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Were You at the Fair?...

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Were You at the Fair? . . .

By Ruth Niehaus

"ISN'T it remarkable? Why, the Fair is an education in itself." Every time I hear the remark I wonder how many Century of Progress visitors really "take in" enough of the educational wonders of the Fair to receive the benefits which are offered there.

There are so many wonders, so many lectures, moving pictures, and demonstrations in each department of the science building that you could easily spend an hour or two each day there during the entire summer vacation, and yet not repeat any lecture or demonstration.

Once again working my way through school served me to advantage in locating me in Beverly Hills, a pretty, comparatively new division of southern Chicago, for the summer. My job allowed me one day off a week, and also Sunday afternoons and evenings; so I was at liberty to spend as much time at the Fair as my Scotch frame of mind in which my school fund puts me allowed.

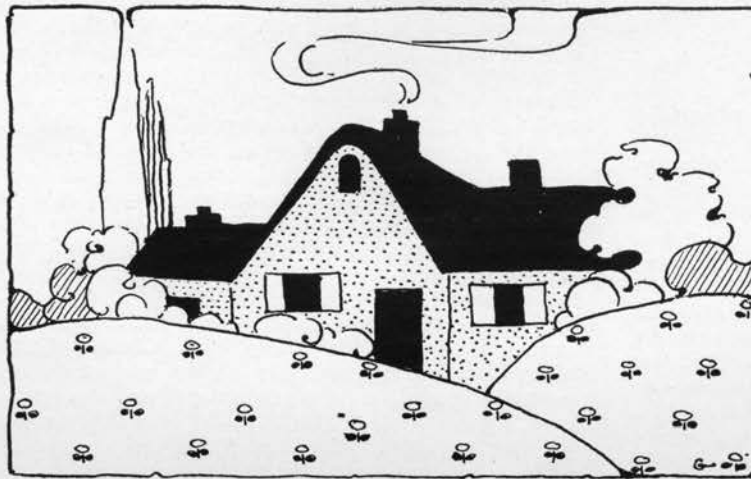
AT FIRST the brilliant colors of these modernistic temporary buildings at the Fair are very trying to your aesthetic sense, and your first impression is apt to be unfavorable. After you've seen the array several times, however, the daring colors assume a certain gayety which adds to your feeling of "being shown" the progress of a century. This is especially true if you see it at night as an "electrical city of beauty."

There are several things which occur to me as high spots of my visits, which may be of interest to Homemaker readers. I am thinking especially of the home planning exhibit. We know how man has lived in the past and how he lives now, but we do not know what novel changes the future holds. Just how our lives will differ from those of our parents is hinted at in the Home Planning Hall and a group of homes designed to show the progress of architecture along the lines of comfort and economy.

The Home Planning Hall is a general exhibit of recent developments in plumbing, heating, air conditioning and building materials. One wing is devoted to the part gas plays in the home. Grouped around are eleven exhibit homes, completely landscaped and furnished—practical demonstrations of the uses to which

these new materials and methods can be put. All are small homes, designed to give the greatest living value at the least cost.

WE ALL have seen pictures of these homes in newspapers and magazines. I must admit that their comforts and conveniences, which almost make it possible to keep house by operating a switchboard of electric buttons, do appeal to me. But I can't say much as to



the beauty of their outward structural appearance. I imagine that they will contribute a real problem to the landscape architect, when he attempts to relate their angular lines to Nature in a pleasing plan. They remind me of the houses we thought were works of art as children, when we amused ourselves by the hour constructing them out of blocks. All these houses lack are the A, B, C's and cat and dog pictures on the sides of the construction blocks.

Besides the houses designed to feature the fabrication methods of building, there are the W. and J. Sevone House, a display of the modern trend in interior decoration, and a mountain lodge built by the Southern Cypress Manufacturers.

In addition to the plumbing exhibits in the Home Planning Hall, there is the Kohler Building, showing that company's part in the development of bathroom appliances. Really, those shining pastel-colored bathrooms are lovely. I'm afraid if my dream house were blessed with one of those luxurious, "Hollywood" bathrooms I should be strongly tempted to spend the rest of my days migrating from the sunken sea-green bathtub (almost as large as our Margaret Hall swimming pool) to the orchid-curtained shower, with perhaps an occasional facial

touch-up at the chromium dressing-table with its velvet-cushioned bench.

THE kitchens are equally as lovely, and I'm sure the modern homemaker would have to search for excuses for not having everything in its place in these new homes which have "a place for everything" in the truest sense.

Now let us take a bus. (Yes, do let us take a bus! A shoe salesman this summer tried to sell me some foot balm. He asked me if I had been to the Fair. He said he had been, and he had never in his life before seen so many women sitting on benches with one shoe off.) Let's go to Northerly Island and visit the Electrical Building, where there are many exhibits of interest to the homemaker.

Did you know that the up-to-date bride is making her rugs on the newly-approved parental wedding gift, a Singer electric? She also makes her fancy pillows, foot-stool covers, and bathmats in the same economical way. The design is printed on heavy material, just as it is for hooked rugs.

With the new Singer attachment and yards and yards of bias tape (or silk stockings cut in strips or any other "left-overs") in the

desired color combinations, the design is easily filled in, and the loops clipped and brushed. The result is truly lovely. With the same attachment Milady may make her quilt blocks—in this case she doesn't clip the loops—and trim her boudoir pillows and dolls.

And did you know that the new Singer electric is equipped with a lever which when pressed will allow the machine to sew backwards? This arrangement will fasten the threads of 1933-34 sewing classes without the trouble of turning the goods. I wonder how many minutes per garment that will save us.

On the same floor with the Singer exhibits and demonstrations the Mixmasters Company has a demonstration. By means of three booths, which revolve consecutively, are disclosed girls who demonstrate different uses of the latest Mixmaster. If you can think of any of the numerous duties of the housewife in preparing tempting food for her family that the new Mixmaster cannot make simpler for her, just write the Mixmaster Company and I'm sure they'll do something about it.

Of course, there are many, many things to see besides the few exhibits which I have mentioned. Several ballrooms, the

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Attention, Freshmen!

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is very smart) will see one through no end of hard wear, and still look chic. Often there is a draped line about the shoulders that is very flattering. Capes or wide collars are skillfully handled. Huge scarf collars of fur are less often seen than before. They are so majestic appearing that I, for one, am glad that now we can at least have a choice. Scarf collars from the Ascot type to the dressier ones with ruffly ends, and rubberless small roll collars are shown in quantities. Many new coats are furless, but when fur-trimmed, the fur is put on in startlingly new ways.

TWO silhouettes are outstanding in fur coats. One is the dress-length partially fitted style, and the other is the box-line with swagger lines. The latter may be fingertip, three-quarters, seven-eighths or full in length. Nearly every garment is characterized by conservative shoulder lines, depending on yokes or drop shoulders for the fashionable width. Appearance of pockets is welcome, and both set-in and patch pockets are used. Patch pockets—usually on sport coats—are placed with the top just below the top of the hips.

Flannel robes are ideal for lounging around in one's room, and the tailored ones with contrasting collar, cuffs and pockets are becoming almost uniformly used. Cozy, warm lounging pajamas make study much more fun on frosty nights. Jersey, terry cloth and corduroy are comfortable fabrics.

New jewelry sings "The Gold-diggers Song," for it's fashioned of small gold nuggets in quite the latest way. Few necklaces can be worn, with the high necklines prevailing. Earrings and bracelets are more prevalent, but jewelry is very restrained in the present mode. Lots of it just doesn't "belong" with such simple, straight, tailored lines as we find in the new clothes.

As a parting note, remember the jumper dress, the shirtwaist dress, and sweaters and skirts will pal around together on the campus, and satin and velvet will dress us up "after four."

Were You at the Fair?

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Midway, the A and P Carnival, the Enchanted Island and stage performances furnish amusement.

I am sure that the rich experiences of this summer, and the new ideas which I have gained from the World Fair will add zest to the last lap of my college life. The experience of working my way through school helps me in my school work, just as my home economics training is an invaluable aid in earning the means to finish that training.