

## Wide Call for Hostess Gowns And Housecoats in Gay Prints

By **CHERIE NICHOLAS**



**D**EPEND upon it, the happy possessor of a charming housecoat fashioned of gay and beguiling everglaze chintz, as illustrated to the left, will find it a source of joy and comfort the whole summer through, and on into mellow autumn days.

Now's the time that the lightweight houserobe gives real service. Ideal it is for betwixt and between season wear, and it will continue to carry on triumphantly way up to when the new crop of luxuriant "keep warm" fashions begin to come in.

Enthusiasm for housecoats and hostess gowns done in gay print jersey, crepe and washable prints has been unprecedented this season. The trend is toward stunning modes such as the dramatic bowknot print hostess gown shown to the right. The material is a shantung in Du Pont rayon yarn. The gown is ultra modern in that it goes 50-50 print with plain. The front bodice, as you will note in the inset, shows a blouse effect made of the plain. You'll love this dress for its candlelight flattery as well as its daytime loveliness.

Housecoats of richly colorful jersey print have high fashion rank for fall. They are serviceable and ever so good-looking. One of their outstanding features is that they are so smartly styled, some with inset belts, others with the new corselet effect. Side-draping is much in evidence, also ruffled shoulder treatments and a dramatic use of jeweled buttons at the waistline. These bright jersey-print lovelies are not only relaxation-perfect but you can meet your guests with perfect poise in one of these fashion-right robes.

The outlook for fall and winter at-home fashions is most glamorous.

Fabulous things are being done in exciting lounge wear that involves a use of glitter accents, exotic color and picturesque silhouettes, also there is a feeling of far East influence expressed in such items as hand-painted or sequin-trimmed leisure blouses worn with tapered trousers. Gold bangles dangle from belts, arms are laden with bracelets, and midriff effects are seen in wide girdles and sashes.

Contrasting the dramatic and sophisticated styling of luxury-type novelties, the early new collections show wool jersey hostess robes or coats which place the accent on the refinement and elegance of exquisite simplicity. These are very lovely in pastels, as for instance, the side-button model in pink wool jersey that achieves a slim-at-the-waistline silhouette together with a full-skirted hemline. Wool jersey in the darker colors will be a first-in-favor for practical, "comfy" good-looking fall and winter housecoats.

The robe made of horseblanket plaid brings in the American feeling. This type is the sort college girls go for, and their practicality is emphasized in that some of them have a collar attachment cleverly taped so that it may be converted into a hood.

There is quite a wide use being made of durable all-over lace in tints to match the crepe with which it is made up. One lovely model has a peplum jacket blouse of all-over lace which tops a skirt in matched-color crepe. An increasing trend to soft styling is noted all the way through the advance at-home apparel collections.

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

## Star Dust

STAGE SCREEN RADIO  
Released by Western Newspaper Union.

BY VIRGINIA VALE

**F**RANCES LANGFORD, who's doing such a swell job on that radio program that she heads, got just what she wanted in a scene for RKO's "Radio Stars on Parade." Starred with Wally Brown and Alan Carney in the musical, which has "Truth or Consequences" Ralph Edwards. Skirt by Ennis and his band, Frances found the studio set the scene of a revival of Hollywood slapstick technique. This included the use of custard pies as missiles. "Ever



FRANCES LANGFORD

since I started making pictures I've wanted to throw a pie at someone," said she. "It seemed such fun. I found it was." Alan Carney was on the receiving end of the pastry, and found Frances' aim as good as her voice.

When George Burns and Gracie Allen left the air for the summer, they agreed not to speak of their radio work again till it came time to prepare for the fall series. Violation of the pact to cost the violator a dollar. George owes Gracie \$28, she owes him \$18.

After 10 years of starring male names exclusively, "Your Hit Parade" shatters a precedent by starring Joan Edwards, who's been on the program four years. She also gets a big salary boost and a long-term contract. Joan's lucky star (and a lot of good hard work, plus plenty of talent) have put her right on top. She returned home from Hollywood with offers from 20th Century-Fox and Warner Bros.

Glenn Vernon, Robert Clarke and Jim Jordan Jr., have been cast to play inmates of the notorious 18th century London lunatic asylum Bedlam, in "Chamber of Horrors," at their own request. The canny young men realized that those roles are sure scene-stealers.

Andy Russell not only has a gilded voice, he also has the golden touch, apparently. Recently Andy, who makes his screen debut in "Stork Club," bought a metal plating plant on the Los Angeles East Side, where he was born. And promptly got a large government order, as well as some for the civilian market. His brother, Freddy Rabago, runs the plant for him.

Betty Hutton presented "graduating" members of B. G. DeSylva's "Stork Club" company with war bonds wrapped to resemble diplomas when shooting on the picture was finished. They were distributed from a basket decorated with a stork in cap and gown.

Eddie Bracken's fans came through with more than 150 suggestions for naming the new baby, after it was announced that they'd expected a boy, to be named Michael. Most of the fans suggested "Michelle." But the Brackens settled on Caroline Jean.

Clark Gable and Joan Blondell warble "The Trolley Song" for a short sequence in Metro's "The Strange Adventure," in which he stars with Greer Garson. When she found that they were also to sing "Old MacDonald Had a Farm," Miss Blondell turned to Director Victor Fleming and demanded "Who are we—Nelson Gable and Jeanette Blondell?" Who knows—maybe this is the beginning of a new singing team.

Connie Boswell, who first became known as a member of the Boswell Sisters, has been signed for an important role in "Swing Parade," the Monogram musical starring Gale Storm and Phil Regan. Among other numbers, Connie will sing "Stormy Weather."

**ODDS AND ENDS**—Vacationing at Newport beach, Humphrey Bogart tactlessly laughed when the new Mrs. Bogart sat down on the rail, slipped, and landed in the water. . . . Anna Lee's first picture since becoming an American citizen is the Boris Karloff "Chamber of Horrors." . . . When he's not acting in Pine-Thomas thrillers Bob Lowery hies him to Laguna beach and dives for abalone. . . . Edward Gargan has played reel cops so frequently that he sweats real policemen mistake him for some fellow whose face is familiar, but whose name they can't recall. . . . Gene Krupa to lecture on native African drumming.

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#### State Songs

Today, 25 states have an official state song, 19 have adopted theirs since the First World War. Florida's Swanne River and Kentucky's My Old Kentucky Home were written by Stephen Foster, while Virginia's Carry Me Back to Old Virginny was composed by James A. Bland, the Negro Stephen Foster.

#### Tombstones Recorded

Since 1922, the Tombstone Hounds of New Jersey have collected and card-indexed the inscriptions on some 200,000 grave-stones in at least 450 cemeteries. When the work is completed, it will be the first genealogical record of its kind for a single state.

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### Early Fall Gingham



You will be seeing more cottons worn this fall than ever. Their high fashion rank is declared in just such stunning and wearable costumes as is this stunning bolero suit. This three-piece charmer in black and white gingham is just the type that makes for perfect midseason wear. For hot September days the brief bolero conceals a black halter blouse that spells comfort. Then too, with the bolero removed, you have a modish little frock that can go dancing informally.

### Make-Your-Own-Idea Spreading on Campus

Sewing interest is mounting to a new high. Now that the make-your-own idea is spreading throughout the college girl clan there sure will be something doing in the way of clothes budget thrift by these ambitious enthusiasts. Many of them are already planning to make their next semester's wardrobe.

Exceptional opportunities are being offered in way of sewing instructions given in fabric departments in many stores. To do your own sewing is really inspirational for it gives play to creative genius. No wonder the sewing venture is becoming a hobby with young moderns who have ideas of their own and welcome the chance to work out individual touches in the clothes they wear. You can get perfect patterns for every thing from slacks outfits to daytime frocks and dressy afternoon costumes, with complete sewing instructions.

### Fall Sweater Dresses Are Pretty and Practical

You'll be that intrigued with the new sweater dresses that are being shown for fall, you will feel the urge to buy one at first glance. They appeal from two angles. One is their practicality and dependable wearableness, the other is that they are so perfectly charming in appearance.

They have all the qualities to make them a big success fashion. They are shown in one and two-piece versions, combining soft wool jersey tops with black crepe skirts. The sweater tops are in delicate colors like pale pink or beige. In some instances the jersey bodice is finished off with a beguiling jeweled necklace line.



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