



# F A S H I O N



Once there were no Canadian fashions, only Canadian clothes—warm and serviceable but not exactly the thing. But today buyers from around the world attend Montreal's spring and fall prêt-à-porter exhibitions. (They are held just before the ones in Paris and produced by Maclean-Hunter's *Style* magazine, the oracle of the rag trade in

Canada.) Highlighting each exhibition is the trend show of twelve-dozen garments. Twenty senior designers each display the six garments that best indicate the look, the colours and the character of their new lines. Twelve associates—still without their own labels—each send two garments down the runway.

The trend shows are produced for the Montreal exhibition by the Fashion Designers Association of Canada. The fashion industry employs more than 120,000 workers in 2,300 plants. It is assisted by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Fashion Canada administers a fashion-design program for the department that includes scholarships, training programs, internships, awards and workshops.

**John Warden**, chosen as Canada's top designer by US fashion writers, has something for all. In addition to his designs for women and children, he produces a special men's and women's line for Baron Leathers, Inc., coordinating lamb suedes and plongée leather with wool tweeds, silks and wide-wale corduroys. Caps, hats and scarves are all dyed to match and blend with the leather. Take note: the blazers are slightly pegged at the wrist so that the sleeves can be pushed up.

*For spring, Canadian designers are discarding the layered look, the peasant look and the big dress look. There is a new, slim line. Pants are so straight, they are slightly pegged; sleeves are set in and detailed; skirts are close to the body. One fashion expert describes it as "Greta Garbo walking through the door."*

**Claire Haddad**, winner of many awards, including the Coty, is the first loungewear designer in Canada to stretch out into the US market. She turns jerseys and voiles, embroidery and silks, laces and malibu into caftans and coordinated separates. She has oriental styling and a design for every feminine mood. Haddad clothes (page one) go to parties or stay at home (but seldom alone).

**Peter Skibinsky** has three lines of women's coats, all chic. This year's look is clean with shoulders extended. The colours are pastel—especially grey.

**Leo Chevalier** received a standing ovation when he showed his first major fur collection in New York this spring. (He has, for years, designed almost everything else a woman might want

to wear, from Air Canada uniforms to elegant, soft dresses.) Chevalier furs (page twelve) are classic: understated, with square, broad shoulders, a silhouette that tapers to the hem, straight sleeves and a complete absence of buckles, buttons or other distractions. The furs, executed by Natural Furs of Montreal, are mostly mink, Swakara, fisher, fox and lynx. They are expected to be a tidy part of US imports this year, exceeding last year's \$10 million figure.

**Vali** cocktail and evening clothes speak for themselves.

**Margaret Godfrey**, who emigrated from Liverpool, is Bagatelle's chief designer. She has presented the North American working girl with drop dead chic. The firm has appropriate

clothes for women from 25 to 40, and last year the US members of that great multitude bought Bagatelles worth \$8 million.

## Suttles and Seawinds

Suttles are fabric scraps. Vicki Lynne Bardon of Nova Scotia converts them into dozens of items—including jewelry rolls (below), quilts, placemats and

