

Takes More Than Felt to Get Feel of Hat-Making

By HELEN BRUNSON
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Mamie Eisenhower isn't the only woman who loves hats. Many Oakland county women are interested enough in them to learn to make their own. In the past few seasons millinery classes have been held in several suburbs, taught by professional milliners.

A hat-class is most interesting to watch. First, the student buys a head-size "block," heavy-duty thread, and wire. Then she's ready to experiment on the tired old hats she finds in her attic.

In the class, one student has a navy horse-hair curlew that is being cut down, steamed and re-shaped into this year's style, freshened with lining. It will be trimmed with one huge pink cabbage rose.

Another is working with inch-wide white straw braid, dampening it as she sews. The strand was originally sewed into a big sailor shape, but will turn out now to be a head-hugging calot, finished with a bit of black velvet tubing and a bunch of big red cherries.



Helen Brunson

A WOMAN AT ANOTHER TABLE is cleaning a genuine Panama hat that had been kicking around her house for years. She will bleach and re-block it to a new tiny shape, and trim it with a navy band and a perky red tip-feather. At will another, a student is covering her favorite cap-shape with turquoise straw-cloth. She'll top it with a saucy jet-eyed black feather bird.

In the fall, students learn to work with felt and velvet. When the novice learns to handle felt and straw, she buys new "bodies" and makes completely new hats. One student had a lovely hankow "hood" she'd brought back from a winter cruise this year. Another was working on a pastel felt hat her mother had bought for a song on a trip to Italy.

WOMEN WHO ATTEND CLASSES find that it takes more than wire, felt and a veil to make a hat. It takes artistry—for each hat is different, and it also takes great skill with the needle. Teachers insist that each stitch be perfect. Some students who have tried hat-making have given it up—for lack of one or the other of these two.

Hat shops have nothing to fear from the competition of home milliners, so teachers say.

"Any women who will take the trouble to learn millinery is simply crazy about hats, and could never have enough of them," one instructor says. "Eventually she'll be buying some of them again," she goes on, "and whenever she does she'll want the best."

She explains that the student learns how much superior a "fur" felt is to a "wool" felt. A genuine baluchistan straw can be re-done for another season, while a cheap cellophane or paper braid shape is done for after the first rain. The student learns, too, what fine workmanship goes into a good hat, and she'll never buy any other kind.

Commenting on women's clothes in the SE Post, Ralph Knight says that hats are the tuiest things women wear. He, for one, hopes that they continue to wear these intriguing bits of fluff on their heads. If interest in millinery classes in any indication, they will.

As you gaze out upon the landscape surrounding your home, can't you see the beauty of your own spring lawn and garden? And is not contemplation of this kind a real part of the enjoyment of life? No work in such dreaming, either.

PLAY IT SAFE!

Properly Installed TV Is Safe

It is generally considered that a television receiver has a greater inherent fire hazard than a conventional radio receiver, because of its greater current consumption, its greater number of heat producing components and the higher voltage used.

Particular care should be taken that the natural ventilation built into the set is not obstructed or reduced by location or blanketing. Television sets should not be left on while unattended.

Since television operates on essentially a line-of-sight basis, proper reception usually necessitates an exterior antenna and as the distance from the transmitter station increases, the antenna must of necessity extend higher.

THIS INCREASES the possibility of damage by lightning. Since the antenna is usually mounted on a pole or tower on the roof, there is a possibility that if not properly installed and supported it may be blown down, fall across power lines and cause a fire.

Some fears have been expressed as to the possibility of shock hazard on contact with an antenna or lead-in, because of the high voltage used in the receiver. These fears are groundless if the receiver is properly designed.

Television sets of several manufacturers have been listed by Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., as being properly designed and constructed with respect to the fire and life hazard.

"Play It Safe," assure yourself that the set you purchase is listed by the Underwriters' Laboratory and is installed according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Birmingham Fire Dept.

Red Cross Seeks Help With Plays for Easter Party at State Hospital

Oakland county's Red Cross chapter is asking local clubs and organizations for help in their efforts to make Easter more enjoyable for patients at the Pontiac state hospital.

Mrs. Edmund Leavenworth, chapter chairman for the chapter, said table-size Easter baskets and large quantities of hard cooked colored eggs were badly needed. Other needs include candies, cookies, menu cards, table favors and other "trimmings."

"We want to make Easter a special day for these men and women who have so few of them," Mrs. Leavenworth said. "And we need all the help we can get."

She asked that groups which can furnish any of the items take them to the Red Cross office on West Huron in Pontiac or the Sixth street office in Royal Oak.

"Perishable goods, such as the dyed eggs, should not be delivered earlier than Good Friday," she concluded.

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SAFETY IS A GOOD HABIT



BOY SCOUTS OF TROOP B-6, Bloomfield Hills, told their story of safety to the audience at their program in the Cranbrook Institute of Science auditorium March 4. With safety the theme, the various den presentations and Herbert German of the Automobile Club's safety education division gave a safety demonstration. Rehearsing their parts above are: back row—Patrick Morrison, Roger Moncrieff, Frank Henssberger, Bob Knochel, front row—Fred Warrick, Dennis Burns, Harley Ubrich. Holding the poster are Brooke Harrington and Otto Becker. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

Law Enforcers Want Police To Handle Permits

The permanent legislative committee representing the state associations of circuit judges, prosecutors, sheriffs and chiefs of police, the attorney general and the state police has adopted a resolution endorsing centralization of driver license administration in one agency, but vigorously opposes any agency that would monopolize the office of secretary of state as has been proposed.

The committee made known its views as the result of action taken by the state safety commission in support of proposed legislation to be introduced that would monopolize the administration by the office of the secretary of state of the administration is now shared by the state police commissioner and the secretary of state.

The resolution was supported unanimously, with the exception that State Police Commissioner Joseph A. Childs refrained from voting because his department is involved and he is also a member of the safety commission. He said he proposed to cooperate to the fullest extent with whatever decision that may be made by the legislature.

The committee acted upon these legislative matters: Endorsed a house bill requiring judges to report to the secretary of state all traffic cases in which the privilege to drive is suspended as a part of probation, but recommended that this be extended to include probable judges, who file the cases of juveniles.

ENDORSED a house bill which would permit probable judges to waive jurisdiction in the case of minors under 17 who are charged with misdemeanor traffic violations. This would be intended for the more serious offenses.

Endorsed a senate bill which would make parents responsible up to the extent of \$100, including court costs and expense of trial, for any vandalism or damage done by their children under 18 years of age to any property, public or private.

Proposed re-introduction of a bill providing that police sheriffs report sex perversion cases to the state police so that there would be a central state director.

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Lecturer: Jean M. Snyder, C.S.B.

of Buffalo, New York

Member of the Board of Trustees of the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts.

Place: Fifth Church of Christ, Scientist, 17425 Second Boulevard, Detroit

Date: Monday Evening, March 16

at Eight o'clock

Bloodmobile Discussion Planned for March 12, 13

March 12, 13 meetings are scheduled for key volunteers and members of the Oakland county chapter of the American Red Cross to discuss reference when sex offenses occur.

Opposed a senate bill which would legalize the sale of liquor beginning at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon. The committee felt that such licensing would be disruptive on the Sabbath.

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Hammond Organ Society Adopts Constitution; Membership Still Open

Dr. Stanislaw Degorski, organist at the Shrine of the Little Flower church, Royal Oak, was guest of honor at the Hammond Organ Society at its meeting Wednesday, March 5.

His program consisted of selections from the works of modern French composers and demonstrations of keyboard and pedal techniques.

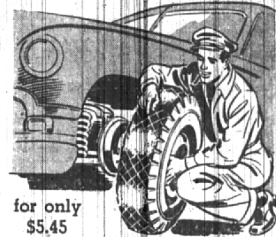
During the business meeting the group adopted its constitution and

enrolled 17 as charter members.

Those include Mrs. Louise McMurtre, Robert Moore, E. J. Tobin, Hugh Masley, D. J. Garrison, John Murphy, H. D. Chapman, William Murphy, George Ross, Stanley Munroe, E. Faulkner, Mrs. G. K. Zimmermann, Mrs. P. C. Moriarty, Mrs. K. M. Grier, Mrs. A. H. Hilverkus, Mrs. H. D. Terkurst and Mrs. Harriet A. Glen.

Mrs. McMurtre, who is in charge of membership, said charter listings would be limited to 20. She may be contacted at the Grinnell store here, where all meetings are held, for further information concerning the society.

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