

# Spring Styles in Silhouette and Fabrics

The past few months have been a time of watchful waiting on the part of students of fashion. The great question—shall we have a new silhouette?—has been answered a dozen different ways. Some designers say we shall, and have gone so far as to contribute sketches of the new woman of the new era. We looked and read dubiously at the longer and perceptibly smaller waist-line; the full effect over the hips and the flatness in the back and in the front. This sounds very plausible, and is a hypothesis for countless deceptions, except for those vertical lines in the back and front of the skirt. They are very well to consider for the slender figure, but when one just isn't vertical anywhere, the well laid plans of our dressmakers make come to grief. However, so far there is no radical change in the figure's outline, though there is no telling where the whims of the experts may land us before the summer is over. It is perhaps worth while to consider that other ways have had their effect upon styles but gradually, with no sudden difference in the mode, simply a slow drifting over a period of several seasons into a culmination of a new fashion.

After all, does a silhouette really matter? Women have become independent along other lines, and when we stop and take a look at the varied periods we see sponsored on the smartest dresses, it does look as if they were no longer slaves to their modiste's dictation. We see simultaneously on the newest and most dashing costumes any one of three styles of waist, high, low, and the new "near-waist" waist. We have skirts pleated, skirts short and skimp, skirts long and slit for ease in walking. We have long, tight sleeves, flowing sleeves and short fitted sleeves. Variety is the word, yet it spells style as expressed by individuality.

Woolen fabrics which are the most popular for early spring suits are: duvetyn, tricotine, gabardine, light weight broadcloth and the ubiquitous serge. Black, blue, gray, and combinations of blue and brown, black and tan, and gray and navy are seen in the popular coat dresses. Braiding is extremely popular again and is carried out in silk and wool combinations, with heavy stitching and beads.

Taffeta is, of course, the silken favorite of the moment, and is used almost to the exclusion of tulle and which was such a rage last season. Satin seconds taffeta for the new afternoon frocks and quite a number of printed georgettes and chiffons are being shown for afternoon wear. Tricot is of course, irreproachable, but it is so frightfully expensive that it may only be whispered about or used sparingly in connection with less grand materials.

There has been a great fear that our designers would not permit us to wear capes again this season. But our minds were relieved with the earliest showing, and since we have seen many variations of this most graceful and useful of wraps. They are not quite so full as those of last year; in fact they are not unlike the dolmans our grandmothers wore, pulled in at the hem and squared off as to sleeves. Others are glorified coats, with very wide sleeves and the new loose effect about the waist which is very distinctive. Scarf collars of the material bordered at the ends with fringe are seen on some of the satin and tricotine capes.

Utility coats are made in serge, silver-tone, tweed and novelty fabrics. Satin sleeves or raglan styles are equally good, and on most of the motor coats we have patch pockets and wide belts.

As has been proved times without number, the Canadian woman will never give up her tailored suit, which she has always preferred but for which she in war times substituted the more practical one-piece dress and top coat. Suits for her most part are made on simple lines, following a general slim idea, and trimmed with buttons or braiding. The coats vary in length, but the two most popular styles are the new box jacket and the straight coat of finger-tip length. Some suits have no collars at all, and no fastenings, merely a separate waist-coat of plume, silk or linen which is basted in and has a belt of the suit material tied across it. Others have a new wide shawl collar which forms pockets at the bottom of the coat, and still others cling to the mannish notched

collar and a slightly flaring hem. Skirts tend to become fullness about the hips, and hug the ankles closely, giving a mere suggestion of the barrel silhouette which was in vogue a few seasons back.

One very smart suit seen on the avenue was of navy blue serge with a hip length jacket which opened over a belted waistcoat blouse of cream linen crash trimmed with crocheted buttons and edged with Irish picot. The three-quarter sleeves were semi-daring and the tight linen cuff of the blouse coming down over the wrists gave a jaunty air to the costume.

The question of blouses always seconds the motion of the tailored suit. Georgette is being made up into waists of brilliant colorings, and combining the most unheard-of materials. For instance, a poplin affair of sheersilk georgette crepe was trimmed with dainties on the collar and sleeves of white batiste. Another model of leaf green printed chiffon had a deep roll collar of handkerchief linen bound in green tulle. These are simply sketches of what we have come to. But by far the smartest blouses for summer wear are those of finest batiste, made entirely by hand, and trimmed with hemstitching or inserts of Valenciennes lace. Net blouses are embellished with lace, pleatings and insertion, even to the sleeves. These are fresh looking for the first wearing, but they do not launder satisfactorily, and unless one has an unlimited supply they are not a happy investment.

Among the prettiest and most pleasing purchases one can make in the way of morning frocks are those of the new English prints. This quaint fabric has supplanted ginghams and percales to a large extent, and there are some unusual designs in solid blue, heliotrope, yellow and rose which will be popular for tub-dresses. The designs are small and not unlike the calicoes we used to know except that they possess an indefinable charm which cannot be duplicated.

A few descriptions are given herewith of afternoon frocks, which may be of help to the girl who is clever enough to evolve her wardrobe from leftovers combined with new materials.

A narrow skirt of navy blue net ruffles is topped by a bodice of dark blue satin which has a waistcoat of lighter blue brocade, and a round collar of embroidery edged with ecru lace.

Rose colored voile forms the nucleus of a charming dress, the skirt of which is made with four large tucks which are hand hemstitched. The coat-like tunic is trimmed with collar and pockets of Irish lace dyed to match the voile. A clever touch is given the whole by a narrow sash of Nattier blue ribbon which is knotted loosely at one side.

Evening gowns, real, honest-to-goodness ones, are coming into their glorious own again. Every imaginable color is being shown, from flaming red to shimmering black satin embroidered in metal flowers. Often there are weird combinations which create an effect of ancient Egypt by their gorgeousness. Metal cloth continues to be quite a vogue, and it is oft-times embroidered in very large Chinese or Oriental motifs. Skirts of this material have tucks of vivid hued georgette gathered into a fitted band at the hips. This gives a cylindrical turn to the figure, and is used more for evening frocks than in daytime ones. It is another of the new silhouette angles, if it can be said to resemble an angle at all. It is quite trying, not to say bizarre, and there are those for whom it will provide a happy vehicle, and those to whom it will bring disaster. Returning to materials, we are to see a lot of more in pastel colors made up rather plainly in loose effects and oftentimes not with a panel back terminating in a train. This attractive fabric does not lend itself to draping with as much grace as some of the softer materials, but it has a shimmer and dignity which is very charming. Gold and silver lace combined with malines, or tulle is made up into informal party frocks. Prettiest of all, however, are the unpretentious summer dresses whose simplicity sometimes belie the price on the ticket, but for which there is no real substitute when it comes to that effect of pristine freshness which is the most delightful attribute of a woman at any time.



## Spring Footwear

This is the time for NEW SHOES. What a relief it is to throw off the old rubbers and step into a brand new pair of shoes. Why wait until Easter to don your new Spring Shoes?

The different stores are now in full blossom of early Spring fashion; everywhere is newness, and newness and beauty is the part this store is to take in the season's shoe showing.

We are sole agents for the INVICTUS and EMPRESS SHOES.

### GRAY'S SHOE STORE

397 Main St.

## Easter Apparel From Our Women's Shop

A new fashion season, ushered in with the full glory of our first peace-time Spring, is before us. The world-mood is reflected in its modes and gaiety, tempered always by good taste is the keynote sounded.

### SPRING COATS

Beautiful All-Wool Vels in such popular shades as Peacock Blue, Sand, Brown and others. Fawn Covert Cloth Coats and Donegal Tweeds are always in demand as well as Navy Poplins, Serges and Cheviots. **\$17.85 upwards.**

### CAPES AND DOLMANS

Elegant interpretations of the Cape and Dolman Fashions are expressed in Wool Tricotine, Men's Wear Serge, fine Gabardine and novelties in Navy and rare colorings. **\$30.00 upwards.**

### SUITS

Unusual models of refinement, emphasizing interpretations of the blouse back, box coat, tailor-made, the fitted and waistcoat modes for Spring; pin tucks, the newest style note, are used in many very unusual ways. The materials are Poiret Twill, Wool Tricotine, Gabardine, Men's Wear Serge. Prices **\$32.50 upwards.**

OAK HALL Scovil Bros., Ltd.  
KING STREET



## EATON'S DISPLAY OF EASTER FOOTWEAR

A truly wonderful style show. Well dressed women have now decided what they will wear this season, and Shoes will be an important consideration. From every section of the country there is a remarkable demand for Women's Attractive High-grade Shoes.

Many months ago we realized that this demand was coming, and aided by our connection with the most distinctive houses of America creating fashions, we planned our 1919 Spring opening.

It will be well for the women of fashion to bear in mind that we offer an exceptional opportunity for viewing the following creations, as we are now in a position to offer you the season's newest and most attractive footwear.

It is interesting to note that the woman who prefers boots can gratify her fancy and be in style, as according to Dame Fashion smartly made Lace Boots in colors and combinations and whites will be worn extensively, while the woman who prefers Low Shoes can wear them also, knowing that she is fashionably shod. Madeira Brown and Mahogany Russia Calf, Madeira Brown Kid and White Kid or Buckskin Oxfords with medium heels will be popular for street wear, while Grey Suede and Kid, Black and Brown Patent Leather and Plain Black Oxfords with French heels will be in demand for dress.

Brighton Pumps and Seamless Pumps with turn soles, French heels and long, graceful ramps will be worn with the light Summer gowns.

We invite your inspection of these new Spring Models which will appeal to the most exacting customer.

The Home of Better Footwear For Less Money.

### Eaton's Bootery

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