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Autor: [s.n.]
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International Handknitting Competition



Black sports pullover knitted by Miss A. Stillhard in Ruti/Switzerland; 3rd prize.

We have already mentioned in these columns (see T. S. No. 4/1954) the international knitting competition organised by the International Wool Secretariat (I.W.S.). The 140 entries from 12 different countries, including Japan and India, were judged in Paris at the end of March by a jury presided over by the couturier Pierre Balmain, assisted by two women, one of whom was Mme Annelise Itten of Zurich (designer of the covers for *Textiles Suisses* Nos 3/1952 and 4/1954).

According to the rules of the competition, entries had to be made entirely of pure wool, excluding angora, mohair or any other natural or artificial fibre, and had to be original models knitted entirely by hand without the aid of any apparatus.

The Grand Prix of 250,000 French francs was awarded to Mme Pierrette Pauly of Asnières (Seine), who also won the first prize category 1 (cocktail and evening dresses) with a fully fashioned dress in white wool.

Photos I. W. S.

The white cocktail dress knitted by Mrs. Pierrette Pauly in Asnières (France) won the « Grand Prix » and the 1st Prize in its category.

None of the three representatives of the stronger sex, one of whom was an English clergyman and another a young Swedish boy of 11 who appeared exceptionally gifted, came in for a prize.

It is interesting to note that a first and second prize went to two competitors from far off Japan, a country where handknitting is not a sort of national sport as it is in Switzerland, for example.

The prize-winning models, some of which are shown here, will be displayed in a mobile exhibition which will be visiting various countries.

