

# SLIM LINES IN FUR COAT FASHIONS

## Science Institute, Cranbrook, Offers 3 Public Courses

The Cranbrook Institute of Science is offering three public courses this autumn in the museum. For adult members, Dr. Carl Dutton, of Wayne University, will conduct a class in "Getting Acquainted with Minerals and Rocks" on each Tuesday evening, Sept. 17 to Dec. 17, from 8:00 to 10:00 p. m. Two hours of university credit may be given to qualified students who satisfactorily complete this course. There will be lectures, supplemented by handling of collections and study of museum exhibits.

John M. Healy, of the staff of the Cooley High School, will give a course in Lapidary Technique, the cutting and polishing of semi-precious stones, on Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30, beginning Oct. 5 and ending on Feb. 1. Enrollment in this class is limited to ten persons, because of limited facilities. Students will be furnished with agates and other stones with which to work.

Information concerning the fees for these courses may be obtained by telephoning the Institute of Science, Birmingham 377. The fall course for junior members will be "An Introduction to Animal Life." Dr. Edward T. Boardman, zoologist of the Institute research staff, will conduct the classes. Meetings are on Saturday mornings from 9 o'clock to 11:30, Oct. 5 to Dec. 7. Outdoor collecting of natural history specimens and indoor study of living animals as well as field study of local wild life will feature the instruction. There is no additional fee for this course. All junior members of the Institute who have reached the 7th grade or higher and are under 18 years of age may apply for enrollment, but registration is limited.

## New Pianos Put a Vital Spark in Living Room of Your Home

If your redecorating project for fall is still lacking a central theme, take a tip from leading decorating authorities and choose music as the vital spark in your main room. No matter what your decorative theme, the revival of the "music in the parlor" tradition, will make your living room a warm gracious one in which to live and entertain. Graceful consoles and cabinets scaled to the size of our new de-



sign-for-living are highly compatible with today's decorating schemes. For example, even the organ—which in the good old days required almost a whole room to itself and walls knocked out to accommodate the pipe—now comes in a compact attractive console designed by Laurens Hammond to take up only four square feet of your precious floor space. Being an electric organ, it plugs in as easily as a radio, and there you are, with all the magic wealth of organ music at your fingertips.

Pianos, too, are scaled down and designed to the dimensions of desks or cabinets, and even grand pianos have been restyled to take up less space without sacrificing any of the tonal quality. The new-achord, a brand new instrument, has been designed with decorating problems in mind, and it occupies little more than four square feet, with its "dashboard" of little levers controlling the tone and enabling you to simulate the sound of any electrical instrument at will.

One of these modern streamlined instruments in your room can be made compatible with any decorating by its Regency, Victorian, Modern, or your own personal blend of all three! Just remember to make the most of it by placing it well in your room and at the same time allow for the fact that a musical instrument is primarily intended to produce music and anything which interferes with that purpose is likely to be out of place. Rooms with papered or painted walls are best for the tonal qualities of the piano or electric organ, and wood paneling is best of all. Large hangings and fabric covered walls tend to deaden the sound and are not advisable for the room.

## The Trend of Things



SKETCHED IN THE MERCHANDISE MART, CHICAGO, ILL.

Coats for the 1940 fall and winter season are slim and easy fitting—with many boxy types in evidence. Long haired furs, particularly fox, wolf, marten or skunk, will probably lead in popularity, with curly furs, Persian and ermine, a close second. Leopard is rapidly gaining vogue. Fur-trimmed coats and those with detachable furs are in high favor. Fur collars are smaller. Fur bandings—particularly in side closing models—will be popular. Linings to slip in when the temperature drops will be good sellers. Dressier untrimmed coats have these removable linings this season—as well as sport coats.

### Out of Childhood

Each one of us has held fast to beautiful things kept over from the realm of childhood, things that we treasure forever and ever. Clearly there comes to me from out of my childhood years a few things. Some of them are sad, some are very lovely. An especially beautiful one is hearing my father play operas on his concertina. He brought out the heavy flowered cloth bag from our piano top where it was always kept. Then slowly and gently he undid the knots in the narrow black tape that ran through a series of little rings to cover the beautiful, shining, octagon-shaped cabinet that housed the beloved instrument. Then he fetched the tiny brass key from out of the darkness of the hall closet where it hung on a secret nail. Gently, very gently, almost reverently, he unlocked the small cabinet, put his hand through one of the straps and drew forth his concertina. Although he had brought it across the water in his youth and had played on it during most of his life, it was like new. Never a mark or tarnish or scratch on it!

### From the Women's Angle

By NELLIE HURLEY MINIFIE

Why do people make such a fuss about new babies anyway? They have stubby noses, big mouths and red faces and they only sleep all day and hawl at night. They haven't any teeth, they suck their thumbs and they make funny faces. They wave their arms about in mid air, they scream lustily and kick like fury. You can never have any fun with them. They only eat and sleep. When they're brand new you can't touch them and you can hardly look at them. An efficient looking woman, swathed from head to foot and with only a set of eyes visible from behind, a lot of white cloth bustles in and out, pushing visitors aside and by her very manner giving you to understand that this precious bundle from heaven will cloud up and blow away if you so much as look at it.

If I were running things I'd see that all babies were born three years old. Children of that age are at least of some earthly use. If they are girls you can dress them in cute pinafores and teach them to be pretty and decorative. And if they are boys you can always get them a paper route.



Miss Minifie

By KATHERINE W. GEORGE

Schoolbells rang again on Monday for Birmingham children after three months of silence. And that meant the end of lazy days of play not only for the young fry, but for their mothers as well, for the tempo of one's household regime is definitely stepped up when school begins.

There is an end, alas, of those late breakfasts and casual lunches, eaten when and where the mood might dictate. Instead, meals are keyed to school hours and the old alarm clock can no longer be ignored. There is more to the cooking, too, in cold weather than in summer for children in school need more substantial food than children playing, especially on freezing days after or before a half-mile's walk.

By now, I suppose, all the good little children have been greeted by their respective teachers with this time-worn remark, "Well, you children, you have had a long vacation and now I am sure you are ready and eager to settle down and work hard."

It has been such a nuisance, always irritated me considerably in my own school days, as it did everyone else I knew, and I'm sure the children of today also are tired of it. Besides, I happen to know many teachers and most of them are as reluctant as their pupils to return to school in September. So why don't they set a new style and say for a change, "Well, children, I know you positively hate returning to school after your vacation, and I do too, but as there is no escape from it, we might as well settle down to work and make the best of it." It would be a novelty at any rate and youngsters do love something new.

And then it has seemed to me that this world changed and heaven came here, or else that I was transported there for a little while. I have sung and skipped and danced to the music... through the house; my head thrown back, my hands stretched high above my head, and outdoors, down the path, across the grass and under the trees, forgetting all else but the great, great joy of living.

If I has been such a beautiful shining thing to keep all through the years out of childhood, I have wished so many times that I could share it; and so now I have written it down.

—BEATRICE McDONALD

Value of Woodlot: Properly managed, a small woodlot, like a large commercial forest, can yield a constant crop of wood for fuel, posts, lumber and wild game. According to the national resources planning board this wood will rarely find its way into the regular markets for timber, and while it will not affect lumber prices, it will increase farm income considerably.

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