

New York Fashion Collection Gives Tip-Off to Spring Lines

From a fashion almanac, the New York Couture groups make the following predictions: look for early spring snow... with drifts that last the summer! There's a great white wave that's making itself the coolest trend in fashion. White, white, for daytime or evenings! Diagonal or unusual tapestry weave woollens appear in snowy coats and suits for early snow-white looks. White coats are almost a must, so wonderful that their snowy elegance goes with everything. White teamed with off-whites have impact in suits. Look for full moonlight whites every night, an unusual phenomenon in chiffon, linen encrusted with lace, l'organza.

New air currents are in the offing... Suddenly, waistlines have been discovered again. Many costumes have dresses with fitted tops and full skirts, box-pleated or in clusters of gathers. Straight jacket tops fit loosely and keep the slender all-of-a-piece look. Clothes are no longer abstractions—there are lots of shell shapes, but many are cut on the bias so that every feminine move of the body registers in a ripple of fabric... the kind of air current bound to succeed east, west, north or south.

TRADE WINDS: PROBABLY BRISK

Brisk because that's the way tailoring is. Lapels are as precise as a Londoner's tailor. Fabrics such as pin-striped navy or chalk-striped grey flannels have the crisp authority of a banker's.

Flecked tweeds have an astringent effect when used in coats or dashing tailored suits. Occasionally the brisk look is softened with ball trimming. Part of the brisk look: blazers, blazers, blazers—blazing a trail right through the season.

STRONG JUNGLE CURRENTS

Prints—prints—prints!!! Some have the savage beat of jungle drums in strong, big and bold prints against unusual colors. Wide paint brush-strokes in vivid color seem to have a beat of their own—not beatnik, but an up-beat look. Linens, cottons, new synthetics appear in these unusual prints. The hand-painted silks



Sophisticate

A "feather-weave" mohair textured tweed with two pairs of pockets and spiced with metal buttons is dramatically straight to the point. Slimly styled in brights like white, scarlet, maple leaf green—and in soft melon, powder blue and so many other shades; sizes 6-14.

(sometimes with full-length linen dusters in a pick-up color) are by far the most exotic.

LONG RANGE PREDICTIONS
It's modern art on the move, really, blown in on soft colors that have resort flavor, but will linger to give even summer an exotic approach.

Modern art is duplicated in prints—patterns as irresistible as the weather forces themselves. Flower prints are modern, often off-balance as a Japanese garden, sometimes wildly scattered flower prints in vivid, wild-country blooms.

EARLY PASTELS

Spring suits bloom early in sunny yellows, pinks from a sunset, greens from the cool streams, blues from a twilight sky.

Their fabrics? They puff, fluff, go woolly and cuddly, or appear as crisp as a turn in March weather, with hard-surfaced wools in pressed patterns or tapestry weaves. There's unusual optimism about the weather—few suits show collars—and their cardigan necklines and open fronts show off the loveliest of blouses.

COAT AREAS

The garments you are most eager to be the first to show are living up to their part of the bargain. Colors seem to have been influenced by some chemical in the air—with all designers deciding at once upon a bright spring, a right spring, at home or abroad, in living color.

Cerise, Kelly green, absinthe, citrons, brighter-than-ever navy blues, lighter-than-ever baby blues and pinks (the full range from shocking—on down). Silhouettes: melon, balloon or funnel sleeves, Chesterfields, wrap-arounds, peignoir coats—belted in front while the back swings free.

NIGHT WINDS

Chiffons, l'organzas, pure silks that can slip through a wedding ring float like spirits in the air, more often than not wafting cape-like sleeves or scarves in their wake, creating the illusion of another world.

NEWS FROM THE CAPE

And not Hatteras this time. Capes are seen everywhere, every length, on everything... little capes that substitute for tailored jackets, fitting snugly at the throat and gently hugging the shoulders. Even evening gowns are caped

History of Soap Dates Back to Greeks and Romans

Soap has been making suds almost as long as man has been concerned with cleanliness.

The Greeks and Romans first made soap by boiling goat's tallow and causticised beech ashes and it was used even more widely during the Middle Ages in France and Italy.

In fact, one of the first examples of large scale production was seen in a soap factory in Marseilles that turned out cakes made with olive oil. In England, soap was made from the 14th century on.

HOWEVER, soap as we know it dates back to 1791, with the discovery of the Leblanc process of making soda brine. Then, due to the shortage of fats during World War II, many fat substitutes were introduced as a basis for soap.

Today's soap is sudrier than ever before and undoubtedly much more fragrant than that original cake out of goat's tallow!

If you wash your drip-dry shirt under a shower, as many men are doing, buy one of those self-adhering hooks that will stick to tile. It will let you hang shirts after rinsing and keep them from wrinkling—'til you can get them on hangers... A pair of eyebrow tweezers is the best tool to use to untangle badly-knotted shoelaces.

—capes that float away in ruffles that demurely cover a bare shoulder. Some capes form collars to detail a dress, others intricately cut to form a sleeve effect.

QUICK CHANGES

Such as belts of a now-you-see-them, now-you-don't variety. Many dresses have this peek-a-boo belt. Skirts that seem serene might all of a sudden swirl into a flurry of pleats.

PREPARE FOR EARLY DIPS

Indications show that despite the temperature, you'll be plunging this season. Necklines go deep... beautiful and feminine other necklines are cowed, often multiple cowls, circling like smoke rings around your throat.

WE'RE FEMININE AGAIN!

Biologically, psychologically... and almost physically we've been in a different mood—muffled in boots, wearing small boy's caps—all enchanting of course. How much more enchanting is a woman as her lovely, feminine self! In Princess lines, pleats, in chiffon, lace and ruffles, wispy black dresses that make any red-blooded male hope she'll drop a handkerchief... And once again—curves! Too long gone, but to discover them again is to throw fashion into a brand new romantic climate for 1964.

Children's Footwear Is Lighter

newed popularity. The leather moccasin is a great favorite with youngsters because its leather uppers permit free and easy action. The leather sole gives the most active child support throughout a busy day.

ALTHOUGH AVAILABLE in dozens of style variations, the moccasin most often selected by youngsters is the classic "penny" moccasin with simple handstitching and a strap design across the vamp.

For dress or party, the low-cut shell pump in a handsome leather finish makes every social occasion a full-dress affair. There are laced pumps in rounded or square toes, slip-on pumps in multi-colored leathers, and strap shoes with a real open feeling. Pastels—yellows, blues and pinks—are interpreted in soft, smooth leathers. Flashing patent leathers and glazed kid leathers also star on the birthday circuit.

Ornaments are few on this season's shoes. The beautiful new leathers carry the fashion message. Scalloped edges and perforations contribute to the lithe look of this season's youthful footwear.

Shoes will be seen more but heard less in the new light-weight leathers that set youthful footwear fashions this spring. In dress, school and play shoes leathers are light, colors are gay and styling airy, reports Shoe Fashion Service of Leather Industries of America.

Stepping out at the head of the fashion parade are strap pumps for girls. The simple T-strap and the broad sabot strap are fashion's favorites. Gimmicky swivel straps and removable straps play a lesser rôle. Youngsters can be ankle-deep in strap fashions in grained and smooth leather school shoes, in brushed, waxy and glove leather casuals and in polished and patent leather dress shoes.

THE TREND to lightness has increased the popularity of brushed leather flats, ties and boot-shoes. Brushed leather is a suede finish on split leather, a type of leather that has been thinned down for extra lightness. Because of modern tanning improvements this lighter leather is as durable as the heavier leathers in which children's shoes were traditionally made.

In both casual and school shoes, the classic moccasin in waxed and glove leathers is enjoying a re-

Moustique, Europe's new rock 'n' roll king, discourages rowdiness by insisting that youngsters attending his shows be properly dressed, such as neckties for boys. (An associate of Moustique's makes a pretty penny by selling neckties and other "essentials" outside the halls where he sings.)

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