FEMININE FACTS AND FANCIES.

HANDSOME OPERA CLOAK.

"WE LIVE TO EAT." SAYS DAISY MAY.

Are Society People Becoming Gormands? Mrs. Carter and Sibyl Sanderson. Fashion Chitchat

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Reflectively speaking, I should say society love to eat. To refute this statement some fashionable customs must cease. No doubt this sentiment altered aloud would offend the esthetic gourmets of the colony. As the author of it, I would be fittingly rebuked, incontinently snubbed. That we are becoming gormands is the gross truth, however unpleasant it may be to admit.

For instance, there's the "small dance" apparently quite inoffensive in its way. Mrs. A. is giving it. Half a dozen women friends, to lend eclat, issue the invitations for the same evening. An understanding exists that guests go from dinner party to dance. The complaining mess has appeared to you. You dine sumptuously. You join the dancers about 9 o'clock. At 11 supper is announced. You follow the crowd. You gorge. They do. It is an expected tribute of appreciation you owe the sensible Amphitrite's cuisine. Otherwise you'd be considered ungodly.

The cotillion begins half an hour after midnight. Cathedral chimes ring out two clear, tolling strokes as the last silver trinket is bestowed. As if by magic Jones and a corps of helpers appear upon the scene, placing small tables at the convenience of tired dancers and the inevitable other fellow. Again it is eve. There is no excuse. The "little supper" is served. Madam the hostess disclosures for the occasion. Until after you've toted with the stands it is useless to attempt excuse.

A daily repetition of the programme described demonstrates pretty clearly what I have asserted—that sometimes we live to eat. Chubby cures will to an odd greater demand if society does not avoid the wave. I earnestly argue against a crusade against the feeding habit in the wine women generally "the early to bed" movement. Between the hours of 1 p. m. and 2 a. m. fashionables are three times fed. Shades of night! What subjections we grow to be! What is to become of our boasted "lazy, hazy Lillians" with birdlike appetites?

Over the teacups we women have two perfect topics for conversation—Sibyl Sanderson's return to stage life and Mrs. Leslie Carter's success in the questionable role of Zaza. Both these beauts particular stars came from the ranks of society. Never more than a passing interest is bandmaiden.

Beautiful Sibyl Sanderson, the widow of Antonio Terry, will return to grand opera. It is abandoned by cable from Paris. Free of an tail to recall the fiasco she created both here and abroad, because of her exquisite form, attitude, formed upon her physical charms, and everybody succumbed to the sorcery of her harmless tones.

The engagement Cottlebrain's last bow is a picturesque career. In her native city, Sub Francisco, she was the pretty girl of a pretty set. Eliot had a rival in her heart. She was loved. When Judge Sanderson died, the eldest daughter of four took her blood seriously. She went to Paris for study. There her voice was pronounced marvelous. Such praise from the French critical was the opening stone to glorious. Brother-in-law came to solve the hard title of "Madame Sanderson." Sibyl was a queen. Son of him appear in grand opera, when her professional name and nationality was changed to marriage with the home Earle until she met Antonio Terry. He, a millionaire Cuban, married a Parisian. Sibyl was left free and a widow. Bored by her singing, He divorced his wife and married the prima donna 12 months ago. For five years Terry paid constant court and was always to be found in the same city, at the same hotel, as the lovely Sanderson. Now he is dead, his wealth reverts to his mother, and Sibyl Sanderson once more must earn her living.

Scandal upon scandal followed the actions of this duo from beginning to finish. Carping critics today are saying, "Serpentine!"

Whether by dint of Hilaous perseverance or by reason of her innate genius Mrs. Leslie Carter is recognized as a great American actress. As to her personality now generally agree in calling her a handsome woman in figure and feature. Women are apt to be more critical. Some consider her too tall and insist that her mouth is too large to lay any claim to beauty. She certainly has a large mouth, but she has a beautiful set of teeth, and her hair is a rich gold shade which is the delight and despair of artists. She has a charm of manner peculiarly fascinating, and, being possessed of that sweet of gifts, tact, is pretty well equipped despite criticism.

As the heroine in "Zaza" she has taken on Manhattan borough by storm. While opinions differ concerning the vehicle she chose no dissenters are heard as to her ability.

"Zaza" is a curious combination of the good and the bad. It is both immoral and praiseworthy. Mrs. Carter plants Zaza in only a woman with a woman's instincts, and she but acts the part. Zaza, as the demimondaine, wins sympathy throughout her evolution. Unlike Camille, she does not depend upon illness to secure it.

Zaza's life as portrayed might be called a sermon over the footlights to impulsive women. In fact, there are few points of saving grace. One is that no matter what the condition in life or the surroundings man always turns from the mistress to the wife. The-other reveals the punctilious of a bad woman. In the play she reforms, becomes good through the love she bore him who so cruelly deceived her. When the incontinent man returns, she freely repulses his advances, she sends him back to his child and wife with the knowledge that the stain of his lust has her purified her being. The temptuous Zaza disappears, leaving born seeds of toleration. Is she saint or sinner?

My instincts is industriously circulating a petition (respectfully) for the entertainment of sweet gowns. It is the proper between woman fabric and her its advantages. A velvet frock, with a fine or warm comfort for the transition period prior to spring's debut. Some sartorial achievements in velvet are most beguiling. Judging from the street velvetines encountered, my instincts has collected enough signatures to pass the bill.

A gray velvet with a dash of scarlet combined fetes at the swellest shops in New York. The upper skirt portion was formed by a divided yoke, the lower by a swaying circular flounce. Bordered with cording well below the waist line at front and back of the bodice were effective. A scarlet velvet scroll extended across the back and held in place a series of rich chiffon ruffles. Jetted buttons supplied the needed touch of black without which no gown is a complete success. A jet-trimmed of the dress coat described in the massive back bodice. Most of the recent importations explain this new idea.

Embroidery and lace contrive to win unadulterated praise which soon as a gorgeous satin evening wraps. The wraps in question outlines a deep point of Adelaide. It is made of pale blue satin heavily embroidered in silver tinsel and chenille. A massively full lace flounce drapes over a white one of satin borders the edge. Two narrower frills suggest a double bead about the shoulders. The same floral treatment is observed throughout. A white satin lining with pinnacles of lace brings the price of this exquisite outer garment up to the $1,000 mark.

The mania of lace impress me most favorably particularly in the form of a directoire coat, and this seems to me the ideal model to which a genuinely pretty and aspiring woman should pin her faith for a modish dresser. The swaying coat curves and upon shaped tongue are infinitely more beautifying than the straight bodice which usually falls to the lot of the matronly. The indefinite mystery of fitted mushwork in gutmore is more to be desired than the shiny surface.

Pitiitrous to the color subject suggestions should affect, gray the one to carefully avoid. Prince in variegated colors for stretch. Most of the new tunics sport a few yards of it. These hours of an color may blend attractively when handled by an expert, but to most of us this fashion hint is unwelcome.

Daisy May

New York.

THE CONGRESS OF MOTHERS.

The National Body to Meet in Washington Shortly.

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Amid all the cads and tastes taken up by the modern women of leisure none is more eternity practical than the idea represented by the National Congress of Mothers, which meets in executive session in Washington Feb. 14 to 17. If the proper study of mankind is man, they think it is well worth while investigating the possibilities of man in miniature—the healthy young human creature whose receptive mind and soul have not been seared and turned and hacked into conventional mold.

It is the conviction of those interested in the movement that had Absalom's mother known a little about psychology or Messalina's maternal relative made an exhaustive study of the ethics of spanking the recording angel would have been enabled to put them down in a more respectable portion of the book. Indifferent, ignorant or wicked mothers the congress believes to be responsible for much of the sorrow and suffering and sin that afflicts the world. It is to compare theories and practice in the art of making children good and happy men and women that those women, representing society, intellectually and morally what is best in the country, yearly gather in the Capital City.

The founder of this society is Mrs. Theodore W. Birney, a woman of wealth, education and social position. Her interest in the matter was partially aroused by attendance at the mothers' meetings of Chautauqua. Many noble women were associated with Mrs. Birney on the preliminary work of organization. Among these Mrs. Phoebe Hearst and Miss Emma Morton of Washington were influential in making the work of the society a success. Mrs. Hearst, undertaking to bear the expense of its establishment. Mrs. Adlai Stevenson, wife of ex-Vice President Stevenson, Mrs. Margaret E. Sangster, editor and poet, Mrs. Ellen Richardson of Boston, president of the Washington Memorial University association, Mrs. Mary E. Mumford of Philadelphia, founder of the famous New Century club, Mrs. Mary Lowe Dickinson of the King's Daughters, Mrs. Ellen Henrotin of Chicago, Mrs. Helen H. Gardener of Boston, Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth of the Volunteers of America, and Mrs. Jennie Miller, Mrs. Carrie A. Nation and Mrs. Harriet Prescott Spofford of Washington are a few of the brilliant women interested in the congress.

The congress this year promises to afford a specially fine intellectual feast. It will assemble in the First Baptist church of Washington. The official headquarters of delegates will be the Cairo, a hotel a couple of blocks from the church where the committee meetings of branch societies will be held.

The congress will open Feb. 14 with addresses of welcome—one from Mrs. Theodore W. Birney, the president, the other from Dr. Whitman, president of the Columbian university. The response will be made by Mrs. Mary Green, president of the Household Economic association, an organization of almost as wide interest as that of the Mothers' Congress. Reports of delegates will then be in order. Any single or department of any organization interested in the same line of study as the National Mothers' Congress and approved by the executive committee of the congress is entitled to one delegate to the convention upon payment of $1.

Subjects which will be discussed are: "The Duty of the State in Training Children For Citizenship," led by Mr. Lawrence Hunt, former president of the George Junior Republic. "Parental Duty in Education," opened by Mrs. E. E. Mumford, honorary vice president of the congress and a member of the Philadelphia New Century club. Professor William B. Powell, superintendent of schools, and Miss Edith Westcott, principal of the Western High school of Washington, will also take leading parts in the discussion. "Adolescence" will be the subject of a lecture by Dr. G. Stanley Hall of Worcester, Mass.

"The Physical Care of Children" will be the topic discussed by Dr. L. Emmett Holt of New York. Rev. Hastings H. Hart, president of the Illinois Children's Home and Aid society, will present his views on "Environment and Heredity." "The Supreme Peril of Modern Civilization" will be pointed out by the Rev. Josiah Strong of New York, president of the League For Social Service. Dr. William H. Holman, secretary of the same organization, will give an illustrated lecture on "Industry, Idealized, or, Studies in a Labor Institute." Miss Wheelock of the Boston kindergarten is scheduled for a talk on her specialty. Other addresses will be one on "Civics In Education" by Mrs. Thomas Kirkbride, president of the Civic club of Philadelphia, and another on "Literature For Children" by Mrs. Hermann H. Birney, a leader in university extension work. "Does the Curriculum of Schools and Colleges Fit Young Men and Women For the Duties of Life?" will be the last speech and will close the congress Friday evening, Feb. 17. The speaker will be President Mary Roberts Smith of Leland Stanford university.

Thursday morning, Feb. 16, will be devoted to business and the annual election of officers. The probabilities are that those now in office will be re-elected. They are Mrs. Theodore W. Birney, president; vice presidents, Mrs. Adlai Stevenson, Mrs. John D. Lewis, Mrs. A. A. Birney and Mrs. Mary E. Mumford; secretary, Mrs. Vesta H. Cassedy; treasurer, Mrs. James H. McGill.

There is an honorary reception committee composed of Mrs. Garret A. Hobart, wife of the vice president of the United States, and Mrs. Harriet Prescott Spofford, the famous poetess.

The chairmen of standing committees are: Mrs. Theodore W. Birney of the Congress, Mrs. James H. McGill, of finance, Mrs. Harry W. Fuller of transportation and Mrs. Harriet W. Coolidge of literature. The executive committee may be distinguished by ribbons by means of the white and gold badges which they will wear. Ushers will be designated by white badges with scarlet lettering. The arrangement committee will wear scarlet, and the press committee, of which Mrs. E. E. Mumford, honorary vice president of the congress and a member of the Philadelphia New Century club,