

# SOCIETY

# By The OUTSIDER



Mrs. Key Pittman  
DURE MONTAGNE  
PHOTO

Mrs. CIRD  
PECKSTON  
GEO. G. FRASER  
PHOTO

Mrs. Violet  
KRUTTSCHNITT  
DURE MONTAGNE  
PHOTO

Mrs. LEON  
GREENBAUM  
DURE MONTAGNE  
PHOTO

SOME 70 years ago there was coined to fit the precarious position occupied by the nouveaux riches a new family motto, "Richesse Oblige," which, unlike its predecessor, "Noblesse Oblige," was founded on destructive instead of constructive principles.

To the children of its adoption there was no generosity, no high mindedness, in short, no virtue, in riches—their only purpose, to all appearance, being to render pleasure, and their only obligation, uselessness.

Inefficiency became the life object of all the socially ambitious, and so well did they master it that there rose into being a new order of femininity, useless, impractical, totally unfitted to cope with the realities of life, who usurped to themselves the inappropriate title, "society girls."

All that woman, from time immemorial, had deemed her province, they disclaimed as unfashionable, and ignorance of the domestic virtues and economies became the vogue.

No wall has changed.

With the atavism distinctive of the twentieth century woman inefficiency is condemned and the education of the feminine portion of humanity includes domestic science in its every branch.

The wealthier the girl, the greater leisure has she to improve her capabilities, and that she does so is a creditable reflection on her advancement.

The California girl is no exception to the rule, and here in San Francisco are any number of young women whose skill at dressmaking, cooking or wood

carving is to them a greater matter of pride than their accomplishments in music or art.

To see them constantly flitting about, at luncheon, teas, dances or the

signed, fashioned and embroidered by the Nieto sisters.

Miss Grace and Miss Violet Buckley are others whose skill at dressmaking has caused many a woman envy. The Buckleyes make most of their evening robes, delighting particularly in the difficult draped effects, but their chief accomplishment is their fancy costumes, which they design and finish with the success of the French modiste.

Mrs. Templeton Crocker is another fancy dress genius. At the last Mardi Gras Mrs. Crocker determined to go as Chanticleer, but in all San Francisco she could not find a costume, and the costume makers declared it an impossibility to furnish her with one on time. But Mrs. Crocker was not to be thwarted. She bought the materials and made her own costume, designing and sewing every bit of it herself. So great was the achievement that she was accused of having purchased her habit when in Paris and keeping it as a surprise to spring on society when originality and richness would be at a premium. And it was only then that the young matron confessed to having been her own dressmaker.

There is no brand of needle work, be it embroidery, plain sewing, dressmaking, crocheting, lace making or knitting, at which Mrs. Carl Wolf is not an adept. Essentially domestic, she has made it a point to become familiar with every branch of household work and to learn it as if she knew nothing else. Every stitch of her elaborate trousseau, excepting the gifts of her friends, was taken by her own hands, and there has been no choicer collection of lingerie or linen in the presses of any San Francisco bride.

Mrs. Joseph Thompson and her sister, Miss Mary Buffington, are lace makers, Irish crochet being their specialty, and Miss Helen Bowie is extremely clever at Spanish lace and drawnwork.

There are others, the De Young sisters or Mrs. Nat Messer, for instance, who pride themselves upon their hats, every one of which is trimmed at home, and many, from the frame out, are made by their wearers.

Sewing, once re-established, has come to stay.

Small clubs to learn plain sewing and dressmaking are being formed in the fashionable circles of all the bay cities, and in a few years she will be considered lacking indeed who could not, should occasion demand, furnish herself with a complete and handsome wardrobe.

Dancing as the chief amusement of the smart set is again in full swing, and August promises to have as many parties in the summer colonies as San Francisco at the zenith of its winter festivities. Whether it be Menlo or Burlingame, San Rafael or Belvedere the young people can always arouse enough enthusiasm to carry them through an afternoon or night of ragging or fancy dancing, and the fever has even spread well to the south where dansants are held in all the larger hotels.

Yesterday Mrs. Ferdinand Bain entertained in her home in Santa Barbara her guests including the young married contingent and the belles and beaux of the younger set, who are passing a portion of the holidays in the Mission town.

A great delight in the dansants is their absolute informality. There are no decorations, a lack of artificial illumination seeming to exclude all other forms of artificiality. Usually these affairs are held on the verandas and the only decorations are the hanging baskets of greenery and fernery. Some of those who enjoyed the affair were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chickering, Mr. and Mrs. Atholl McBean, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Flier, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Norton, Captain and Mrs. William Holmes McKittrick, Mr. and Mrs. William G. Henshaw, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Capwall, Miss

theater one would hardly suppose that Miss Rosita and Miss Josephine Nieto had time sufficient to devote to any serious occupation. Yet it was the completion of their summer wardrobe, the greater part of which was made by themselves, that detained them so long in the city. The fever seized them in May and for the following eight weeks they could be seen almost every day hurrying to the shops to purchase material, trimmings or the innumerable findings necessary for the proper completion of even the simplest of toilets. Six gowns a piece were the result of the eight weeks, and no smarter frocks will be seen anywhere than those de-