

PARIS FASHIONS

NOVEL Designs of Fur Trimmings a Feature of the Winter



Sealskin Coat Maison Drecoll

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BY MRS. A. T. ASHMORE.

FUR is most decidedly the prominent feature of the winter's fashions. It adorns every kind of garment from a ball gown to a hat, it forms entire costumes or again it only trims a motor wrap, but it is always present. A house frock must have a touch of fur to make richer the tones of the material, a street dress must be made half of fur or else trimmed with bands of skunk or astrakhan, French seal or sable if it would emphasize the fact that it is a creation of the present season. The majority of the smartest hats show trimmings of fur and entire evening wraps are fashioned from costly sable, chinchilla and ermine, while the separate fur pieces, collar and muff, have grown so voluminous in size and dimensions that were they not interlined ever so lightly there would be no bearing their weight and cumbersomeness.

Among the entire fur garments the long wraps and evening cloaks are perhaps the most interesting, the most beautiful and by many odds the most costly. They are veritable wraps this year, capes with long, loose sleeves apparently let in between invisible seams of the material, while the folds of the mantle are wrapped about the figure. The immense arm holes, with no shoulder seam above and the seam underneath the arm opened almost down to the waist line, are ideal for any form of evening wrap, for the sleeves then cannot possibly crush the most delicate gown, yet the garment remains infinitely warmer and more comfortable than an ordinary sleeveless cape.

To fasten these great wraps there is often not more than one large buckle or ornament, placed just a little below the



BLACK VELVET OVER DRESS.

waist line, quite to one side of the front. Whatever the fur of the cloak, there is invariably a wide, full collar of some long and bordering the coat down each side of the front makes a most effective wrap. For motoring—that is, for use in the open cars—rough flannels and tweeds, fur lined and fur trimmed, are every bit as smart as the rough fur coats. The wide

These immense wraps, all enveloping as they are, carry out at the same time fur collar that wraps on well over the collar and ends on the ground with a band



Velvet and Satin Costume Maison Drecoll

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every one of the straight, narrow lines demanded at the moment by Dame Fashion. They are, indeed, triumphs of skill in fur making, for in spite of the fact that there is sufficient material to envelop the wearer, the good lines of the figure are still preserved and there is no suggestion of useless folds of material anywhere.

One black astrakhan wrap, which fell almost to the heels, was fashioned apparently without seams, sleeves and all being in one piece. A full chinchilla collar relieved the black fur, while a lining of brilliant blue satin enhanced the rich shadings of the two furs. The same model carried out in any other fur or combination of furs would be equally effective.

Velvet and Fur.

Almost as much to be desired as an all fur cloak is a long, semi-loose wrap of velvet and fur combined. The sleeves and upper part of the garment are of the velvet, while a wide collar of fur with a deep border of the same pelt above the hem and bordering the coat down each side of the front makes a most effective wrap.

For motoring—that is, for use in the open cars—rough flannels and tweeds, fur lined and fur trimmed, are every bit as smart as the rough fur coats. The wide

ears, with the deep fur cuffs on the sleeves, keeps the wind from penetrating, while the fur lining keeps the wearer snug and warm in the most bitter weather. For ordinary town use in a covered motor a fur coat or a half fitted cloth coat, fur trimmed, is worn in the car and thrown off before entering the house. This wrap may be of the same material as the gown with which it is worn, and the gown then shows trimming of the same fur as that which adorns the wrap. A huge pillow muff and a hat all trimmed with the same fur completes this most effective costume.

Corduroy and velveteen are the favorite textures for afternoon dress for out of doors this winter—but of doors, that is, as opposed to the strictly house gowns. A velvet gown with trimmings of skunk fur upon the waist and skirt may have fashioned with it a long, loose wrap of the same velvet, trimmed also with the skunk. The gown is smart for luncheons, receptions, &c., and the cloak can do service frequently for evening wear and can be worn with many different gowns.

The walking gowns that are trimmed with fur are exceptionally attractive. There are many variations to be seen of the fur trimmed model as it was first introduced. Instead of having only a fur

of fur about the end of the skirt, there are now pieces of fur let into the side of the coat, and the entire lower part of the



PALE MAUVE SATIN GOWN.

skirt is of the fur. Naturally this idea can only be worked out with certain kinds of fur, seal, astrakhan and the perishable chinchilla being among the few skins that are sufficiently light and have sufficiently short hair to be used in this way. A costume of deep amethyst silk crepe cloth trimmed with French seal carried out in



Brocade Cloak with Fox Collar

Maison Bechoff-David.

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Blue Gown with Bands of Sealskin

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Black and Gold Velvet Coat

this model, with side pieces of the fur let into the jacket, collar, cuffs and buttons of the fur and a deep band of fur about fourteen inches wide around the lower part of the skirt, is charmingly pretty. The muff was of the crepe cloth bordered with the seal, and the amethyst velvet hat had a soft crown of the same fur. Mole is another skin that works well with cloth, velvet or silk crepe, and a costume on the same model as the above in cloth, the exact color of the moleskin fur, was exceptionally attractive.

Wide Bands of Fur.

When a skirt is finished with a deep band of fur this fur should be sufficiently wide not to in any way suggest a hobble. At the same time the fur will not cling in about the ankles, as either cloth or velvet, and can afford to be somewhat narrower for that reason. In a few of the newest models the fur forms side pieces at the end of the skirt between the front and back panels. In this model the fur is from eight to fourteen inches in width.

Not many ball gowns or dinner dresses are fur trimmed, but house dresses and the style of costume that is designed for

reception wear, to be worn without jacket or fur coat, are all rendered smarter by touches of fur on the bodice and skirt. Narrow strips rather than wide bands of fur are used, as this fur is for adornment only, not for warmth. Dark colors predominate in the winter's fashions, but

est carried out in smooth cloth, satin, velvet, corduroy or velveteen. It is shaped in at the back just enough to preserve the lines of the figure and not create the idea of a loose wrap. The model is so long as to cover completely the gown underneath and may fasten down to the very edge of the hem if desired so that the simplest frock, if it have a pretty, well boned lace collar, can be worn with it. The sleeves are to have medium armholes so that a delicate evening gown will not be crushed by it and the fur collar is sufficiently wide to fasten up well about the throat and be a real protection for evening wear.

One model of this style of long cloak has its inspiration in the dress of the Middle Ages, not carried out, however, quite as the Moyen Age costume as it was revived last year. This cloak is designed only for one of tall and slender build and is fashioned in velveteen, made with exaggerated severity, adorned only with a band of fur about the throat, at the wrists, at the end of the skirt and other band just below the hip line. The coat fastens down the side with flat buttons of the material.

As the majority of reception gowns are cut to escape the ground these long fitted



CLOTH AND FUR WRAP.

there are occasional gowns of cream colored cloth or velvet trimmed with mink, sable or skunk which are quite perfect in coloring.

PRACTICAL DRESS HINTS

THE aim in life of the woman of small dress allowance is to purchase only such costumes as will answer equally well a number of quite unlike demands. One of the best garments to possess, if economy must be practised and when at the same time there is the urgent necessity for being smartly gowned at all times, is one of the new long fitted coats in silk or satin, which will serve at once the purpose of reception cloak, evening wrap and can even take the place of an afternoon costume of velvet or satin.

A wrap of this description is best in black or some dark color and is smart

coats, almost as closely fitted as the gown itself, are exceedingly smart for all forms of afternoon wear.



BLACK CLOTH AND SATIN COAT.



PURPLE VELVET COSTUME