

THIS EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1906.

# Touques of Fur on Parisian Toilettes

(By Nina Fitch).  
PARIS, Sept. 15.—The "season of dead leaves" brings the first touch of winter to Paris clothes. As yet the fall here named so mournfully — la saison des feuilles mortes — for the first September winds, sad, wintry, brown, the leaves begin to fall. Soon the rains turn them to a sodden mass under foot, and while elsewhere the eye is glancing on splendid reds and golds, here the sky gleams cold and grey through naked branches.

At such a time the appearance of furs is always welcomed, and very wisely the makers produce them long before the time of wearing. All along the streets of smart private shops are seen the cosy "mink" skins which are to make women beautiful and comfortable — sable, ermine, marten, caracul, chinchilla, seal and glossy stripes, will have second place, the jackets in these displaying richly embroidered vests and under-leeves of quilled and puffed chiffon. For la marmite, or the elegant chignon, silver fox will be in demand, and there is a tendency, too, to lighten this splendidly dignified skin with touches of color. For example, we have just made up a winter toilette for a Russian lady of black cloth with bands of silver fox. A foot border eight inches deep trimmed the skirt; the loose coat had deep cuffs and a collar of the fur. The linings of the entire gown were of deep red silk, and this rich doublet showed magnificently in the big muff, which was further adorned with a head and two tails.

At the shops where effort is made to achieve novelty at any cost are seen some delightful toilettes, topped or trimmed with fur. The most striking of these is a marabout also trims many of the cloth evening wraps, this melange resulting in a ravishing lightness.

But to go back to the things which may be worn at the moment, or very soon — scarves and muffs. Many neck pieces are round, immensely long and finished at the ends with a full fluffy tail. Muffs are both round and flat, though a long, narrow roll, called at some places "the tube," is perhaps the most vibrant style. Except for its great length, however, this muffle seems insignificant, for it is far from providing the opulent look of the big, round or flat ones. Draw strings at the top continue to be seen in many of the best, though the valuable authority claims that it will be thought smarter this winter to carry them fastened out. As to the hat scarfs, they have grown wider if anything, several soon being

ing in rows on the smart little jupe like bands of copper. And with all this smartness, odd green buttons at the front of the jacket, which had a narrow vest of embroidered green; a tiny toque of brown velvet with a green paradise and a set of brown coque touched at the edges with green.

Cloth frocks with shoulder capes or smart little jackets which have a cape essence are numerous, and more than one princess frock has a shoulder covering in these little wraps, which are called "mantelets" here, are made of tulle or light lace, and trimmed about with lightings or puffs. They are in the gown color or black, for black goes with everything. Then how numerous are the odd coats, though so clever is the Parisienne in this matter that the separate jacket is made really a part of her costume. For one thing no woman of taste ever wears a tan coat with a collar and cuffs. It must invariably accompany black and be further crossed — for patchy effects are not admired here — by a black hat, gloves, etc. The jacket of the odd coats are still the loose box affairs, of thin or sage covert, with single fly front and sleeves narrowly small. With these go smartly plain skirts, rather long than otherwise, of heavy black plush cloth or serge, with a stiff helmet hat, with a scarf trimming and oak's gleam is one very dashing headpiece. The white linen shirt for such a get up is on the marmite order, even to the long linen collar and string tie; and shoes of black patent leather have uppers to match the coat. Lastly a coat-bouquet of violets, roses or gardenias is in keeping, and when so accented the Parisienne starts forth, she affects the American style.

The whole, get-up, she is supposed to be copied from is belle Americaine, but the chic French woman who affects it has none of the strong-mindedness of the American. For doubtless some American maid of Amazonian and independent tendencies started it. But to see the Parisienne in the "connections" for which her city is famous. For some reason or other, these perfect toilettes are generally of an elaborate nature, something for the gay places where people go to see and be seen. Rarely is a simple walking gown numbered among them, though when it is it is something indeed to pull the heart strings with its daintiness. In the foyers of the theatres, about the grand hotels, in the elegant cafes, everywhere one goes for an idle hour, trail gowns of a marvelous beauty and perfection of detail. To quote an authority on the subject, "elaboration, with an appearance of chic simplicity, is the order of things, and so deceptive is it all that fashions which seem the most modest are often the most costly in detail."

Metallic gleams, shot with ink in shades of rose, cerise, sky blue, are among the materials of these splendours so daintily designed. These have a rosy, golden radiance, and with a mysteriously tough Paris turn them into toilettes almost virginally simple, for satin or tulle ribbons are the trimming used. Again a skirt of ermine, or a coat of ermine, topped by a sort of pelum overgarment of pale silk with a delicate border in embroidery or silver or gold braid. This overcoat, of course, is or whatever you choose to call it is catalogued under Greek effects, but anything more Parisian could not be imagined.

There is a tendency everywhere to continue the wide Empire belt, which is complete to both bodice and coat; and of ten they oddly adorn long coats, showing only at the back and front. An old notion revived for skirts is the two-tiered jupe, which is displayed in both street and evening styles, double fold of rich lace often forming them in the last case. Skirts have reached a point which all but defy description, for no two pairs are alike, and those in the smarter frocks are veritable freaks of millinery. Depend on the cleverness of certain little old jackets and long caperlike wraps charming for here the materials seem only to take a drop over the shoulders, in some cases a mixture of ermine and tulle, and under this graceful cap billows of lace in prim frills. This caperlike arrangement for sleeves is likely to be a marked feature of the winter for loon smart coats of a fantastic nature.

In the headgear which tops this evening elegance is observed more extravagance than ever, for if it is the modish thing to look simple in costume, the dressy hat must simply swim with luxury. Magnificent ostrich feathers, long misty cloudlike plumes and immense aigrettes contribute to this look of opulence, which touches of gold and silver emphasize. Lace and drawn net and tulle and a mixture of ermine and satin strap shape these first evening hats. High jam-pot crowns and broad brims, which may be lifted slightly at the left

made much on th lines of the gauze scarf smart women have learned to wear so graciously. These are necessarily of the lightest — skins — baby lamb, ermine, etc.; and doublings of chiffon, finished with a soft puff border, contribute to the light weight and fragile look of these most elegant fixings.

Many smart costumes of trottoir are made of cloth or other wool material, with these fur trappings to set them off. But as yet the woman of fashion is wearing street gowns of medium weight, with feather boas and muffs to give the autumn touch. Such trappings are so fragile to touch. Such trappings are so fragile to touch. Such trappings are so fragile to touch.

A most little walking frock encountered on the Avenue de l'Opera a day or two since was Parisian to the last thread. This was of brown serge, the model comprising a very short pleated skirt and a tiny loose jacket in slashed pleats over a blouse of killed brown chiffon. Sleeves of burnished braid trimmed this costume, shir-

ming jacket shown with a green cloth shirt was of seal in very nearly the same color. Baby lamb and brown seal skin are combined materials for many pelisse capes of a more elderly sort, the lamb being used with the case of a bias silk for flouncing revers, bows, what not. White and black caracul are also much in evidence, some makers showing very beautiful jackets of the first sort, rich with lace and a spare number of magnificent buttons. These snowy wraps, which are altogether charming, with their trimmed three-quarter sleeves and easy models, are bien sure, for evening use. Irish lace in flamboyant patterns may form the yoke of one, but sleeve and front falls are softened with fine net, a thinner lace, or even tulle. In fact, so fond is Paris of extremes that tulle is likely to be a legitimate decking for evening furs; especially for ermine or other delicate or white skins, in which case a hood arrangement of the tulle may be fringed with little rosettes. A combination of tulle and rosettes.

numerous other fabricated points which must necessarily be nameless. These are shown largely in bits as yet, in scarfs which cover the shoulders of magnificent evening toilettes, in huge muffs, which may perhaps be held by a wax fit sure in a dancing frock. Still here and there are seen heavy fur hats — great turbans or tiny toques lightened with an ornate or a rose — or there may be a smart costume of trottoir (walking gown) with a trim platoon of some skin warmly crossed over the corsage. Furs, say the fairies of fashion, are to be tremendously worn, and so delicately mounted will continue to be that even a mild winter will not frighten them away. Then, since the magnificence is on the increase rather than wane, there will be a future for the more splendid skins.

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