

Trends in Spring Fashions

WHEN fresh green grass begins timidly to assert itself, the robins come back to Minnesota and we stand bareheaded in the sun and take a deep contented breath of Spring itself . . . then we know we're slipping into the most exciting fashion season of the year. For Spring always stirs up a mood that pulsates with gaiety and color . . . and Spring 1946 will reflect this spirit in a new fashion intensity. Bright-eyed belles are dolling up for their returning Servicemen, and their returning Servicemen are donning their first wonderful civvies. Everybody wants to dress in tune with the song that swells in all our hearts—the moving song of peace and happiness that has inspired alert designers to create thrilling new fashions for men, women and children.

Here, in a nutshell, are the style highlights that will make news for Spring, gleaned from the Twin Cities apparel market.

DRESSES

The new silhouette features tiny waistline, smooth hips, wide shoulders. Skirts still look narrow, but have soft fullness; they are no longer, but have generous hems to allow for a tendency in that direction. There is a feeling of bulk in deep armholes, swashbuckling collars, Victorian capped sleeves and fullness above the waist. Shoulders are rounded, but still padded, and the wing sleeve is developed in shorter lengths. Protective jackets often accompany dresses with very brief sleeves, and cool low necklines are being shown. There is a distinct sleeve interest, and lots of hip interest—peplum effects, side drapes, front fullness, unpressed pleats and even pleats over hips. Lingerie trims of frothy organdy and marquisette provide fresh, springlike accents on dark sheers. Prints and all pastels will be good—aqua, blue, lime, chartreuse, melon, shrimp, yellow and gold, soft reds. Pastels and pastel plaids with shiny black trims are new, and navy, snuff brown, grey and black accented with white or colors will be shown. Fabrics will include rayon meshes, butcher rayons, twills and crepes.

COATS AND SUITS

Cardigans, both belted and fitted, will be liked and wide shoulders and wing sleeves will continue in favor. Many coats will have cuffs. Shorties will dominate the fashion picture, but single-breasted straight boy coats are still preferred by some. Coats will be shown in shetlands, tweeds, twills and suedes. Suits will have short and longer jackets, and skirts remain slim. All pastels and high shades will be very good; black, brown and grey are always in demand, and white wine is a color that is expected to carry into Spring with great success.

MILLINERY

High crowns and the bulky look will be carried into Spring, but hats will be head-size without being "heavy." Many small hats will also be shown, however, and you'll see many half-hats and open crowns. Sequins and jewelled trims will continue to be used on both felts and straws. Other trimmings include an abundance of feathers, bows, fruit trims, taffeta trims, lots of veiling and flowers. Many hats will be embellished with mixed colors, or a melee, of flowers, and solid flower hats will make their appearance. Hats will be made of felts (particularly in pastel and bright shades), fabrics, and both imported Swiss braids and domestic synthetic straws. Millinery will blossom forth in its traditional springlike mode, and colors are gay. Watch for lush pink, honey to golden tones, seafoam and peppermint green, sunny blue, banana, blonde brown, violet, light navy, grey and beige. There are also many combinations of colors, such as black with white, grey with fuchsia, brown with chartreuse. The perennial blacks, browns and navies will, of course, be seen.

"Minnesota Inspired"

Dresses

Coats and Suits

Millinery