

Children's Clothing Field Not Influenced By Kennedys

By GAY PAULEY
UPI Women's Editor
New York—Mrs. John F. Kennedy unquestionably ranks as one of the international style leaders of the day. And the men even are copying President Kennedy's favorite suit style, the single-breasted, two-button version. But when fashion influence gets around to the Kennedy children, their effort is not nearly so strong, says one woman in the children's wear field.

Mrs. Phyllis Berens, 41, general manager of a firm whose clothes are worn by the Kennedy children, said there is no one overwhelming style leader today in the children's field.

There is no mass copying as there was in the days when Shirley Temple was a child star and numerous mamas around the nation were trying to turn their small daughters into dimpled, golden-curl replicas of the movie moppel.

Mrs. Berens believes the president's two children, Caroline, 4, and John F., Jr., going on two, might be more influential on fashion if they were photographed more often for public print.

Typical Wear
But Mrs. Kennedy is trying for some privacy for her children. And what they wear is pretty typical of what increases.

ing numbers of young mothers are buying for their children anyway.

Mrs. Berens said the trend is toward simplicity in children's wear, as it is in that of adults who would ape Mrs. Kennedy's chic. The result is fewer frills, greater accent on comfort and color.

Mrs. Berens' firm doesn't sell directly to the Kennedys, nor to the Victor Borges, the Bing Crosby, nor the Harry Belafonte, whose children wear its clothes. All purchase through local retail outlets, she said.

And all, by selecting clothes styled by Mrs. Berens, are dressing their children as children, rather than putting them into pint-sized variations of adult fashions. Mrs. Berens bewails the current trend, as reported in Women's Wear Daily, the trade publication, toward children's wear designers copying grownup styles.

This trend, the trade publication said, goes so far as child versions of the swirl skirt, bow blouse and little jacket outfit that U.S. designer Norman Norrell made last season for sophisticated grownup females.

Activities Differ
"Children's shapes and their activities differ from those of adults," said Mrs. Berens, general manager and stylist for Merry Mites, Inc. (boys' clothes) and Gay Sprites, Inc. (girls' clothes).

The implication was that children run, jump and climb, and shinning up a tree in a copy of a Norman Norrell wasn't exactly possible.

"The Dior Trapeze of a few seasons ago was perfect when it was copied for children because it was a children's style," said Mrs. Berens. "That is why it failed for adults."

The Trapeze was a simple silhouette stressing natural shoulder, ease through an unbelled waist and a slightly flared skirt. It still is basic with children's wear designers.

"What distresses me," said Mrs. Berens, "is to see little boys dressed like carbon copies of what their dads are wearing. Boys mostly have round faces, short necks. Put them in a miniature version of a man's suit with necktie and long trousers and they look pushed down . . . we try to style to give them height."

Short Trousers
"For dress, I like to see little boys in short trousers with knee socks, cardigan jacket and shirt collar out over the cardigan neck. No tie. A tie on a boy always is askew anyway."

Mrs. Berens, an attractive brunette, is married to Nat Berens, in a competitive children's wear firm. The couple has no children. But Mrs. Berens said that her nine godchildren and the families of the predominantly young marrieds on her company's staff provide more than sufficient youngsters to wash and wear test every garment before it goes into collection.

Camping Outfit Good Investment

Chicago—A good camping outfit initially costs about as much as a two-week resort hotel bill for a family of four, says E. H. Regnier, University of Illinois rural recreationalist.

But if the equipment is durable, you're set for several years, he said. Your main expenses in future vacations will be food and travel to the camp grounds.

Regnier suggested a tarpaulin tent, 10 x 10 foot umbrella model, to sleep four. If the front and side flaps open, living space is doubled. An umbrella model also gives more head room.

A gawd-in floor provides protection from puddles, crawling insects and drafts. One person, he said, can put up a pole version in about 10 minutes.

Air mattresses or lightweight summer sleeping bags are replacing cots, he said.

For quick, intense cooking heat, Regnier suggested a two or three burner folding gasoline stove. Be sure to carry cooking fuel in a safety can.

You'll also need a steel or cast aluminum skillet, and plastic dishes are durable and light to pack.

For an ice box, bury and cover with leaves a wooden packing box with a tight-fitting lid.

And for night time safety, you'll need gas lanterns and flashlights.

Dilled Spuds

Dill butter makes a spring treat on boiled new potatoes. Wash and scrape 12 medium potatoes. Place in a saucepan with 1 inch of boiling water and 1 1/2 teaspoons of salt. Cover and bring to boil, boil 20 minutes, or until tender. Drain. Season with 3 tablespoons of butter or margarine, 1/4 teaspoon of ground black pepper and 1/2 teaspoon of whole dill seed. Serves 6.



Late summer and fall clothing was modeled at a Garden of Eden party given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Eden, 211 Genesee street, to entertain wives of Oregon Junior Chamber of Commerce members in Medford last week end for a summer planning session. Several Medford shops co-operated in providing clothing for the event and the models shown here are (left to right)

Mrs. James Butler, model for Mann's Department store; Miss Joyce Leon, model for Parker Woods Leon's; Miss Jackie Ayres, The Carriage House; Mrs. Everett Payton, Burelson's store and Mrs. James Coon, Pick's Apparel. Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Payton and Mrs. Coon are all members of Medford Jayceettes, who sponsored the event. (Knackstedt photo)

Seashore Offers New World To Youngsters

By PATRICIA McCORMACK
United Press International
New York—Mix some scientific fun with the vacation when you take the youngsters down to the sea—or river, lake or pond.

Fishing teaches something. So does beachcombing. There's even something fascinating to be learned if all you can do is capture a bit of water, jar it and take it back home for a look-see under a play microscope.

Just consider the interests at the seashore, if variety's your child's spice of life.

Nearly every mile of the nation's 54,000 miles of tidal shoreline is a place of potential interest—where nature's great show goes on 'round the clock.

Where the land meets the sea, another world begins.

For information about how a child can pry into this never-ending drama of the sea and its life, we consulted with researchers at the Gilbert Hall of Science.

Surprisingly, it was found equipment needed for young beachcombers is minimal: a pail, a few glass jars, a trowel, a spading fork, a kitchen knife and a magnifying glass.

A portable microscope, if powerful enough, will enable children to study small forms of sea life while they cavort in a few spoons of seawater.

Inexpensive pocket-sized books on shore life and water creatures will help to identify what's found.

"Observation," reported the Gilbert scientists, "is the key to science and enjoying the new finds. Details of form and movement cannot be seen, however, unless your child watches carefully."

A sandy beach supports a different variety of plant and animal life than does a rocky beach or a mud flat. All are worthy of the youngster's attention. Wading out a bit, especially at low tide, helps to turn up other specimens.

Among things to look for are:

—Starfish, abundant on both Atlantic and Pacific coasts, wash up on the beach or are found in shallow tidal pools. Many youngsters like to dry starfish in the sun to preserve. Examination reveals why starfish is a major enemy of shellfish. Most are spiny and have tiny pincers amid the spines and with from five to 10 arms. Wrapped around a clam, these feet with many small suction tubes force the clam open.

—Ribbon worms, from one inch to 20 feet long, live in mud and under rocks by day. They swim for food at night. Small hermit crabs, one to three inches long, scavengers of the beach, live in empty shells, searching for larger ones as they grow.

—Small fiddler crabs, about

two inches long, are so called because of the male's single big claw, nearly as large as his body. These busy crabs dig burrows up to three feet long.

Wandering along the beach, an observant child can build a menagerie of marine life with the spider crab, the horse mussel, the turkey wing ark, the tiger lucina or the duck clam.

Observation, remember, is a part of scientific doing.

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Nordwicks Here To Visit Family

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Nordwick and three children, Brian, Karen and Larry, left for their home in Salinas, Calif., Friday after a visit here with Mr. Nordwick's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Nordwick, 919 Reddy avenue.

Mr. Nordwick, formerly a reporter on the Medford Mail Tribune, is now wire editor and an editorial writer for the Salinas Californian.

Nephew Visits In O'Brien Home

O'Brien—Eric Awe, son of Mr. and Mrs. August Awe, San Diego, Calif., is a guest of his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. David Wilson, Shadowcroft lake, near O'Brien.

The Wilsons and their nephew spent three days at the Seattle World's Fair last week. They returned by way of the Olympic Peninsula, Astoria and Seaside, stopped at Ft. Clatsop and saw the replica of Lewis and Clark's salt cairn in Seaside, Ore.

Eric visited the Sanger Peak lookout station Sunday with the Robert Bottels when they went to call on their son Dennis, who mans the lookout.

Bread and Fish

Bake salmon filling right into the corn bread for the main course at a soup and sandwich meal. Prepare batter from 1 package of your favorite corn bread mix. Pour half of it into the pan. Spread with 1 (7 1/2 ounce) can of salmon, drained and flaked. Top with remaining batter. Bake as mix label directs. Serves 8.