

FURORE FOR BEADS SWEEPING SOCIETY AT RIVIERA.

By LA RACONTEUSE



Paris, Dec. 29.
Just as history repeats itself, so does fashion, and now we are to have a return of beaded trimmings. This new fashion floated into Paris, now in the height of the midwinter season, from the Riviera, where, on the walks, links and in the casinos, swept by the balmy breezes from the Mediterranean, and the warming glow of the sun, fashion is deced into believing that it is Spring, and, accordingly, puts on her Spring garments. Already at the Riviera they are wearing the garments which will deck the well-dressed woman during the coming Spring season.

Judging by the display seen in the fashion centres of the Riviera, afternoon as well as evening gowns are to be elaborately trimmed. The fur edging and dainty laces of the present Winter season are to be replaced with beads. The Riviera is fairly head crazy. Jet beads, amber beads, glass beads, large and small beads, beads of every conceivable shape, all woven into intricate patterns, are seen in profusion.

FUR TRIMMINGS STILL IN VOGUE.

Leaving for the present the Riviera and its season of beads, and returning to the avenues and cafes of Paris and the tearooms and streets of London, we slip back into our furs. Quite apart from the ever-increasing popularity of such invaluable accessories to a Winter toilette as fur stoles and muffs to match, fur is greatly in demand also as a trimming, both for day and evening gowns, and it is used both in large and small quantities with an equally good effect. In the case of many of the smartest dance frocks the net or lace tunics which are worn over satin skirts are bordered with a narrow edging of dark fur, while dinner gowns in chiffon velvet and in broche satin and crepe de chine are being made with trains, the hems of which are outlined with skunk or stone marten.

The same thing holds good in an even more marked degree where walking gowns are concerned. Dull blue Duvetyn of the soft woolen variety is the fabric chosen for a particularly striking gown seen recently. The skirt is very fully draped and arranged to give a panier effect on either side, while the bodice is trimmed with broad bands of sable, starting from under the arms at the back, and then crossing each other and passing under the arms to the front of the waist. Round the throat there is a close-fitting sable collar, finished in front with paws and tails, and a soft jabot of ecru lace. These close-fitting fur collars are enjoying a remarkable vogue just now, and some of the most popular are carried out in skunk, and finished on one side with a kind of brightly colored satin ribbon.

Others, again, are made in natural undyed fitch, with two complete skins in front, arranged to give the effect of a fur cravat, and incidentally forming an excellent protection to the throat and chest. A third skin passes round the neck, and is fastened up closely under the chin with a small head and paws. To return for a moment to our sketch. The muff which is carried with this gown is naturally of sable, and the long, close-fitting sleeves are finished with sable cuffs. There is something very attractive about the hat which completes the picture. It is made in black velvet and in a novel shape with a softly draped crown, and a brim which turns up

very sharply in front. Two small brush ospreys, dyed to match the blue of the gown, form the sole trimming of this velvet hat.

CONTRASTING COATS AND SKIRTS.

Although there is no longer the charm of novelty about the walking costumes which are arranged with coats in one fabric and skirts in another, they have taken a firm hold on Dame Fashion's affection, and in one form or another it seems certain that they will be very much in evidence all the Winter through. One costume of this sort was noted, the skirt of which is in dark sapphire blue chiffon velvet, while the coat is of brocade, dyed to match exactly the color of the skirt, and arranged with raised designs in velvet, on a background of crepe de chine.

This coat is made in one of the new shapes for the Winter, with very full basques, cut sufficiently long to give the all prevailing tunic effect, and held in at the waist by a broad belt of white suede, fastened with one large button, covered with embroidered sapphire-blue velvet. A very handsome collar of white fox lends an air of great distinction to this brocade velvet coat, and can be rolled up closely round the throat should occasion require. White fox cuffs finish the sleeves, and help to give an air of dainty freshness to the whole toilette. The hat is of velvet in a darker shade of blue, with a band of white suede round the crown, and a fine strand of crane plumage on one side of the brim.

BLACK AND WHITE HARMONIES.

Lovely as the new colors are this season, there remains still nothing that is really smarter or more becoming than well-chosen harmonies in black and white. Alike for day or evening gowns, this happy combination seems equally successful. The skirt is of black charmeuse, while the coat, which is entirely novel in shape, is carried out in white Duvetyn, and made with long basques, arranged in such a way that they form a tunic, slightly stiffened at the edge with whalebone, and showing a black charmeuse lining. The fullness at the waist is drawn in with a black and white check ribbon, tied in a smart bow on one side.

The upper part of this coat is particularly becoming, with its broad yoke and high Medici collar, while the sleeves fit closely to the arms and reach below the wrist. An ermine stole, bordered with a fringe of tulle, carries out the same black and white idea, and the hat is of black velvet, trimmed with a cluster of roses made in soft white kid. The boots are of black patent leather, with white suede tops, and when gloves are worn they are of white kid with broad black stitching.

A charming tea gown, modeled according to the Oriental style, is shown at the right. The gown is developed in light pink satin and silk muslin. Over a draped foundation of silk muslin is placed a scarf bolero of black Chantilly, twisted in front and falling in two long ends finished with jet tassels.

The sleeve, slit at the elbow, is finished by revers of rosy pink silk muslin, while a small round collar of velvet of the same color finishes the neck of the back.

Over a foundation of satin, veiled by a light pink silk muslin, and cut in a V in the front, is draped a "replie" of the silk muslin, which falls gracefully to the back. A tunic of Chantilly lace, lengthened into points at the back falls from the waist line.



Be Careful HOW YOU Give Money to Charity Societies



Recent Distressing Disclosures of Wastefulness, Graft and Immorality in Some of the Charitable Organizations

THIS is the "begging season" of the many and various charity societies. The holiday spirit of Christmas kindness makes it easy to solicit subscriptions just now without much questioning about whether the money given will be wisely or honestly spent.

And it is from some of the more responsible charity societies that a protest has come against giving money blindly—a warning to the public not to send subscriptions to any society that you know little or nothing about.

Every charity society has for its president a man or woman more or less well known and a board of directors or patrons made up of names which inspire confidence. This list of names is all that most kindly disposed persons require as a guarantee of the efficient and honest management of the society.

Recent distressing disclosures have revealed the fact that these worthy men and women, whose names are sponsors of the societies, often know nothing about what the society is doing or how the money is being spent. In fact, in some instances it would appear that charities are run for personal graft and in the case of the George Junior Republic most shocking charges of immorality have been made.

And yet the well-meaning but wholly incompetent board of managers or patronesses of the Junior Republic were in childish ignorance of what was going on in the charity they were enthusiastically aiding and endorsing. These facts are solemnly pointed out as a warning to people who read pathetic appeals, glance at a list of well-known names as patrons and

without further concern write out a check.

Anybody can start a charity. The "aims and objects" of the society are always worthy. There is never any difficulty in getting a list of patrons and patronesses whose names are calculated to inspire confidence. And it would appear from recent disclosures that it is easy to solicit funds. But how much is really known of the work actually done by the society or in what spirit the "aims and objects" are really carried out?

William H. George, the originator and founder of the George Junior Republic, has been removed from control or personal relations with the little men and women under his charge. For many months the affairs of this splendidly conceived charity have been under investigation and the shocking disclosures are unprintable. So little did the worthy sponsors of the Junior Republic know of this man George and the real conduct of things within the society that these wretched conditions have been going on for years unsuspected. What did the guaranty of their names amount to?

Everybody has heard of the International Sunshine Society. This organization came into existence in 1896 "to scatter deeds of kindness." Its activities have been so broadened in recent years that in addition to homes for blind babies and children, which it runs, it also conducts a number of sanatoriums or boarding houses.

But the emotional appeal it makes for contributions is based almost exclusively on its "blind baby" work. Even moving-pictures of "blind babies" have been used in this emotional campaign. How effective the appeal is may be judged from the fact that the society succeeded in collecting upward of \$89,000 during the single year ending May 1st, 1913.

Two of the sanatoriums conducted by this society are the Bensonhurst Sanatorium for convalescents at Bensonhurst, L. I., and the Westover Lodge, which adjoins it and which

although called a rest home is substantially a boarding house. At the former, the rates charged convalescents are from \$15 to \$50 a week and at the latter \$10 a week. Both of these institutions are or ought to be self-supporting, if not profit-making, concerns. Certainly the resources of the charitably inclined should not be called upon to maintain boarding houses which can maintain themselves.

The affairs of the Sunshine Society have recently been investigated by a special committee of the State Board of Charities, appointed to investigate its financial operations. Last year, through the efforts of its energetic president-general, Mrs. Cynthia Westover Alden, the State Legislature appropriated \$20,000 for the organization. It was claimed that under its charter the International Sunshine Society was not entitled to this appropriation.

What the Charity Organization Society thinks of the International Sunshine Society appears from a statement recently issued by it in which it says, in part:

"The fundamental weakness of the Sunshine Society lies in its misuse and abuse of sentiment. It was not founded to deal with a definite social problem. It was founded to encourage its members to deeds of kindness. The fact was overlooked that kind deeds, if improperly directed and if unintelligently done, though prompted by good intentions, really are not kind in effect. The society's policy brought it money. In finding ways to spend this money it became involved in enterprises which were not charitable."

An excellent example of the manner in which prominent names are used to procure contributions to enterprises which may or may not be worthy is afforded by the history of the William McKinley Memorial Hospital League, organized some five years ago.

The object of this league ostensibly was to erect a \$150,000 hospital as a monument to the martyred

President. In some way or other, those back of the project succeeded in getting President Taft to commend it, and upon the strength of his approval there was no difficulty in securing other prominent persons to lend their names to it.

As a result the promoters of the project sent out broadcast appeals upon letter-heads, upon which were printed the names of an alleged "Council of One Hundred." This list of names included those of Hon. Judson Harmon, Governor of Ohio; Hon. Woodrow Wilson, then Governor of New Jersey; Hon. H. C. Aldrich, Governor of Nebraska, and twenty-two other Governors, Congressman Nicholas Longworth, Dr. David Starr Jordan, Rev. Joseph Silverman and various other Senators, college presidents, ministers and prominent individuals in all lines of endeavor.

So more representative list than this could possibly have been prepared, although this Council of "One Hundred," as listed on the letter-head in question, numbers only sixty.

Upon the strength of this formidable list of names, some 18,000 individuals enrolled as members of the league and upward of \$6,000 was collected. What has become of this money? Mr. Taft doesn't know, Woodrow Wilson couldn't tell and nobody else in the splendid list of governors, college presidents and clergymen can say. This illustrates again how cheerfully people of prominence and reputation lend their names to charity schemes which they know nothing about.

People who are asked to give charity are frequently influenced by the clerical or semi-clerical garb worn by the solicitor.

There are a number of "missionaries" who go about attired in this manner and raise hundreds of thousands of dollars collectively every year for orphan asylums in Turkey or other Oriental charities. Impetus was given to this kind of appeal as a result of the Turkish-Bulgarian war, which left many victims on both sides.



Town Meeting of Citizens and President and Cabinet at the George Junior Republic.



This Mixing of Both Sexes is Criticised.

A large percentage of these solicitors are downright frauds. The Charity Organization Society recently undertook an extended investigation of the subject and it reported that it found that as a class these men are unmitigated frauds, who, armed with the forged endorsements of foreign ecclesiastics and with the letters of unwary local officials and ministers, make a business of soliciting for alleged missions and orphan asylums in Syria and Asiatic Turkey.

No one ought to be induced to contribute to solicitors of this character without the most rigid investigation. The farther away the object of the charity is located, the more carefully should the claims made for it be scrutinized.

Very touching appeals are being constantly made for contributions to support the Home for Homeless Boys, in East One Hundred and Twenty-third street. This is a "one-man" concern, having no board of directors. It is run by a man named H. C. Eva. Solicitors who call themselves "missionaries" and are attired in a garb not unlike that of a priest find it a simple matter to secure contributions.

Recent investigation revealed that the Home for which these successful appeals are made had accommodations for forty boys but no bathing facilities, no medical examination and no supervision of the dormitories. Its application for incorporation was recently refused by the State Board of Charities.

Sometimes the solicitor leaves off his garb, but assumes the title of a divine. For twenty-five years or more the "Rev." William H. Ram-

scar, a venerable looking old man, succeeding in collecting thousands of dollars for various "homes" he claimed to conduct from time to time. He was constantly getting into trouble with the law and on one occasion served a year in the penitentiary for an assault he committed, but when he was at large he was a most assiduous collector for his various charitable enterprises.

Investigation revealed that the "homes" he ran were of the most inefficient character, to say the least, and would hardly have been considered worthy of contributions had those who made donations made even the most cursory examination of the facts.

Many of the charitable organizations which make emotional appeals for funds and get them are much less pretentious than the literature they send out would lead one to expect.

Of course, it is necessary for institutions to do a certain amount of investigating before distributing the funds they collect and it is not always possible to procure voluntary workers for this service. It has been said that only 23 cents out of every dollar collected by the Charity Organization Society is spent actually for actual relief—that the rest goes for office and other expenses. This may or may not be correct, but even if it is, it must be remembered that it is much better to have 23 cents out of every dollar donated to charity spent wisely than to have twice the total amount collected by that organization distributed indiscriminately.

But sometimes this investigation is a little too extensive and much too expensive. In the case of a worthy widow, Mrs. Maggie Utlich, for instance, it was discovered that no less than \$5,000 was spent first and last in investigating her worthiness, and she finally received various sums aggregating less than \$300—i. e.: \$7,000 to decide about disbursing \$300.

Many other instances might be cited to show how necessary it is for the person who desires to give to exercise a little discrimination in doing so.

The Merchants' Association of New York issues some very valuable "don'ts," which it might be well for every one to observe:

1. Don't give to a collector just to get rid of him. Frauds flourish upon the folly of people who do this.
2. Beware of one-man organizations.
3. Don't give to any organization which does not have its accounts satisfactorily audited yearly and which is not willing to make public annually a financial statement.
4. The fact that a woman appeals to you for a contribution does not necessarily imply that the charity in which she is interested is worthy. Fraudulent charitable enterprises are quite as often conducted by women as by men.
5. Many appeals for money enlarge upon the sufferings of the poor. Because there is misery in New York is not proof of an agency's efficiency. Find out what the society in question is doing to stop this suffering, and give accordingly.
6. Always investigate before you subscribe. There is no disgrace in giving wisely.