

# Fashions for Working Girl Features Fur Show Opening

By OLIVE DICKASON

Canadian skill with furs bowed gracefully to the working girl yesterday in the first of a series of shows being staged at the Mount Royal Hotel under the heading, "Fur Previews of 1952."

The showings, which combine to form the most elaborate event of its kind ever to be held in this country, are under the auspices of the Fur Trade Association of Canada.

Yesterday's presentations featured fur styles within the budget range of the working girl. Rabbit, muskrat and mouton appeared in new and glamorous guises.

The "three-season fur ensembles" were the most distinctive items in the collection. In these models, the bottoms could be zipped off three-quarter length coats to make a fur jacket for spring and fall wear, and stoles for dress-up occasions.

## Many Uses

One such model was in silver-grey kid with scarlet lining and matching, optional belt. In its three-quarter length, it would be suitable for winter wear; with the bottom zipped off, it was a fur jacket for almost any occasion.

Rabbit dyed to simulate mink and done up in high style caused a stir of interest. Styled as a full length coat with side fullness, its main interest lay in its full, rather elaborate sleeves.

Mouton appeared in a number of eye-catching styles. In the new champagne color, it was combined with a dark brown scarf collar to make a striking effect in a three-quarter length model. It was also shown in dark brown shades and combined with Chinese and Japanese mink.

Some tricky things were done with muskrat, which was shown in natural as well as dyed shades. In one coat, the natural hue of the muskrat was graded from almost blonde at the shoulder to dark brown at the hem.

Emphasis in all the styles was in luxurious and rather unusual use of furs, sometimes to give a startling effect, at others, one of simple richness.

## Two-fold Problem

Maj.-Gen. W. E. Walford, vice-president of the Montreal Board of Trade, told the furriers at the opening luncheon that "Canadian industry faces a two-fold problem today, that of fully supporting the war effort, and aiding in the maintenance of a sound economy, so that we will not only deny Russian or Communist victories, but ensure they won't defeat us by a breakdown in our economic system."

The fur trade, more than any other economic influence, determined the development of Canada through the first 300 years of its history, Maj.-Gen. Walford said. It still has a vital contribution to make today.

