

Leap Year Furs

by
Lady
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Alternate Stripes of Full and Plain Ermine Make This Wrap Unusual

By Lady Duff-Gordon ("Lucile")

FURS were never so handsome nor so costly as in this leap year of our civilization.

They are of regal price and more than regal splendor. I wonder why the words queenly and regal are so often summoned for service by the fashion writers? The truth is—and those who have seen them will bear witness—that queens are not good dressers. Indeed, there are queens who dress badly, either through economy or bad taste, or both.

The real sartorial queens are women of wealth and taste in the United States. They dress magnificently and usually in good taste. I should call the splendor of these wraps not regal, but American. In the middle of the page you see reproduced a wrap worth far more than its weight in coin of the realm. It is slightly draped in front. The hands are thrust through small openings. The huge cape collar in itself spells sumptuousness. This wrap is worn for any occasion that demands formal attire, whether afternoon or evening.

At the lower left hand is shown the photograph of another splendid wrap. This, too, is a draped cloak. The material is baby lamb. The huge cape collar is of sable. Like the first, it is suitable for any of the more formal events of smart life. It

strikes the harmonious note at a matinee, at a playhouse, at a the dansant, or it may be seen in entire harmony with the time and place issuing from the opera house after "Romeo and Juliet" or "The Blue Bird."

At the upper right hand of the page you behold the snowy grandeur of a wrap of pyramid ermine. The pyramid ermine is sewed together in alternate stripes of full and plain ermine, giving the effect of striped or shirred fur in contrast with those of simple straightness. This, like its companions on this page, is in cloak form. It reminds the observant of the old and beautiful Paisley shawls that were drawn about the wearers' shoulders and turned back in a long cape-like fold. You will notice that from this wrap the openings for the hands are missing. Manifestly this is for evening wear alone. It enwraps its wearer when she steps from a limousine at the porte cochere or trails its white way up a red-rugged stairway. It is of formality the most formal.

These beautiful cloaks are the most expensive and luxurious of light-weight wraps. The sport coats are made of less beautiful pelts and of far different cut. Straight or Russian belted effects and moderately tight sleeves are their chief characteristics.

Draped Cloak of Baby Lamb, with Collar of Sable

A Sumptuous Wrap, Slightly Draped in Front, with Huge Cape Collar