the muff will hang festoons of silk or chenille fringe or cascades of lace. A white panne muff with purple and white raisins has falls of purple lace.

MARY DEAN.

Dress or Brains, Which?

**T**HE New York Society for Political Study, whose membership is composed entirely of women of culture, devoted itself at its last meeting to a discussion of the question whether it is dress or brains that counts most with women, and especially in women's clubs. It is not clear in what way this subject is connected with political study, but the discussion was none the less interesting on that account, for while the majority favored brains, a large and able minority favored dress.

Mrs. Lillie Devereux Blake, whose name is pleasantly and strenuously associated with the advancement of woman, opened the discussion and insisted that it was brains that made the individual a power, and yet, wise woman that she is, she did not deem it fitting anyone should ignore dress, for, after all, it is the man behind the gun who counts, and it is the brain under the hat, the heart under the corsage, that counts in club life. Another member thought women did not dress beautifully or rationally, and it would be a good thing if women's clubs would teach them how to do both. Another shrewd sister warned club women to dress suitably, for "nobody thinks the more of you for being shabby." Another thought it was neither dress nor brains but character that gave club women a standing. Another rejoiced that women of today are broadening in their views as well as their waists, and another insisted that after a woman shows her brains it makes little difference how she dresses. Mrs. Blake wound up the discussion in Mrs. Blake's conventional way. She hated "the clothes we wear, but we can't make guys of ourselves," and then she consoled herself and her hearers by declaring that "men's clothes are no more sensible than ours" and that "men are just as much slaves to custom as we are."

It was an unusually interesting heart-to-heart discussion of a question which is specially near and dear to the female heart. Nearly every member of that dignified society, the Society for Political Study, had something to say, but the best and most pertinent speech of the afternoon was the briefest one. It was just fourteen words long and was made by the prettiest and most becomingly dressed woman in the room. "Other things being equal, the woman with the prettiest hat will get there first," she said in a positive manner. She was applauded by the minority members, all of whom had pretty hats, and was frowned upon by the majority, who lay claim to the brains of the Society for Political Study.

If the question were left to men to decide there is little doubt how they would cast their ballots. They believe in pretty women prettily dressed. They do not, of course, disapprove of brains, but if they had to decide between the two, it is to be feared, such is the weakness of the masculine nature, that the pretty woman would win nearly every time. Whether this is due to a man's love of feminine beauty richly adorned or to his dread of feminine brains need not be discussed. Possibly it is because men are so made.—Chicago Tribune.

Tips for Shoppers

Buster Brown ribbon comes about four inches wide, a white ground with Buster and sprays of holly in red.

Among the prettiest things in inexpensive flower holders are hanging affairs of a soft gray-green pottery. They are something of a cornucopia shape, but in graceful lines. They hang by cords of different colors.

Pretty things in neckwear are brought out in ruchings. These are wide, an inch and a half, perhaps, the ruching proper, but this for the back of the stock only, the front, under the chin, being plain.

An attractive ornament in a cluster of flowers for the corsage is a bunch of the beautiful red poinsettia blossoms, with a mass of loops of half-inch black velvet dotted with gold beads.

Agreeable presents are boxes in which are put up a box of powder, a box of soap and a bottle of perfume all of the same scent and the same make. The only thing is that in any make worth while they are expensive.

There are charming things in tiny brass frames with standard backs. They are made in something of an art nouveau design of smooth brass. The opening for the picture in oval, and but little more than an inch across the longest way.

In elaborate furniture for the doll's house there is a run on open fireplaces this year. There are open stoves, whole mantelpieces with open grates, and, besides, open-front gas stoves for the dolls who are not afraid to risk their complexions by using this kind of heat.

Attractive slippers trimmed with black jet are those with straps, three of them across the instep, buttoning at one side and having in the centre of each strap the jet, arranged to give the appearance of a small black buckle. There is a round piece of jet in the centre and wings on either side of it are formed of jet beads.

One need not think that in buying a useful article like a fountain pen it is necessary to get a dull piece of black rubber. The pens are made up in many different styles. Some have a design in silver encircling the pen, having the appearance of being inlaid; others are in more florid designs of silver and gold, the outer part of the pen nearly covered with the metal.

Hatpin holders are made of satin ribbon about an inch wide, this doubled up about hatpin length and feather stitched together on the two edges to make a long and narrow bag which holds a long glass bottle in which the hatpins go. The ribbon is carried up above the bottle and is tied to hang on the side of the mirror, or anywhere that it will be convenient.

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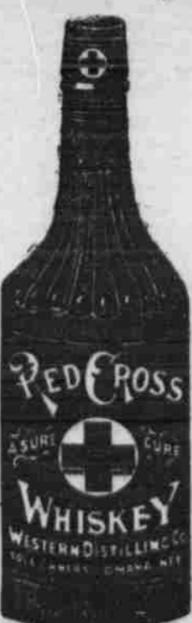
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