

Hamah Scheinfeld Frank

We and Our Neighbors
AN EVENING AT THE WALDORF ASTORIA

Now I know that silver fox furs are coming back!

Saturday evening I visited some out-of-town friends staying at the famous Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. We decided it would be fun to sit in the lobby for an hour before going on with our plans. It proved to be a wonderful idea.

One of the big events of the year was on schedule that night at the hotel. The annual dinner dance and all-star show given by the Ziegfeld Club was to take place at the Bert Room of the Hotel, with George Jessel, a leading figure in the entertainment world for many years, as master of ceremonies.

The tickets (including the dinner) were twenty-two dollars per person. Presumably then, those attending knew their fashions and could afford them.

We had fine seats, surrounded by palms and flower arrangements a few feet from the Bert Room. And the hour we had to spare, by a lucky chance was the time when the guests were gathering. (If any of you have an extra hour, lobby gazing in the big hotel is more amusing than a movie. You won't be alone at it.)

And that is how I know that silver fox furs are coming into their own again! Guests at the expensive dinner-dance wore silver fox wraps over lovely evening gowns. Certainly they were outnumbered by the mink and other fur jackets and capes (many of silver fox, of white fox and blue and platinum fox) but I counted at least two dozen of the fine P. E. F. variety that seemed the most flattering of all.

I shall take this opportunity to tell you a little about the 1954 evening gown. The style that is different from the usual—though it has appeared the last three years in sport wear—is the shorter than ankle-length stand-out skirt that swishes around and shows petticoats as striking as the skirt. One lady in a heavy black silk gown with such a skirt, sat down, and

a very rainbow of petticoats was disclosed.

But by and large, the familiar gown with tight bodice and skirts falling in folds to the ankles is still the favorite. However, there were some slinky gowns that touched the floor. Some even had trains. Never shall I forget the very tall woman with the skin tight belted dress, in a striped lavender and green material! She had a greyish face powder and scarlet lips and looked like The Vampire of the horror stories! What is her history? What is her background? She is probably an actress with a terrific need to exhibit herself off the stage, too—but why in such repelling guise?

There were few other gowns of striped or figured materials. Plain fabrics in blue, yellow and green shared honors with white. Red was the least in favor, and black showed signs of increased popularity.

Strapless bodices are so common they are taken for granted, but sensible women, not too young, wore more flattering shoulder arrangements.

In closing, I wish I could name some of the notables, who were present. I could get a list, but this is an eye-picture. I did see Mr. George Jessel himself. He is a short slight man, a contemporary of Eddie Cantor, with non-descript features. But he holds himself very erect with shoulders squared, almost as if artificially supported.

Later, the function began and we could hear the music. Was it the truth, or sour grapes, I asked myself. Unconscious, that I preferred being an Observer to being a guest, at the dinner-dance?

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ENGAGEMENT—Mrs. Jean MacArthur, formerly of Alberton, wishes to announce the engagement of her daughter, Carrie Burns, to Thomas Kasper, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Riehl of Saskatoon, Sask. Marriage to take place in Toronto on June 1st.

KEROSENE, Electric and Propane Gas, Refrigerators, Bryenton and Mackay.

INTEREST at the rate of 1/2 of 1% per month will be charged on the first installment of city taxes after May 8th, 1954.

P. E. I. RURAL BEAUTIFICATION SOCIETY. The Rural Beautification Contest for 1954 is now on, and this year the Rural Beautification Society offers up to 65 valuable prizes for Home Improvement, for improvement to farm buildings, for flower gardens, for outstanding homes. There are prizes for Community Improvement, School, Rural Cemeteries, and Roadside planting. Entries must be sent in this week. Initial judging will begin shortly. Send your entries now to the Rural Beautification Society, Charlottetown.

ELECTRIC PHONOGRAPHS—Three speeds, Rich tone \$34.95. Toombs Music Store.

SATURDAY, May 8th, is the final day for paying the first installment of city taxes.

"YOUR DOLLAR BUYS MORE" at the HUGHES DRUG STORE.

"WE TREAT THE SICK WELL." Giggey's Pharmacy, next Stewart's Bakery.

A.Y.F.A. Players will present two one act plays entitled "Decision" and "This Night Shall Pass" with specialties in the Odd Fellows Hall, Thursday, May 6th at 8:30 p.m. under the auspices Independent Order of Oddfellows. Admission 75c, children 35c.

FINE PERFORMANCE—The Prince Street School Band which performed at the opening night

of the P. E. I. Music Festival made a very pleasing spectacle in their bright scarlet uniforms. Mr. Ivo Cudmore who is the Band's director received favorable comments from the adjudicator regarding the calibre of music produced. It should be noted that the School Band was not in competition with the P. E. I. Recce Regiment as it appeared in the competition results for Monday night. The Prince Street Band had a mark of 81 and were the only contestants in their class.

Personals

Mr. George Stiven, General Passenger Agent, C.N.R., Moncton, N.B. is a business visitor to Charlottetown.

The many friends of Mr. Clarence Gallant of South Rustico were sorry to learn that he was obliged to enter the Charlottetown Hospital for treatment. All wish him a speedy recovery.

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MAY 9th — 7:15 P.M.
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