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Backs Bloused in Many New Frocks

Irregular Hemline Points
Toward Longer Skirts;
Cape and Capelet.

The forward-looking ladies of the mode will tread a difficult path this season. So many themes have been offered by the Paris couture, observes a Paris fashion correspondent in the New York Herald-Tribune, that even the casual dilettante in fashion can choose from an infinite variety of ideas, and the new chic will be a matter of painstaking individual selection.

Consider the silhouette question. The newest in all Paris is the "Page Boy," which Martial et Armand presents, built on the lines of the page boy's doublet primarily, but in materials less cumbersome to wear. Taffeta is the favored fabric sponsored for the "Page Boy"—the soft and supple taffeta which so gracefully adapts itself to the slender silhouette of youth.

If one regards the stationary line of sports clothes and ensembles for morning wear, the silhouette is almost perpendicular, but when that line begins to move there is another story to tell—the slight flare. The flaring movement is legion in its interpretation, but in coats its leading factor is the side plait. Some are flat, some are box, some are inverted. Occasionally there is a frankly circular skirt in the sports costume, such as that shown in "Cow Girl," in the Jane Regny collection, or again in the two-piece ensemble seen at Louise Boulanger, which presents the skirt very full in front and very tight and plain in back. Plaited skirts have gone back to that tight effect which ripples so easily when in motion.

The cape, cape-dress, cape-coat and capelet divide their attention between silhouettes for morning and silhouettes for afternoon. The cape, of course, continues its journey into evening hours in a dozen variations mainly tight at the hips. But hipline snugness in wraps depends more on the wearer than on the coat, for this is another buttonless season, and largely unbelted except in the homespun sports and morning coats which have quite wide belts.

In the afternoon the silhouette changes its personality and chooses to be fluffy and full. Ruffles are plaited and circular, or pinked and gathered as Jenny and Cheruit do it. Backs are bloused in many of the frocks, giving an adroit means of loosening the silhouette of the waist above its hipline deep belt, sometimes arranged in three tiers of belts as Worth presents it. Skirts are very full and by virtue of their fullness appear shorter than ever, while sports and street clothes are consistently short, some just touching the bend of the knee. Afternoon clothes, especially for more formal occasions, are a trifle longer. The irregular hemline, seen so often, assists in the longer skirt for afternoon.

Smart Cape-Coat With Collar of Summer Fur



Showing a striking tan coat with smart cape in points at side, and a collar of tan summer fur. The tan semi-tailored hat is of felt with a large brim and has a wide brown band.

Blouses More Feminine

Suits become more masculine in line but blouses make a right about face and become softer and more feminine. Plaited jabots and cascades of frills contribute much to the smartness of blouses designed for the new tailors.

Larger Hats of Navy Blue

A new note in spring fashions is the wearing of larger hats of navy blue straw with the new blue taffeta dresses and ensembles. Usually a touch of red is introduced somewhere about the costume.

Black Satin Is Used for This Spring Suit



This smart suit for the spring days is of black satin, with a high collar and a jabot of sheer lace. The hat is of black felt, with a band of red and a crystal ornament at the side.

Chic of Simplicity Is Found in Chiffon Garb

Those who have spent the winter months at the smart Florida resorts with one accord give precedence to the simple little frock of chiffon for informal evening wear. This frock is of such utter simplicity of line that it would be almost naive were it not for the skill and cleverness with which an intricate manipulation of fabric produces an effect of youthful and charming grace.

For all their simplicity, however, it takes a person of distinction and a certain amount of sophistication to wear them. There is a trick in achieving simplicity that only those initiated in all the varying ways of fashion can accomplish with any degree of success. Once achieved, nothing gives the effect of greater chic, which perhaps is the reason that year after year the great designers and those who interpret their modes to the world at large practice as well as preach the gospel of simplicity.

An outstanding phase in connection with the simple chiffon evening frock is the use of delicate flowerlike colorings in contrast to the vivid shades of other seasons.

Printed Silk for Coat, Plain Fabric for Dress

So beautiful are the new silks and in many ways so different in design and colorings from the materials of other years, that it is not surprising to find them put to uses never thought of heretofore.

In the ensemble of other seasons when a plain and patterned silk were combined, the figured material appeared as a lining of the coat which matched the frock. This year one finds this order reversed. Printed silks now fashion the coat itself and a plain-surfaced fabric is chosen for the dress. The result is very effective and amazingly chic.

The most strikingly individual of the new silks reflect a feeling for elusive tones on the order of pastel shades, but even more subdued and delicate in tone, and the same feeling for delicacy and unobtrusive charm is evident in the designs, many of which are floral in effect but much conventionalized.

Colors in Demand for New Shoes and Hosiery

Fashion dictators are at variance when it comes to stockings. Shall the dark or light colors be proclaimed as fashionable is the question. In the meantime each woman seems to be settling the question for herself.

In the shops they say there is a tremendous demand for shoes in black, mauve, taupe and cannon shades. Those in gunmetal with black heels are also great favorites. On the other hand, there is no end to the light colors. New tones are continually appearing, and the moonlight, woodland rose, nude, the antelope series and all the others, too numerous to mention, are very much in demand.

With the colors that are appearing in the new shoes and the desire of good dressers that the footwear match or harmonize with the costume, it is fortunate there is such a wide range of colors to select from.

Black and Brilliants

Black for evening is the latest vogue from Paris and black chiffon dance frocks are worn by the smartest women. One frock is covered with glittering brilliants so attached as to give the effect of a pattern. There is no other decoration.

WHY Psychologists Believe People Sleep Too Much

The harder a man works the less sleep he requires, strong coffee does not help to keep people awake, and anyone who goes without sleep for three nights in succession will feel far more tired on the second night than on the third.

These startling statements have all been proved true by psychologists.

The investigators believe that the human race sleeps too much. During a recent test nine people of each sex went without sleep for 90 hours. At the end of that time it was found that 8 to 10 hours' sleep was sufficient to restore them to normal.

Exercise and moderate eating helped the subjects of the experiment to keep awake. They swam, ran, drove motor cars and played games. After 45 hours of wakefulness it was found very difficult to drive a motor car, but on the third night drowsiness almost completely disappeared, and driving became comparatively easy.

Although physical strength declines as the result of any serious loss of sleep, mental alertness is in no way dulled.

How Poison Gas Has Been Used by Insects

Use of poisonous gases and acids in the World war was an innovation in military science but such tactics long have been used by various insect tribes, says Popular Mechanics Magazine.

The "bombardier beetle," for instance, when pursued by an enemy or otherwise disturbed, discharges a sort of bomb in the form of an ill-smelling, reddish acid fluid, which changes into a bluish smoke or vapor when it comes in contact with the air. When a log under which these active creatures have made their home is lifted, they often may be seen scurrying away and covering their retreat with a barrage of tiny gas bombs. Their red heads and bodies and blue wing covers, like uniforms, harmonize with their military actions.

Several species of beetles have similar weapons for defense. The acid secretion from some leaves a persistent red stain and has a bitter taste.

Why Ears Require Rest

Ears suffer from fatigue and when they are tired they do not work so efficiently, according to experiments being conducted at the University of Wisconsin by Drs. G. A. Goldsmith, L. S. Luenemann, L. Sammons and R. W. Zimmerman. Ears, like their apparatus a watch mounted on a moving carriage, they confirmed a belief that keenness of hearing is less at night and at the end of the week. Mental work always causes a decrease in keenness of hearing, the scientists find. Severe exercise has the same effect. Moderate exercises may sharpen hearing, but this depends on the amount of exercise and the condition of the subject. The ears are a rather delicate barometer of physical fitness, the tests indicate. Diminished power of hearing may give warning of approaching bodily or mental fatigue some hours before the individual is aware of any change in his condition.

Why Seaweed Is Valuable

Experiments in London have proved that seaweed, known as Zosteria Marina, which is found in large quantities in the Sargasso sea, North Atlantic ocean, will absorb sound. Many conference rooms in new city offices and other rooms where silence is necessary are being lined with this material, which is dried and then placed between sheets of ordinary paper, forming a padding. Sounds from the street coming into a room through the open windows are absorbed in the ceiling, without being audible in the room.

How Copper Was Valued

According to ancient tradition, the first copper was discovered in the island of Cyprus in the eastern Mediterranean sea. In the Book of Ezra, 3:27, copper is mentioned. "Two vessels of fine copper, precious as gold." This was written about the year 400 B. C. In England copper was discovered in 1581, and since then copper mining has been carried on in Cornwall. The regular mining of copper began in 1872, and Birmingham became the seat of much of this industry.

As a help to that, he must marry Jane Lee Lewis—who had a slaver, a President and generals galore in her pedigree, to say nothing of a tidy inheritance, already secure, and rich, very rich expectations.

Jane saw it all now—not as in a glass darkly, but by a light of understanding unlikely ever to dim. But she might not have surrendered without discretion then and there, had not Fate, playing hard on Tommy, sent Bertha Finkle Wren upon the scene. At a word of his voice, Tommy, who slunk back into the library—this Jane alone greeted him, standing tall and twenty-dewy-lipped, bright-eyed with damask roses, flaring in her cheeks. He took her hand in both lips toward her. In a mirror Tommy saw it—he gave a fair imitation of a cyclone in his passage to the scene of action. Snatching Angewurm of his feet he swung him clear and whirled with him to the open door—there he pitched him neck and crop down the steps, then turned to find Patsy staring in fright against a background of mammy shaken through and through with Homeric laughter. "I dunno, how come he got it, Markee Tommy," she said, "but he sho' did git what was comin' fer him—and right spaz in a good time. Ole Miss Sutton's cook, too, tell me her lady is going to marry dat boy—my thumb to our Jane—I looked at ole Patsy—and so hit all comin' right."

Why We "Touch Wood"

The custom of knocking on wood seems to have originated in the custom of touching wood upon every occasion of happiness or good fortune, in gratitude of Christ who died on a wooden cross. Through some association of ideas the custom of touching or "knocking on wood" came to be looked upon as a means of protection.

Why We Have "Score"

Primitive man counted by his fingers and toes, which numbered 20, and when the objects to be counted exceeded that he made a mark or score in the dirt or on some object and began again on his fingers, and toes. Hence 20 came to mean such a mark or score.

"Right as a Trivet"

By MARTHA M. WILLIAMS

(Copyright)

"OM, Tom, the Mopsa son, shoo!—a pig and home to eat!" the Sister Jane chanted teasingly. "Where at—Betsy, aged seven, protested. "Didn't, didn't. He don't, Gossamer don't steal. He's a gentleman—daddy says so."

"H—m. Fraid you're in love with him," from Jane.

"Course I am!" came back. "He's goin' to marry me soon as I grow up to his chin."

"That's a mighty long grow," Jane sighed, shaking her head. "Now you are barely up to his elbow. Suppose you pick a shorter one—say Rabbit Ellis—he'll never stretch much beyond five feet."

"I hate Rabbit Ellis. Wimmen's place, as mammy says. Say, too, she wouldn't have him for soap-suds, though he would make such a nice big potful," Patsy exploded.

Jane giggled. "I see. Mammy has the say—she's all for Tom-Got-Tumble-Too."

"Never you mind about me. I know who she's picked for you," from Patsy impudently.

"Tell me, please," Jane coaxed, her eyes dancing.

"That funny named man—Mr. Angewurm," Patsy cried, whirling to make a very puffy cheeks upon the rag, and then, "Say! Are you goin' over to Mr. Angewurm?"

"That's exactly what I'm here to find out," Tommy Trimble-toe, otherwise Thomas Mallow Trimble, had demanded from the doorway.

Patsy ran to him, snuggled under his arm, clutched his hand and pressed it to her cheek crying: "You, she let. Look how red her face has got. Mammy says that's the shere sign. And I'm glad 'cause she'll have to let you alone, while I'm growin' up to your chin."

"So she will! I hadn't thought of that," Tommy agreed, his eyes also dancing—then to Jane: "When you're presented at court—as you will be, his mother being fifth cousin to a duke—do write and tell us blighted folk how it feels."

"Certainly—but 'fraid it will be waste effort," from Jane, her head high. "I write so bludily, you know—and by the time you have set, you're likely to be—blinder than a bat."

"Worse than now!" Tommy asked, busily under breath, she turned away, pale, but did not speak.

"Patsy! Betsy, come, yes, and git yo' hair cutted, as you wanter go 'shin'—farnowrow," mammy called through the door. At Patsy's dejected, Tommy called after her: "Be sure you take along Mister Angewurm. He's utterly no good alive—but nicely drowned he might stand you in a new frock."

"Why so vicious-violent?" Jane demanded as he moved toward her.

"You're the reason," he said quietly. "Honestly, girl—I could give you up to a man—a real man—though it would be harder than dying. But this blot on the landscape—positively he poisons the air so I hate to breathe when he comes about. So patronizing to all America—fat and tubby, and a glutton of the worst. Put me in mind of a saved-up shotgun—so stubby and awkward. To think of you looking down at him four inches—"

Jane's lids were lowered—to hide the dancing underneath them. Now she felt ashamed; she ought to have known better than to believe Mrs. Sutton, who had almost turned Mr. George to give this gentleman a trial—and was bent upon settling him permanently in the house. For reasons doubtless—she was wildly ambitious—the example of many Americans who got into high society by way of London town and court presentations, had not been lost on her. Her money—a war-bonus—plus the Angewurm high connections, might land her in the heart of things—and so firmly she would stick there.

As a help to that, he must marry Jane Lee Lewis—who had a slaver, a President and generals galore in her pedigree, to say nothing of a tidy inheritance, already secure, and rich, very rich expectations.

Jane saw it all now—not as in a glass darkly, but by a light of understanding unlikely ever to dim. But she might not have surrendered without discretion then and there, had not Fate, playing hard on Tommy, sent Bertha Finkle Wren upon the scene. At a word of his voice, Tommy, who slunk back into the library—this Jane alone greeted him, standing tall and twenty-dewy-lipped, bright-eyed with damask roses, flaring in her cheeks. He took her hand in both lips toward her. In a mirror Tommy saw it—he gave a fair imitation of a cyclone in his passage to the scene of action. Snatching Angewurm of his feet he swung him clear and whirled with him to the open door—there he pitched him neck and crop down the steps, then turned to find Patsy staring in fright against a background of mammy shaken through and through with Homeric laughter. "I dunno, how come he got it, Markee Tommy," she said, "but he sho' did git what was comin' fer him—and right spaz in a good time. Ole Miss Sutton's cook, too, tell me her lady is going to marry dat boy—my thumb to our Jane—I looked at ole Patsy—and so hit all comin' right."

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DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

By Mary Graham Bonner

(Copyright)

INTERESTING OTHER

"I am an interesting subject," said the Other.

"If you are an interesting subject," remarked Mrs. Otter, "then what about me?"

"You are interesting, too," said the Other, "simply because you are not me."

"Well, that is a good reason," said Mrs. Otter. "It's well to be known, but because one is what one is, because one is something other than."

"There, there, careful, careful," said Mr. Otter. "Don't get all mixed up in your talk."

Mrs. Otter smiled.

"I like to know I am interesting," said she.

"But," she added, "will you please give me some of the reasons?"

"It's always a good plan to know why one is interesting."

"The example, someone might want up to me and say:—"

"Mrs. Otter, I hear you are interesting."

"But will you tell me why you are interesting?"

"It would be quite too boring to waste if I could not answer."

"In the first place," said Mr. Otter, "we wander and have adventures."

"They said it hard to keep a story too, for we are so apt to be interesting."

"We are interesting," said Mrs. Otter.

"We are not interesting," said Mr. Otter. "We are not interesting because we are not me."

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