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ALLURING: *Sex appeal is the fall byword*

Summer has just begun, but fashion designers are always one season's step ahead of us. The 1974 fall wardrobe collection was shown recently at the American Designers Press Week for Fall 1974.

Due to the proximity of borders, collections designed by Americans are not only found on clothing racks in the United States, but also in Canada, and Mississauga.

This fall, the emphasis is on sex appeal — alluring, lovely and secure. Softness and pliability is one characteristic of fall fabric.

1974 moves fashion into a period far more feminine than sportive, and far less casual than for many years. American designers put the emphasis on skirts and dresses, but acknowledge pants as an already-stocked essential to a well-functioning modern wardrobe.

There is no such thing as "the" length, "the" outline, or "the" erogenous zone. The silhouette may be enormously full and wrapped, with raglan or drooped shoulders, as in the new streamer coats and swirling capes, or slim and slinky, as

in other wrapped coats, slender suits and clingy evening dresses.

The use of bias cuts, pleats, shirring and drapery is strategy with one aim — to emphasize the female curves. Armholes are deepened, shoulders soft, waistlines lightly sashed, belted or free under soft shaping.

Although the turtle and hooded neckline continues, designers tend to reveal more throat and lots of cleavage. Very daring evening cuts are plentiful, with many halters and nude backs. Covered-up evening clothes are in soft, succulent fabrics.

Evening dresses are occasionally mid-calf or ankle length, but usually long. Day skirts range from the center of the knee-cap to mid-calf, the latter shown with boots. All skirts have fullness in bias cut, gores, or the new front-gathered drindil line.

The fall palette is mostly the pale neutrals, brown, shades of wine and eggplant, loden green, mauve, rose and lilac. There is also a good deal of black, especially in evening wear.



Soft, supple doubleknits tour Expo '74. The knits are light chestnut belted cardigan jacket and pleat front skirt.

dear susanne..

My husband and I seem to be in a rut. We see the same group of people every week, talk for a while and then settle into a game of bridge. The men play with the men and the women play and occasionally gossip together. I could scream with boredom. The people are nice enough but after four years of this I would like something more invigorating. When I suggest we do something else they all rule me out and say they enjoy the game and prefer playing bridge to anything else. I want to do what my husband likes but I feel there is more to life than 52 cards. I would like to meet new people and open up new fields but because of my husband's work we only get out one night a week and this is his choice. I realize this isn't a terribly big problem but it has become so to me and I wish I could see a way out. Can you suggest anything?

Tired of bridge

Dear Tired

You are battling a losing war unless you change your tactics. If your group adores bridge and you have not come up with any other alternatives what do you expect them to do? You might invite them, when it is your turn to entertain the group, to a "gourmet" dinner. I don't mean a seven course meal but perhaps one special dish plus coffee and dessert. If your dining area is not large enough, plan it buffet style. Suddenly the evening becomes a gala, conversation over food becomes stimulating. Who knows, they might decide to skip the bridge that night. Or you might initiate a "great debate" over recent films you have seen. If this works you can suggest that you all see a new film and discuss it at your next get-together. The same can be done for books, fashions, politics, etc. Don't push your effort through nagging, be subtle and you'll win your game.

Everybody seems to be grumbling about something these days. If it isn't inflation and rising prices it's Watergate or something wrong with politics in our own country. I hardly ever see people smile any more. They all seem so worried, as if the bottom has dropped out of their world. Anyone who lived through the Depression, as I did, knows that things could be worse. We made the best of it and tried to help each other. People seemed more cheerful then, even though we had so little. I am tired of all the complaints and of people who want things handed to them on a silver platter. Silver tarnishes but character doesn't. So tell your readers that their problems will vanish if they just square their shoulders and put a smile on their faces. Every generation has had its troubles and we can rise above ours if we try.

Mrs. Mary Hill

Dear Mrs. Hill

I can only agree with what you say, although it is true that our own problems always seem greater to us than to the next person. Somewhere I read "It is one of the beautiful compensations of life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself." How true.

Slade-McLaughlin

At a double ring ceremony, Donna Paulette Slade, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Slade, 1160 Sylvania Dr., became the bride of Richard John McLaughlin, son of Mr. and Mrs. John McLaughlin, of Burlington.

Father Joseph Franz conducted the afternoon ceremony, held at St. Catherine's of Siena Catholic Church, Hurontario St., June 8.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a white gown with lace insertion sides, giving it a pinafore effect, and a fingertip veil. She carried a bouquet of daisies, yellow sweetheart roses, and baby's breath.

Maid of honour was Carol Ashton, friend of the bride. She wore a yellow gown, yellow hat, and carried a bouquet of daisies.

Bridesmaids included Denise McLaughlin, sister of the groom, Kim Geisel, a friend of the bride, and Anne Martin, also a friend of the bride.

They wore dresses similar to the maid of honour's. Junior bridesmaids were Michele and Janine Robertson, cousins of the bride.

Best man was Greg Oswald, of Newmarket, a friend of the groom. Al Commanda, Brian Angle, friends of the groom, and Barry Slade, brother of the bride, were ushers.

The couple had a one week honeymoon in Freeport, Bahamas. The groom, a Mississauga resident, is a policeman with the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force.

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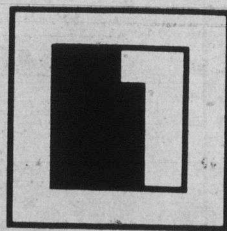
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