



CRUISE CLOTHES with a casual look and a light protection against shipboard breezes are just what the winter vacationer needs. This girl wears, left, sleeveless dress in white with coordinated sweater in coral. She picks a silk plaid dress, right, for change-off. This one has sweater-jacket trimmed with the plaid fabric.

— Photo by Gaile Dugas, NEA Women's Editor



DELBERT AND ROBERT, at right, are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fitzhugh of Mesa, Washington. Their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Fitzhugh and Mr. and Mrs. Orval DeVaul, all live in Langell Valley.

Feminine Figure Back In Style

By DOROTHY ROE
Associated Press Women's Editor

Designers throughout the world are rediscovering the natural shape of the feminine figure this spring — and there may well be dancing in the streets.

There's a return to the well-loved classics in daytime dress as 1959 fashions take shape. On both sides of the Atlantic and all the way across America the trend is toward normal or slightly lifted waistline, easy jackets, skirts with room enough for movement and a revival of such long-standing favorites as the shirtwaist dress, the coat dress, the full-skirted cocktail dress and even the fitted suit.

New York designers, previewing Easter fashions for the visiting press, make it clear that they are tired of distorted silhouettes and that they have heeded public demands for clothes that are flattering, wearable and don't go out of style after one season.

There is hardly a hint of the recent fashion fads in the new spring collections. Last year's sack dress is gone if not forgotten, with only a few die-hards among the designers showing unbelted styles. Also departed is the trapeze, while the Empire silhouette has been so modified as to be unobjectionable to the severest critic. There are many lifted waistlines, it's true, but in each case the natural waistline also is defined.

Suits have slender but carefully shaped skirts, brief, easy jackets and skirt belts at the normal waistline. There are even a few classic fitted styles, and a scattering of suits with three-quarter length loose jackets, known as walking suits.

Hemlines cover the knees and

necklines grow more revealing. The low-necked, short-sleeved suit is a top fashion of the season. Collars grow bigger and so do sleeves, giving a look of more width above the waist.

There are plenty of full skirts in the new collections, for the benefit of women whose figures need a little skillful camouflage. Most popular full-skirted fashion is the classic shirtwaist dress, the all-American favorite, which is shown in sheer fabrics for late-day wear as well as in light wools and cottons for daytime occasions.

Coats for the most part are loose and enveloping, easy to slip on over suits or full-skirted dresses.

There's a wider, trimmer look to shoulders, though no return to the padded football shoulders of World War II. But all women need not look round-shouldered to be in fashion this spring.

Belt manufacturers are happy again, as belts, sashes and cummerbunds are much in evidence on costumes for all occasions. Wide, contoured leather belts are back with a bang, as are almost all other versions—and they are worn at the natural waistline.

The dress-and-jacket costume again is a favorite in all collections, with the jacket short and unfitted as a rule, the dress slender and belted at the normal waistline.

It's a season when women can go shopping without fear, and be sure of finding the kind of clothes that won't cause hysteria among the onlookers.

HOME EFFICIENCY

Manufacturers help us run homes with more efficiency. At least the opportunity is there. The work is up to housewives. Laundry equipment, for example, is being fitted into the kitchen with streamlined efficiency.

Irene Keith Is First Woman Jet Dispatcher

By GAY PAULEY
UPI Women's Editor

NEW YORK (UPI) — Women like Amelia Earhart, Ruth Nichols and Jacqueline Cochran pioneered in aviation right alongside the men.

Now comes another woman charting a new course for her sex in the jet age. She is Irene Keith, the first woman dispatcher of jet planes.

"I've been mixed up with flying in some way or other most of my adult life," said the 39-year-old Miss Keith, who not only helps others to "keep 'em flying" but also is a licensed pilot.

She has been dispatching jets from Idlewild International Airport since January for Pan American World Airways, which flies the Boeing 707 to Europe.

Establishing the "first" took some doing, both in acquiring the technical knowledge in mechanics and meteorology and in convincing the men that a woman was fully capable of holding a job in which, as she said, "you can't make mistakes . . . you've got to be right."

But Miss Keith is of stubborn Yankee stock — the daughter of a building contractor in Derry, N.H. Like millions of women, she went to work in the vital aircraft industry in the early years of World War II. But in 1944, she joined the WAC and worked as an aero-repair specialist attached to the Air Transport Command.

Since she has acquired both her private and commercial pilot's license and is firmly convinced "I could fly a jet," although no one's let her try it.

She joined Pan Am in March 1948, and it was while she was working as a coordinating clerk in the dispatch office she set her sights on a dispatcher's job. Irene enrolled in the airline's operations training school — the only woman in her class.

"Getting the license was easy," she said, in an interview. "Getting the job required going up

and down through more channels than I care to count.

"But I wasn't going to give up. I finally got to the division manager . . . told him my qualifications . . . and then sat and waited. And waited and waited."

Finally, the word came down through channels — yes, she could have a dispatcher's job on condition that she would accept it "on the same terms as the men."

Terms meant that like any other member of the Airline Dispatchers' Union, she could be ordered to any foreign port from Karachi to Johannesburg. But Pan Am stationed her at Idlewild, a few minutes drive from her apartment.

As dispatcher, Irene's job is to "flight watch" planes at all times. Civil Aeronautics Authority personnel do the same thing, and she works under regulations of CAA's ground and air traffic experts.

"Neither of us ever loses track of any plane in flight," she said.

Sky's The Limit In Spring Hats

By DOROTHY ROE
Associated Press Women's Editor

The new spring hats shown by New York's leading milliners are often startling, sometimes nostalgic and usually flattering.

There are sailors and bowlers galore, plenty of flower-trimmed picture hats, some jet-age abstractions and lots of pretty little suit hats that hug the head, frame the face and generally make a woman look better than she does without a hat.

Milliners have decided, it seems, that women are ready for hats that are really hats once more — not wigs or scraps of veil or beanie.

You'll be seeing practically every known version of the sailor hat in the Easter parade—trim little tailored versions, big Merry Widow cartwheels, flower-trimmed pan-cakes and high-crowned designs that have a prim 1910 look.

There is generally more height as well as more width of brim in the spring hat lineup. And one thing is certain—every woman will want a new hat this spring.

Sleep, Rest Boons To Beauty

By ALICIA HART
NEA Beauty Editor

That sleep is one of the greatest boons to beauty is an established fact. Yet, the number of women who sacrifice it to dawdling is legion. Housewives who complain that they never get enough rest and are always tired can spend hours "visiting" on the telephone. Career girls who talk of exhaustion can stay up late to watch old movies on TV.

Both are fooling themselves and guaranteeing that in middle age they are going to look a sagging middle age when they might have looked fresh, youthful and bright-eyed.

It's true that it's far more enticing to putter about in the evening than it is to pick yourself up, draw your bath water and get ready for bed. But it's every bit as easy to form a good habit as it is to form a bad one. And getting enough rest is definitely a good habit, one that produces clear skin, sparkling eyes and sufficient energy for the whole day's tasks.

BEDS GO HIGH STYLE

One of the exciting bedroom innovations introduced recently is the bed headboard that may be hung on the wall like a mirror or giant painting.

The headboards shown cover a wide range of styles that blend in with all styles of bedroom furniture and for every member of the family.

There are white or antique black headboards with gold highlights, some with Venetian gold trim. There are designs of fruitwood and white or gray decorated with pink and green, charming for a young girl's room. The headboards may be matched exactly to a color scheme by repainting with spray-on colors.

The designs are available in ribbon and floral motif, trellis with roses, scroll with bouquet, loops and flowers and traditional scroll pattern.

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