

Lightness Marks Low-Priced Furs For Spring Wear

Treated with new processes, dyed in new colors and styled with new versatility, small furs provide more fashion than ever. Moderately priced furs take lightness of weight, color appeal and smart styling, turning this spring into a "fur-for-all" season.

New, different and revived names appear on the fashion fur roster and, according to Associated Fur Manufacturers, are taking much of the '55 spotlight.

Briefest of Coats
Jaunty little coats, usually just above waist-length, combine the decorative and functional for day-evening wear. Distinctive silhouettes range from svelte Beau Brummel jackets with Dandy collars to fur sweaters with trim knit waistbands. Lounge jackets with eased hiplines are the fur industry's answer to Paris innovations.

Little fur wraps appear in sheared raccoon, sheared muskrat, sheared fox and Australian opossum as well as sheared beaver, nutria and rabbit in a gamut of pastel and vivid tones to match or contrast with costume colors. Azure blue and candy pink, for example, are offered in rabbit, mole and dyed fox. Broadtail, sheared fox and rabbit are available in American beauty red, midnight blue and gold.

Distinctive Stoles
A new individuality in fur stoles supplants the uniformity of previous years. White, black, pastel-dyed and silver foxes make important spring stoles in both straight and contoured designs.

Silky flat furs are prominent in both straight and cape stoles. Black-dyed muskrat makes news in supple stoles of varying shapes. Scarlet-dyed mole, navy blue sheared fox, greige sheared muskrat and ombre-dyed rabbit are outstanding among spring's distinctive stoles. The rabbit can be treated to resemble chinchilla for curled-fur fanciers.

Colored Hose Makes Debut for Spring

There's colorful news afoot in the hosiery world, as shoes open up for spring and summer wear. Because this spring opening bares more of the foot, women are becoming more stocking-conscious — and taking to newly colored hose as a result.

The "blended look" above and below the hemline includes hosiery. Pastels, for instance, follow the lead of the new pastel shoe leathers. Stockings appear in pale pink, champagne, yellow and particularly pale blue, which blends so well with spring navy.

Gray is very much in evidence, melting into new gray ensembles. The shock colors, while seen less frequently than others, are still more popular than ever before. Purples, deep pinks, strong yellows and bright blues make up the gayest notes in spring footwear.

Reds, so important in shoes,



NEW LENGTH—The cashmere pullover extends to a new length for spring, adds a welt finish on three-quarter sleeves and a squared neckline with a pull-through tab for scarves and jewelry. By Hadley.

Crisp, Buoyant Look Heads Crisp, Picture for Spring

A crisp, buoyant look dominates the fabric picture for spring '55. As the lines of fashion become simpler, the weaves and finishes of fabrics become more flamboyant. Eye-catching novelties with a rich look are the new-season favorites.

Spring softness is everywhere. Two requisites that designers insist upon are fine quality and light weight. As easy washability becomes increasingly important to the American woman, more categories of fabrics conform to carefree wear-and-wash standards.

Linens and linen-like weaves are everywhere, looking newest with slubbing, embroidery and printed patterns. Crush-resistant plaid linens appear in suits and coats as well as dresses. Silk-and-worsted and silk-and-viscose mixtures join spun rayon in the linen-effect group.

Linen newly blended with wool makes an exciting coat and costume fabric that resembles Italian raw silk in light weight and rough surface. Straw-mat and silk are popular wool blends, while tweed takes the lead in extremely lightweight all wool. Random tweeds, from crisp and nubby to soft and fine, are seen most; but there is a generous supply of herringbones and other patterns with quite smooth surfaces.

Slubby weaves look most important in basic wools, such as tissue-weight flannels, but a tendency to sheer types appears in the large crop of serge, twill and gabardine.

Pleated novelty cottons, border-design prints and unusual all-over prints share the spring

are missing in stocks. Instead, they are subtly blended with pinky stocking tones or else contrasted with gray.

Avocado-colored shoes get the blend treatment also, with yellowed beige hose. Some, however, are a true avocado.

spotlight with crinkle cottons. Solid color crinkle cotton blouses that don't need ironing are paired with new-looking printed skirts on such grounds as pique, cotton satin, twill and linen-weave cottons.

Sport cottons favor denim, sailcloth, corduroy, twill and terry cloth, while dress cottons are thick matelasses, damasks and brocades. Cotton satin will be everywhere. Cotton coats and suits make a big story, using the heavier weights and glossy surfaces. Tweed and jacquard weave cottons make fine suitings.

Rich silks are significant in Spring's dress-up styles. The newest are crisp textures with a bulky hand. Silks in gently draped fashions are soft.

Carpets Feature Softer Colors

Homespun and contemporary effects and subtle, off-beat color groupings on textured carpets make news in spring collections. Tweed continues to hold great prominence and much of the new relates to tweed treatments. New carpets tend to veer from strong tones into very soft, livable shades. One of the leading carpet designers has introduced an entire collection in muted tweedy shades. Another firm contributes equally versatile multi-colors each in shadowy blends.

Still other collections reveal a rainbow of 16 soft, understated colors including clear, pale neutrals and off-whites. One of the new tufted carpets combines carpet rayon and nylon yarn in a looped pile weave that looks lush in interesting decorator shades. Typical colors are turquoise, blond ivory, coronado gold, woodrose, Pacific green and charcoal.

For Contemporary Homes
Many brand new constructions and design concepts are introduced in this spring's collections. "Tweeds" include not only actual tweed patterns, as in former seasons, but individualized textures handled with a multi-color effect toward a contemporary color blending.

Many carpets are in traditional hand-crafted or homespun weaves, or modern abstract, geometric delineations. Such contemporary textures, designs and colorings accord well with popular Colonial, French Provincial, Ranchhouse or modern style furnishings.

Compensation Report Fails

Salem — (U.P.)—The minority of the House Labor and Industries Committee has failed to substitute its report on two workmen's compensation bills before the house, but succeeded on one bill in the package up for special consideration.

All three of the bills provided increases in compensation for permanent and temporary disability and for permanent partial disability. The committee was split on the amount of the increases.

The labor-minded minority held out for larger increases than those approved by the majority and submitted minority reports which it tried to substitute for the majority reports.

In the vote for the minority report on increases in the temporary total disability category, 32 no votes were cast against 27 yes.

The minority succeeded in substituting its version of increases in the permanent total disability class by a vote of 41 to 18.

Spring Dresses Have Interesting Basic Changes

Though less drastic than anticipated, interesting changes in basic silhouettes have brought about a thoroughly 1955 look in spring dresses.

The new line is long and lean. Generally, necklines are higher, bustlines are higher and rounder, waistlines are somewhat lower. Set-in sleeves are slim. Armholes are smaller both in sleeved and sleeveless styles. The waist is not tightly nipped, although it is indeed acknowledged. All features contribute to a longer bodice line.

With spring, the long torso line becomes an effect rather than a sweeping movement of severely dropped waistlines. Some dresses feature a bodice line cut off at the hip bone; others achieve an attenuated feeling by dipping belts or cummerbunds that lie from the waist down; hip yokes, low-placed puffs and bows provide eye-lowering details on dresses that actually retain the natural waistline.

Over-Blouse Newly Shaped

The over-blouse — either attached or unattached — is another way of producing the long look. But the newest of these, even, is somewhat shaped at the waist to defer to femininity's curves.

Skirt-wise the sheath is spring's darling. The long look afternoon dress usually offers a skirt that is gently shaped — neither pegged nor stretched taut — and combines slimmest with easy movement. The slender skirt division ranges from casual dresses through daytime and evening dress-ups. The cocktail sheath is once more an important fashion entity.

Lean Cotton Season

Even in full-skirted cottons and silk prints, the change toward gentler, leaner lines is notable. The airy, free-swinging styles of late spring and summer also feature the high bustline, the wide and shallow neckline and the not-so-cinched waist. The full skirts feature unpressed pleats for the most part, but some bias-cut gored skirts are present.

The linens, the silks, the cottons of shining and textured surfaces and the increasingly versatile synthetics keep the fabric story a light and carefree one. But the wools, more featherweight and dress-appropriate than ever, make big news in spring dresses. The weaves and textures are myriad. But jacquard leads the roster.



HIGHER BUSTLINE—Late day sheath dress features gentled curves and the higher bustline of spring '55. Rhinestone-sparked disks dot the linen-textured Avisco rayon fabric. Satin cape coat is color matched. By Sylvan Rich of Martini.

Furniture Design Becomes Modern

Spring '55 furniture collections prove that Modern is at last coming of age. Having accomplished the development of a distinct mid-twentieth century mode of home furnishings, designers are now free to synthesize the best of modern with the best of traditional, and the best of American with the best of other countries.

Out of the experimental stages and an accepted category in its own right, American Modern now assimilates the lightness, grace and fine proportioning of 18th Century English and French. Furthermore, ideas from all over the world have influenced this spring's furniture.

From Italy, for instance, came inspiration for such pieces as a divided-back couch, its top curved to look like two separate sofas. From Italy, too, come decorative drawer pulls, ferrules and finals of brass and pewter. Italian influenced marbledized surfaces are popular in real mable, slate and improved plastics.

Know-How From Germany
German furniture engineers have given their American counterparts a more scientific understanding of perfect proportioning, balanced contours and pre-

cision construction. As a result, the entire furniture market this year reflects higher quality in construction and materials.

A light, airy look in lightweight, light-colored woods that show their natural grain to great advantage is a reflection of tereed lines and the natural Swedish furniture-making. Here, emphasis falls on clean, uncluttered beauty of woods.

This year's notable revival of teak, burnished to bring out a gamut of natural tones, mirrors an Oriental influence that is also expressed in long, very low tables and many highly polished, lacquered surfaces.

Really special — and new — for tarts and cream puffs is this filling with delicately different coffee flavor. Combine one tablespoon instant coffee with 1-3 cup firmly packed brown sugar, three tablespoons flour and a dash of salt in the top of the double boiler. Add one cup of milk and one egg yolk, slightly beaten; mix thoroughly. Place over rapidly boiling water on the top burner of your gas range and cook for 10 minutes or until thickened. Makes one cup.

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