

Lights out—but fashion show still goes on

EVERYTHING looked set for a swinging evening at the Rotunda Club in Britwell on Friday. Models were poised to start parading "with-it" fashions, 200 guests chatted happily, organiser Ken Hirons was beaming. . . and then the lights went out.

"They stayed out for hours, and of course the show was ruined," Mr. Hirons said ruefully on Saturday. "The heating stopped too, and after a while we sent everyone home. No-one could find out when the electricity was going to be restored. It seemed the whole of Slough Estates was affected."

But Mr. Hirons, whose three-day Spring Fashion Exhibition at the Rotunda was one of the most ambitious arranged at a youth club, was able to smile and report a disaster-free evening on Saturday.

700 people

"About 150 attended the fashion parade then," he said. "I estimate 700 people came to the Rotunda over the three days. I'm very happy with this effort—it certainly won't be the last of its type."

The exhibition included three fashion parades with clothes supplied by Suter's Traffic Lights Boutique and the Reverse Gear Boutique of Farnham Road.

Nearly 20 local representatives of various firms, whose fields included hairdressing, cosmetics, photography, sewing machines and books, agreed to have exhibition stands. Other attractions included films on beauty and fashion and make-up demonstrations.

Former Radio Caroline disc jockey Chris Windsor and the BBC's D. J. Phil Jay presented music during the parades.

"Clothes and make-up proved the biggest draws," said Mr. Hirons. "But I was most interested to see the interest in an exhibition of jewellery. Many of the girls had never realised that truly beautiful jewellery was within their budgets."

Rotunda members became models for the



Seventeen-year-old Linda Taylor, a boutique model, shows what bangles and chain will do for a pinafore maxi.

fashion show. They were Alison Whitfield, 16, who works in a bank, 17-year-old Sue Crooks, employed at Ideal Capsules, and secretary Brenda Barlow, 17.

Others were members of the Traffic Lights Club—Caroline Tee, 14, a Slough Technical High School student, Sarah Annett, 14, of Langley Grammar School, Amanda Williams, 16, from St. Bernard's Convent, Linda Taylor, 17, (pictured) who works in the boutique, Liz Taylor and Rosemary Mayes.

Mr. Hirons hopes to follow the success of the exhibition with events such as evening or weekend fashion markets or boutiques, held at the Rotunda Club. He also plans a three-day water sports exhibition for the men of the club on March 6, 7 and 8.