

**Fashion Forecast For '48 Spring and Summer Reveals Much of Beauty**

When shopping for a new wardrobe for this coming spring and summer, what new fashions can women expect to find? Plenty of new ones, say the editors of Women's Wear Daily, and all stamped with 1948 style character. They will find more fashions with narrower, more rounded, more natural shoulders; smooth, flat necks; the most flattering of the waistlines; and skirts long and full—but this spring they're not too long and not full, and some are narrow.

The big new style for spring of 1948 is the full-length coat paired with a dress to make a complete costume. This ensemble will be found in all price lines.

The big color for spring is inconspicuously navy. This is one spring when black plays second-fiddle to navy, and it's navy across the board—in coats, in suits, in daytime dresses, in afternoon and cocktail dresses. Navy accessories and navy shoes give greater strength to this navy fashion.

The trend toward softer, prettier, romantic fashions is reflected in everything from ready-to-wear through millinery and accessories. Pastel colors, especially mauves, lilacs and lavender shades, corroborate this feminine fashion mood.

Thus, then is the style story in general terms. Specific style types for the coming season are described by Woman's Wear Daily fashion experts as follows:

**Choice in Coats**

In coats—the customer has two choices for her 1948 spring coat—the long way or the short way. She also has two choices in color—the

light way or the dark way. The long coat is the important coat for spring. It is snugly fitted at the waistline, fully flared, and long enough to cover dresses 12 inches from the floor. Navy is a welcome choice in these long coats. There are plenty of navy accessories this season to complete the costume; and there are pastels to give new contrast. Chamois yellow gloves are coming back again, and to match the gloves there are chamois toned pearls. This feeling for pastel gloves and pearls is expressed in all the blossom tints.

The short way in coats brings the favorite topper or shortie into prominence again. That comfortable toss-on topper that is easy over suits as well as dresses may be hip hugging in the newest cotton silhouette, or loose and flare-back like an abbreviated domino.

In suits—The newest story concerns the short jacket and flared skirt. This is translated into fabrics of all types even in men's wear worsteds. For the customer who wants a classic tailor-made, there is still a good choice—again shoulders are narrower, waistline small, and skirts slim and easy.

**Capes—More Capes**

Capes—Deserve special mention because they register all the way along the line. Full-length and hip-length capes in wool; elbow-length capes in print to match a print dress; capes in fur—these are all wonderful new clothes for spring.

In dresses—The narrower shoulders and taut bodice, the little waist and full skirt get beautiful expression in dresses for spring—in the prints, which range all the way from all-over abstracts to neat geometrics and a whirl of polka-dots; and in the plains, which give top place to navy. In addition to all the one-piece dresses, which are decidedly softer and prettier for spring, there

are dress types which are complete costumes in themselves.

The cape ranging from elbow-length to full-length; the bolero, from bust-length to waist-length, fitting smooth as paper, wrapped snug like a little cocoon or flare at back; the fitted jacket—all these, added to dresses, speak up for the costume look.

The petticoat dress is already one of the pets of spring; this means the full-skirted dress with separate, whirling ruffled petticoat as well as the dress with petticoat ruffle frothing at the hemline.

In formal fashions, watch for the ankle-length as the newest and smartest length in evening dresses. One good interpretation of this type pairs crisp ankle-length skirt with lingerie or tucked chiffon blouse. In elaborate evening dresses in floor-length, look at the really old-fashioned dresses with a Victorian air—they are very new fashion for 1948, especially in rich, stiff fabrics.

In sportswear—Feminity is paramount from the most classic active sports types to the softest dresses suitable for cocktails and dancing. Separates promise to be tremendous right through summer: skirts and blouses are the No. 1 candidates, along with jackets for medium and popular price spring and summer selling. And even more separates for summer play.

Sunback dresses are building up sky-high for summer promotions and selling. These reflect the importance of strapless bodies in swim and play clothes as well. The importance of capelets, shawls and scarfs, in addition to jackets of all kinds make these dresses suitable for street wear.

Softened casual dresses reflect the major silhouette trends of the year. The most classic houses have softened up in their spring and summer lines, and the same may be said for summer suit-dresses.

There are many good fashion reasons for a big swim suit season in 1948—First is the return of elasticized fabrics of natural rubber, many of these combined with metallics. Strapelessness is a big feature of classic models and dressmaker suits as well.

There are also plenty of pretty and frilly suits for swim and play wear. Beach ensembles of many kinds—skirts and jackets over swim suits, as well as many variations of the beach coat—carry the costume look into the sportswear department.

**Hats Are Flat**

In millinery—Plateau types are newest, flat and usually undulating, and sloping "like the roofs of Paris." These fit with the entire feeling for romanticism in hat design, which applies not only to silhouettes but also to colors and trimmings. The flat effect also appears in round, small berets with a padded look, with and without narrow visors; in "in clover hats" which have the four-corner curves, but remain flat and head-fitting. Renoir bonnets which are small and frame the face are part of the fragile look in spring millinery.

Complementing the feeling for feminine effects are the timid colors—the wheat-to-beige family, pale grays, pink, mauve and pale yellow, also glacier green.

**WEST CLINTON NEWS**

were hostesses and served refreshments.

Miss Parkman was presented many useful gifts, among them crystal of her chosen pattern.

**Mrs. Isabelle Sikes Passes**  
Mrs. Isabelle Sikes died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. O. R. Shepard, 32 Beauregard street, at an early hour February 17, after a brief illness.

She is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Z. V. Shepard, and Mrs. O. R. Shepard, both of Clinton; and Mrs. Fred Linard, Lexington, N. C.; and 19 grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 4 o'clock Feb. 19, at the Fire Baptized church. The Rev. Mr. Young was in charge, assisted by the Rev. Fred Rowe. Interment was in Calvary cemetery.

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