

SPRING GOWNS DEPART FROM STRAIGHT LINE

Spirit of Season Rejected
in Break From Old
Silhouettes.

BY HENRI BENDEL

For NEA Service
NEW YORK, March 21.—The lines of new spring evening gowns are as fresh and fluttering as the season's zephyrs.

The solidity and regularity of the straight line silhouette seems a very dead thing right now. All the new fashions break the straight lines to bits. If I were asked to name the most interesting point of new evening styles, I think I should say the killing of the straight line continuity.

Winter deserves honorable mention in this matter. For the poufs and bows and bustles tactfully prepared the way for the present tendency to diagonal lines, slanting tiered effects and hemlines that just can not seem to accept the even tenor as their mode of life.

Spring materials are particularly dainty for evening wear. Flowered freshness comes to us in printed satin and chiffons. The swish and sheen of moire adds a sophisticated quality to any party. And taffetas come in luscious shades—all of them soft like the off-whites, the honey beiges, the moonlight greens and so on.

Three Divergent Interpretations

I show today three divergent interpretations of just how fashion has the upper hand in this matter of breaking up the straight lines once and for all.

MODERN woman's environment has caught up with her personality! Milady of 1928 may now have her entire home done in a modernistic style in keeping with her own spirit.

Take, specifically, the boudoir. In the charming modern manner, that very personal room can be decorated in entirety in the same gray-round sleekness of Milady herself.

Low, comfortable chairs are a single sweep in one-piece of lustrous wood and dressing tables are compact with just enough knee-space underneath for her silken form.

Milady's Boudoir of Graceful Day-Bed, Low Easy Chair, Typify Her Modernism



(Models by Lord and Taylor)
For the modern boudoir: (above) Compact dressing table in ebony and ivory with four compartments and underslung chairs upholstered in new Rodier fabrics in ivory, black and orchid tones; (below) A low daybed is a single sweep of grace in Macassar-ebony, with quilted rose taffeta coverlet and four pillows; the mirror is silver edged, crystal flower lights are wall motifs; a low chair matches the bed and soft, serene rugs are in patterned gray lambskin.

Today. They are gloriously contemporary, expressing modern life—its spirit, experience, needs.

Done are the massive, heavily carved chests of drawers—the hope-chests of another world. Milady no longer needs room for multitudinous starched muslin petticoats. Her silken undies fit into one-tenth the drawer space. Everything caters to the slenderized silhouette rather than the stiff crinoline of other year.

Mouldings and baseboards are omitted in these new rooms—to give more upbroken height. Door-jams have set-backs, done in de-grade tones, to eliminate all shock. Ceilings, floors, all woodwork and furnishings are integral parts in color and design of a whole plan.

Silvered Wood Used

Pale green is the tone of one delectable boudoir. One lovely modernistic portrait hangs on the wall. Silvered wood, as soft and lustrous looking as gleaming satin, fashions the day-bed, chairs, dressing table and long mirror.

Frosted glass lamps are hidden like wall decorations above the bed and mirror. Upholstering is apricot quilted satin and rugs soft hand-tufted gray.

With more color but the same serene peace and beauty one room, done by the famous French designers Sue at Mare, uses macassar-ebony for its furniture, brocaded silver for its walls, quilted rose taffeta for its coverlet and four pillows and silver-tone lambskin for its rug and foot-cushion.

Low, Easy Chairs Popular

Day-bed curve to grace in lovely inlaid woods, their bases contributing beauty and their covers simple elegance itself. Rugs, walls, coverlets, chair upholstering are luxuriously, serenely exquisite in soft color and fabric.

Furniture and furnishings, as a matter of fact, have lagged in this matter of conforming to the new idea of woman. Miss Modern has become legend in the way her changing character has revolutionized clothes so they will give her more freedom, made hats small enough to fit her silken locks, fashions the day-bed, chairs, dressing table and long mirror.

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The third establishes all over again the chic of black for evening—especially when it is svelte, delicate, transparent velvet.

Black Velvet's Elegance

I have remarked before but would like to emphasize the insistence of evening modes on a more elegant formality. Black velvet has this intrinsically. And when the lines have flowing grace it is doubled.

Here I have applied the shirred flounce to the swallow-tail hemline. And for diversity, this hem is curved and notched to show the apple green satin lining. The neckline and sleeveless armholes are likewise bound with green which shows over and anon as Milady wears, giving a fresh note to the gown.

NEW SWEATERS FOR CHILD ATTRACTIVE

Children's sweaters are to be seen in new models that have attractive designs for the borders and in the collars and cuffs. In those for smaller children these designs are taken from nursery rhymes and have different characters portrayed in various color schemes. In the two-year-old sizes, the sweaters have just a single figure worked out by hand in soft sanguine on the front. Special attention has been paid to the neck treatments, some being finished in student fashion, some with "V's," others with square necks with a turn-back collar, and others with the regulation turtle neck. Some are made to fasten at the side with a row of pearl buttons, and others slip on over the head.

The chair in front of it is upholstered in exquisite deep-ply velvet, of a creamy tone like the maple, and others slip on over the head.



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ODD EXTRAS IN FURNITURE CAN BRIGHTEN HOME

Cheery Unusual Bits May Have Some Effect as New Hat

NEW YORK, March 21.—The call to spring decoration soon will sound, and novel new pieces of furniture offer themselves as an answer to it.

Acquiring a new lamp, table, chair, rug, picture of any colorful decorative home accessory is quite like putting on a new hat when one is tired of an old costume.

The new home accessory, like the hat, has a remarkable psychological effect upon the home-maker, as well as upon other members of the family. It may spur mother onto making chintz slip-covers for some of the chairs that are not all they once were, or encourage sister to make a few gay pillows to liven up a corner that is cozily dark in winter but needs a vivid note for spring.

Try Some Unusual Object

There are no bounds to what one may purchase as the extra offering to the spirit of spring. But the extra is more likely to be a success if it is some unusual object—not just a chair, davenport or other large piece that must fit in with everything else before it is convincingly all right in the room.

On the market today are some vastly interesting, amusing and highly decorative odd accessories for the living room that carry no responsibility with them, for they look cheerily all right with everything.

Why not try a gaudy waste basket by the side of the staid desk? Or a gay magazine box that can be moved to this chair or that or out onto the veranda, always carrying cheer with it? If a larger piece can be afforded, one of the reproductions of old Italian furniture may be just the thing.

Beauty From Europe

Italy and France are sending us some beautiful extras that strike the right note for spring decoration. They are peasant art objects and carry with them the same colorful atmosphere that all European peasant life exudes.

New and unusual is a French newspaper and magazine stand in vivid red and white zig-zag stripes with no less than a picnic under the shade of a big tree for the decorative motif on its front. The green of the grass and tree, the yellow.

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Choice of our entire stock of cuff links, bar pins, watch fobs, lockets, scarf pins and lavallieres, regardless of former price

pink, red, blue and white of the costumes are little holiday figures as are cheery decorative and pleasing.

Scorning a round or square shape, a large sized-waste basket is oval. This has a brilliant gold lining and its black border is outlined in gold. Quite regal, also is the old French court scene that marches clear around the basket in gorgeous color.

One wishes to go in for color, a Venetian peasant chest is just the thing. These are apt to be anywhere from a cream to an orange yellow and their decorations picture the loveliest of lowly field flowers in gorgeous full bloom.

Most popular of this type is the chest of drawers pictured. It is narrow enough to fit any apartment but roomy enough to hold all kinds of things.

The addition of just one piece

may seem a little thing. But after

all, as a gay flower dresses up a suit, so just one bit of new household accessory this year is likely to add its full quota of animation to the home that may need just that touch to make it perfect.

Chiffons, Laces, Vie

Flowered chiffons and laces are rivals for favor in the mode for summer, the former which had a pronounced success last season, coming back now in greater variety of design and in enchanting colors. In these both large and small patterns are good. All of them are softly graceful and feminine in tone.

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