

FASHION LETTER.

Lady Modish and the New Skirt.

There is a grand sartorial disturbance working just now.

A regular case of "to be or not to be." Hamlet himself, when he originally propounded his perplexing query, could not have been, I am sure, in half the quandary that now possesses the mind of the average woman who aspires to be well dressed. The house of Paquin is directly responsible for all this agitation and general condition of painful doubt and cruel uncertainty that hold their dark reign in thinking feminine minds.

The house of Paquin has surely much to answer for.

This is what it is all about. When the new models for this season were shown, it was quickly evident that there were to be certain radical changes in skirts and sleeves that would make last season's things impossible. As the changes seemed reasonable, and as they promised to be even more becoming to lovely women than the fashions they were succeeding, nobody grumbled—at least not very audibly—and all philosophically proceeded to restock their wardrobes. But—oh, fatal "but!"—there was one model shown that had a skirt cut as wide at the top—almost—as at the bottom, and its ample width was half gathered, half pleated into its band. *Bonne femme* they called it, for want of a better name.

Well, the *bonne femme* skirt was shown, but few, if any, orders were taken for it even by the most prominent modistes with the largest clientele. It was generally and, indeed, universally condemned for its lack of grace and beauty. So many derogatory things were said about it that everyone supposed it had been definitely disposed of and irrevocably consigned to eternal oblivion, when—oh, fatal "when!"—from Paris comes the fiat that the *bonne femme* skirt, or skirts of its *genre*, are absolutely *de rigueur*.

That this latest mode shortens, broadens and thickens out beyond words is something that does not seem to trouble the fashion makers. Their inexorable decrees go forth, and we Modishes have to follow, *volens nolens*.

Now, every one who talks clothes is asking every one else: "Is this wretched *bonne femme* skirt a fad of the moment, or is it an *avant courier* of the world's next fashions?"

If it is but a fad we may be bold enough to refuse to adopt it; but if it is on its way to certain supremacy, we must adopt it, and endeavor to adapt it with success to our each separate and individual styles. But at a time when season after season has trained the eye to expect to see all hips smoothly felled and faultlessly outlined by the skirt, no matter how much fullness may have been disposed of about the feet, it is a horrid shock to suddenly see hips swathed and enveloped in yards of material, to see all the good lines of one's figure distorted and the bad lines exaggerated.

No! the *bonne femme* skirt is not a boon, so let us hope that it will endure but a day—and a plumber's day at that. Meanwhile, the plaintive wail of "to be or not to be" continues to fill the air—but only Time can answer the sad refrain.

Mrs. Burke Roche is wearing a sloopy-weather—I mean a *bonne femme*—skirt done in soft black cloth, but even Mrs. Roche's regal figure does not escape from the havoc that this hideous skirt wreaks upon the most beautiful lines.

Miss Evelyn Burden has a *bonne femme* skirt done in purple cloth. With it she wears a sash of purple taffeta, for sashes are invariably worn with the *bonne femme* and are its only sav-

ing grace. These sashes are very narrow—and are smartest done in soft Liberty satin or fine lace. The bodices that go with the *bonne femme* are mostly exceedingly simple and always have very long shoulders and sleeves that turn back over the undersleeve.

Painted chiffon is the last novelty for dinner gowns for summer. Black chiffon with big pink roses painted on it is very smart; trimmed with black Chantilly lace it is particularly good. Gray crepe de Chine closely sewn with tiny cut steel beads is another novelty. Both it and the painted chiffon must be made to fill special orders, so their vogue is likely to endure and also to remain exclusive.

Boas and ruffs for the throat are playing so important a part in the ensemble of the well gowned woman that the milliner's inventive genius is being taxed to its utmost. The newest and smartest boa is made of roses—black, white, mauve or pink—with long ends of half-inch velvet ribbon, which reach the hem of the gown in their dangling length, and are finished with a big cut bead the color of the velvet fastened to each end.

Mrs. Ogden Mills, before she sailed, was to be seen each day driving with a big gray ostrich boa worn over her gown of light gray cloth trimmed with machine-stitched strappings of itself.

Mrs. Perry Belmont, who is now lightening her mourning, is wearing for a boa a very fetching fluffy arrangement of black chiffon doubled with white chiffon. Black and white, unquestionably, is the smart note of the hour, and every new fad only serves to accentuate its importance.

Mrs. "Tommy" Tailor's newest hat is of pure white straw worn over the face, where it forms an abrupt point through being turned up sharply on one side and held there by a clou of boldly striped black and white ribbon. Its general smartness helps to confirm the little disputed fact that Mrs. Tailor is the best hatted woman in town.—Lady Modish, Town Topics.

TO THE DEAF.—A rich lady, cured of her Deafness and Noises in the Head by Dr. Nicholson's Artificial Ear Drums, gave \$10,000 to this institute, so that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Address No. 6,6389 A, the Nicholson Institute, 780 Eighth Avenue, New York.

LITERARY NOTES.

Ex-President Cleveland, in the forthcoming College Man's Number of The Saturday Evening Post, discusses the oft-asked question: "Does a college Education Pay?" and makes out a strong case in favor of giving a young man the advantages of a university training.

The Rock Island playing cards are the slickest you ever handled. One pack will be sent by mail on receipt of 15 cents in stamps. A money order or draft for 50 cents or same in stamps will secure 4 packs. They will be sent by express, charges prepaid. Address, JOHN SEBASTIAN, G. P. A., Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific R'y, Chicago.

Do you get your Courier regularly? Please compare address. If incorrect, please send right address to Courier office. Do this this week.

Where Ignorance is Bliss.

Hicks (reading)—There are many people that suffer from dyspepsia for years without knowing it.

Ricks (a dyspeptic)—How I envy them.—The Star Boarder.

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First Pub. May 5-5.

Master's Sale.

Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company, vs. John R. Conklin, et al., Respondents.

Doc. "S." No. 294.

IN CHANCERY.

FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGE.

Public notice is hereby given that in pursuance and by virtue of a decree entered in the above cause on the thirtieth day of December, 1908, I, Samuel S. Curtis, Master in Chancery of the circuit court of the United States, for the district of Nebraska, will on the fifth day of June, 1909, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon of said day, at the east door of the Lancaster county court house building, in the city of Lincoln, Lancaster county, state and district of Nebraska, sell at auction, for cash, the following described property, to-wit:

The undivided half (1/2) interest of all of section numbered twenty-seven (27) and the northwest quarter (n. w. 1/4) of section numbered thirty-four (34); and the west half (w. 1/2) of the northeast quarter (n. e. 1/4) of section numbered thirty-four (34); and the west half (w. 1/2) of the east half (e. 1/2) of the northeast quarter (n. e. 1/4) of section numbered thirty-four (34); and the west half (w. 1/2) of the east half (e. 1/2) of the northeast quarter (n. e. 1/4) of section numbered thirty-four (34); all in township numbered nine (9), north, range numbered five (5), east of the Sixth Principal Meridian, all in Lancaster county, Nebraska.

At the hour of eleven o'clock I will also sell all of section numbered twenty-seven (27) and the northwest quarter (n. w. 1/4) of section numbered thirty-four (34); and the west half (w. 1/2) of the northeast quarter (n. e. 1/4) of section numbered thirty-four (34); and the west half (w. 1/2) of the east half (e. 1/2) of the northeast quarter (n. e. 1/4) of section numbered thirty-four (34); and the west half (w. 1/2) of the east half (e. 1/2) of the northeast quarter (n. e. 1/4) of section numbered thirty-four (34); all in township numbered nine (9), north, range numbered five (5), east of the Sixth Principal Meridian, all in Lancaster county, Nebraska.

Above land will be offered in two parcels: section twenty-seven (27) as one parcel and the three hundred (300) acres in section thirty-four (34) as another.

SAMUEL S. CURTIS, Master in Chancery.

[First publication April 28-4]

Notice to Creditors.—E 1449.

In the county court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.

In the matter of the estate of Joseph Westfahl, deceased.

To the creditors of said estate: You are hereby notified, that the county judge will sit at the county court room in Lincoln, in said county, on the 1st day of September, 1909, and again on the 1st day of December, 1909, to receive and examine all claims against said estate, with a view to their adjustment and allowance. The time limited for the presentation of claims against said estate is six months from the 1st day of June, 1909, and the time limited for the payment of debts is one year from the 1st day of June, 1909.

Notice of this proceeding is ordered published four weeks successively in The Courier of Lincoln, Nebraska, a weekly newspaper published in this state.

Witness my hand and the seal of said county court, at Lincoln, this 14th day of April, 1909.

(SEAL) FRANK R. WATERS, County Judge.

By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk County Court.

[First Pub., April 28-4]

Notice to Creditors.

In the county court of Lancaster county, Nebraska:

In the matter of the estate of James Wampler deceased.

To the creditors of said estate: You are hereby notified, that the County Judge will sit at the county court room in Lincoln, in said county, on the 1st day of September, 1909, and again on the 1st day of December, 1909, to receive and examine all claims against said estate, with a view to their adjustment and allowance. The time limited for the presentation of claims against said estate is six months from the 1st day of June, 1909, and the time limited for the payment of debts is one year from the 1st day of June, 1909.

Notice of this proceeding has been ordered published for three weeks successively in The Courier a weekly newspaper published in this State.

Witness my hand and the seal of said court this 24th day of April, 1909.

(SEAL) FRANK R. WATERS, County Judge.

By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk County Court.

First Pub. May 5,—3.

Notice of Probate of Will.

In the county court of Lancaster county Nebraska—E 1461.

The state of Nebraska to Maud Arnold, Mark Twain Arnold, William B. Arnold and to any other persons interested in said matter.

Take notice that there is on file in said court, a petition signed by William B. Arnold praying for the probate of the last will and testament of Lois H. Arnold deceased, and for the appointment of himself as executor. That on May 29th 1909, at ten o'clock A. M., said petition will be heard at the county court room in Lincoln, in said county, and that if you do not then appear and contest, said court may probate and record said will and grant administration of the said estate to said William B. Arnold as executor.

Notice of this proceeding has been ordered published for three weeks successively prior to said hearing in The Courier of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Witness my hand and seal of said court this 30th day of April, 1909.

(SEAL) FRANK R. WATERS, County Judge.

By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk County Court.

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