

Spring's Slender Silhouette Offers Finesse, Freedom of Action

Elongated Line Brings Blend of Youth and Dignity

Rising to fashion prominence for spring is a long, lean look that is essentially dignified, feminine and youthful.

It is the American designers' translation of the French H-line that made headlines on more than just fashion pages of last season's newspapers. This is by far a softer, more feminine and more flattering version and is most appropriate for a gala fashion spring.

The bustline has risen; the waistline has dropped. Sleeves are narrow and armholes are no larger than necessary. Necklines are cut wide rather than deep—the pie-cut has replaced the plunge; the bateau has overtaken the scoop. Bodice details are kept high.

Mobile Torso

Where the waistline is not dropped — for often the low torso is an effect rather than an actuality — skirts fall smoothly over the hips and either bell out softly or retain easy sheath proportions.

Below the waistline pockets, tabs or pleats are placed low. Pleats continue the illusion of slenderness, being artfully clustered, stitched-down over the hip or falling, unpressed, from a hip yoke. Buttons are similarly low-placed.

The torso, stretched between the height of the bustline and the depth of the waistline, looks long and slender and young. The waistline itself curves inward without exaggeration. This torso mobility lends the elongated silhouette the freedom of action that is becoming a fashion essential for American women.

Lady-Like Understatement

The Look of '55—unexaggerated and easy-going—is aristocratic. The tapered sleeves with tiny cuffs or none at all, the absence of glittering ornamentation, the preference of neat bow to flamboyant pouf—are a few signs that bespeak finesse in the basics of design this spring.

As bouffance diminishes, so does the importance of stiff fabrics. Lightweight, soft, silken, subtly textured are favored fabric words in all categories.

Exhilarating clear colors and



AIR OF DELICACY—Bridal gowns combine the tall look with an air of delicacy. Representative of this Shepherdess gown of rosepoint lace and tulle by Gaston Mallet of Murray Ham-burger. The diamond accessories by Nat Koslow.

Bridal Gowns Have Paris-Inspired Look

Spring bridal gowns follow a Paris-inspired line with a new, tall look achieved by elongated waistlines, tiers, flounces and higher bustlines. Lace trim around the sides above the hip-line gives the long look to princess gowns.

Skirts are bouffant below the long waistline and bodices are molded.

Most of the spring gowns are floor length, although there are many with chapel trains and

prints express a young, eager outlook on the season and contribute to the liveliness of lines while contrasting with the understatement of detail and trim.

Spring accessories carry out the line and feeling of basic costumes. They are exceptionally well matched in color this season, due to the close cooperation of designers in all fashion categories. Finding a perfectly color-matched wardrobe should be no trouble this spring.

Two New Silhouettes Offered Young Group

Spring 1955 presents the Junior with two new silhouettes. One, the pared down princess sheath, is more supple than last season's princess, with a very fitted waist and a step-in closing. Many have white braid trim or strapping detail at the hipline. Many have companion jackets.

The second major silhouette, the elongated torso, is big news in every size range. It has for juniors, a dropped, belted waistline, releasing fuller skirts. Some feature double pleated flounces or one hemline flounce.

The juniors will have more costumes than ever before. Their fuller skirts are pleated—either all-around or sectionally. Some are gathered or else gored and flared, to be worn with petticoats.

Slim Line Jackets

The costumes are accompanied by jackets and coats that feature a slim, sparse line. Fitted or straight, they end at the bustline. Semi-fitted, they follow the long, lean line over the long torso styles.

Costumes also sport "invisible" jackets to the bust, waist or hip; fly-away boleros or midly overblouse jackets.

Many dress and jacket costumes hide after-five bodices underneath, while many feature the new suspender skirts.

Cummerbunds Favored

Suit jackets follow the line of the costume's fly-away bolero or long, lean jackets. Suits also show tapered box jackets, modified bed jackets and above the

waist briefs. Suit skirts are either full or slender, with many of the fuller skirts pleated. The cummerbund-wrapped midriff is popular.

The shirt-look dress is prominent again this spring, often in print. Two-piece dresses and coat dresses feature pockets, pockets and more pockets. Jumpers are seen frequently.

Junior playclothes go particularly blithe with suspender shorts, Bermuda skirts with bright undershorts or romper playsuits with Bermuda-length over-skirts. Throughout the playclothes line, the color accent is on red.

Supple Fabrics

Sheer rayon or crepe is being used increasingly in junior wear, its suppleness offsetting the long-line silhouette. Cotton and cotton-silk blends, are important, while imported cotton tweeds are the fabric news in spring suits.

Navy is the key color for spring. Gold, avocado green and periwinkle blue are also popular. Stripes and checks are more important than ever.

Much junior fashion will have "lingerie" trimming. Frothy white accessories complement dark costumes. There is lots of lace in jabots, dummies and collars.

Girls Matching Mother's Fashions

It's a look-like-mom spring, as favored girls' fashions feature the dropped waistline that is so popular in misses and junior sizes.

This long-torso look is emphasized in dresses sashed or cuffed at the hipline. Often, a solid color bodice may top a print skirt. The skirts are flared, gathered or pleated (especially box pleated) below the lowered waist. Many long torsos take midly form.

Not only are the skirts pleated, but collars and cuffs as well. Collars are smaller than last season, with "little" variations of the Puritan collar appearing frequently.

One of the favorite spring outfits among the small set is the ensemble. Usually a one-piece sleeveless dress, it has its own box jacket that reaches just to the waist. Empire and spencer



LONG TORSO—A long torso takes narrow side pleats in this surah print by Mr. Mort.

GOLF DANGEROUS

Sweetwater, Tex.—(U.P.)—Z. C. Sweakeley agreed today from a hospital bed that golf can be dangerous when it is too mechanized. Sweakeley said that when he dismounted from a small motor scooter he used to get around the municipal golf course he left the machine in gear as he went to make a shot. The scooter started up, pinned him against a tree in the rough and broke his foot.

jackets are also popular as topers to the spring ensemble.

Ensembles are appearing, too, as two-piece dresses with a suit look. Prints are back with a bang, big bold patterns predominating. Florals, clowns and geometrics are abundant. White backgrounds are new for spring, as are smaller prints on black grounds.

Stolen Police Radio Cruiser Recovered

Pittsburgh — (U.P.) — Police were particularly interested today in recovering a stolen car. The car was soon found two miles away from where it had been taken and John Tiley was arrested on theft charges. The car was a police radio cruiser.

Crescent City Plywood Mill Purchased by Firm

Crescent City—The Paragon Plywood, Inc., plywood factory here has been purchased by Northern California Plywood, Inc., it was announced today. Purchase price was \$2,000,000. The purchasing firm was organized as a cooperative worker-owned plant, and funds for the purchase were raised through stock subscriptions in the three western states.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday: 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

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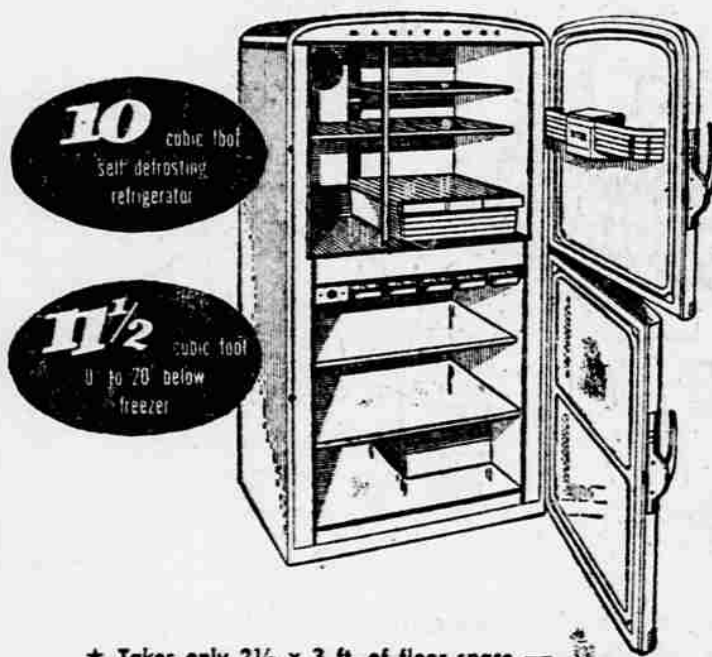
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Across From Penney's

On The Side

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

By E. V. Durling

In London there is a divorcees club. It is reported to be a very gay organization. The dances held by the divorcees are said to be especially entertaining. As far as I know, there is no similar club in this country. However, it was once reported a group of divorced men of Manhattan, who considered one matrimonial experience enough and were determined not to marry again, were organizing a "Fugitives Club." The name was inspired by their being "fugitives from the matrimonial chain gang." Their insignia was to be a ball and chain, with the chain broken.

Spender

Who was the greatest spender in Broadway history? Some say it was "Diamond Jim" Brady. Others claim it to have been "Betcha Million" John W. Gates. However, it was neither of these picturesque figures. It was none other than Al Jolson, who made and spent over \$20,000,000 during his lifetime!

Heart Throbs

Present day feminine film fans have a strong preference for screen heroes who are over six feet. They like their idols to be long and lean. Gregory Peck, top Hollywood heart throb, is about 6 feet 4. It was not always thus. Some of the outstanding cinema heart throbs were well under six feet. John Gilbert was only 5 feet 5 1/2. Charles Boyer is 5 feet 8. Incidentally, Clark Gable is not a six-footer. He is about 5 feet 9 or 10.

Briefly

New Yorker says he was present at a wedding where the bridesmaids wore red. "A spectacular sight," he comments. What was the most unusual wedding you ever attended? Incidentally, when Harry Richman married Hazel Forbes he had seventeen best men . . . It was Themistocles, who said "Teach me not the art of remembering, but the art of forgetting, for I remember things I do not wish to remember, but I cannot forget things I wish to forget."

Knowing When

Knowing when to buy a stock and when to sell it is what makes millionaires. For example, consider the case of James Couzens of Detroit. In 1903 he invested \$2,500 in an automobile company. Others who invested in the same company sold out early in the game. Couzens held on for sixteen years, until 1919. Then he sold the stock he had bought for \$2,500 for over \$29,000,000. To be exact, for \$29,318,858.

Passing By

Irene Dunne. Comely Kentucky. She was born in Louisville the year Elwood won the Kentucky Derby. Made her stage debut in the musical show titled "Irene." She was 16 at the time. Made her Broadway bow in the comedy "The Clinging Vine" when 18. She began her film career when 26. She has been married for twenty-six years to the same man, the genial dental genius, Dr. F. D. Griffin.

Models

Has your wife, daughter, aunt, sister-in-law or grandma an unusually well streamlined pair of underpinnings? Do you think she could qualify as a "leg" model? That is, to model hosiery and other feminine attire in which the leg is the major fea-

Maternity Clothes Have New Delights

The ladies-in-waiting of spring '55 have found new delights in maternity clothes.

Favored for the season are new three-piece ensembles, consisting of skirt, blouse and sleeveless jacket. Often the jacket is all-around box pleated. New in dresses is a plaid one-piece. More conventional two-piece dresses are showing up in unconventional, bold colors.

Sportswear-wise, maternity clothes are making much of the Scotch influence — notably in wrap-around kilts. Bermuda shorts are popular, as always.

The main maternity fabric is linen-look rayon that washes so easily. Acetate crepe, cotton-silk and nylon-cotton are favored blends. A new English-made blend of 55% wool and 45% cotton has become increasingly important, particularly in sportswear.

Navy is even more popular this spring than last — and white collars are seen as frequent contrast. Black watch plaids are new and exciting while pastel gingham checks many maternity fashions. Tweed, of course, is a key texture.

A new touch on maternity wear is the very-tailored faille dickey. Puritan and sailor collars remain in favor.

Toastmasters Slate Contest Saturday

The annual Toastmasters International speech contest, for Area 3 of the organization, will be held in Medford Saturday, March 12, it was announced today. Site of the event will be the Medford hotel.

Medford Toastmasters will be hosts for the contest, at which the Medford, Ashland, Grants Pass, Klamath Falls, and Yreka, Calif., clubs will be represented. The dinner meeting, scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m., will be open to Toastmasters, their wives, and guests.

The contest will be under the direction of Carlton Abbott, Ashland, area governor. Dan Hull and Clifford Oulette will serve as toastmasters for the evening, and Al Bradford will give the speech of welcome.

Dead line for Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday.

PRIM

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