Togetherness-

the lively needle

John Sargeant show worth a visit

Mary Kay Davis

See the John Singer Sargent show at the Detroit Institute of Arts sometime before it closes on Dee. 9. Detroit is the only city in the United States to host the intriguing display, assembled from private and public collections. It's unclikely that after the show disbands in early December, the like will ever be gathered together again.

Sargent painted the elegant Edwardian age in all its beauty and some of its decadence. Unlike many portraits of seaturiful people, these show what the sitters were like — or at least Sargent's interpretation of their kind. His judgments are fascinating but not aways flattering and the work of the state of the same of the state of the same of the The Edwardians were in recognion naunting, one is sail, etegant, economy-against the restrictive quality of life by divessed in red and white. Her face is under Edward VITs mother, Queen shy, and seems to wonder how she Victoria. They wanted gaily, variety should behave. Her hands are wonder-and luxury, and they had the wealth to buy it. Sargent painted the beautiful gowns, the opulent jewels and the lus-closus environments that the British midst of a juicy scandal at the time the

portrait was painted and Sargent captured an understandably reserved qual-

As I was seeing the exhibition, a man behind me said: "No wonder Sargent was so popular. He made every woman he painted look luscious." Either the Edwardian era had more beauties per square foot than subsequent periods of history, or Sargent brought out the best in his sitters.

bunch. The colors are rich, the gowns are breathtaking and the subjects tell you about their personalities. We live in a time when many artists don't wish to communicate directly with their audience, but leave them guessing at what, if anything, it is they want to say. It's delightful to spend some time with a painter who had a story to tell and superbly did so.

Don't miss "Madame X." Her por-trait created a terrific furor in Paris. The lady, a member of the beautiful people was notorious for her amours — and that's just how Sargent painted her, much to the outrage of the lady, her mother and most of Paris. But she would be long forgotten if not for that fantastic portrait.

in his sitters.

Treat yourself to an afternoon with the woman and her companions. This is THERE'S NOT A bad figure in the a show that you really shouldn't miss.

Avon clerk is speaker for seniors

Thelma Spencer, Avon Township clerk, will be guest speaker at the meeting of chapter 1081 of the American Associa-tion of Retired Persons at p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, in the Rochester Elks

Club.

Mrs. Spencer, now in her ninth term as township clerk, will discuss the history and future of the township and answer questions from the audi-

Involved in the devel-opment of the community since her employment in 1938, Mrs. Spencer did general offices work in the township offices for eight years, served as deputy clerk 15 years, and was elected clerk in 1961. The club is at 600 Uni-versity Drive. Senior citi-zens their guests and visi-tors are welcome. A so-cial hour and refresh-



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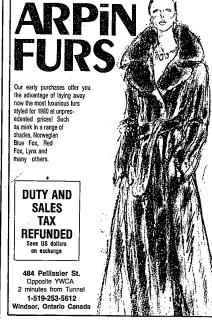
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