Let Us Swing Into Spring!

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Let Us
Swing Into Spring!

Suggestions by Sally

BEAUTY may be only skin deep and clothes may not make the woman, but Sally surely won't let those old and worthy adages keep her from trying her "extra hardest to look her special best" this spring—at least that is what she told me in one of those intimate interviews of hers she rarely grants.

"Just sit back in your easy chair and make yourself comfortable and I'll give you my fashion digest for the Iowa State Coed," she ordered, because Sally is at heart a gracious creature, interested in others.

"To begin at the top," Sally smiled and went on, "hats swoop down to shade the eyes, and they are adorned with jaunty bows, tucks, impertinent feathers. Sailors with printed brims, with straw braid, with belting; sailors with taffeta plaid crowns, or striped pique or hand loom linen are indispensable because they go so well with suits.

"Flowers have a way of appearing in unexpected ways on new spring clothes. Huge flowers made of self fabric to match or to contrast with the color of the dress are cropping out at the neckline or on the side of the belt. Flower boutonniers grow at the front of the classic shirt sweater.

"And best yet—flowers top off hats in that funny way they used to in grandmother's day: in singles, clumps, bunches or what have you."

Sally leaned forward at this point and smiled happily, so that the corners of her brown eyes crinkled. "And now we've come to the really truly IM-

PORTANT part of the spring outfit . . . suits. There are lots of adaptations. The new suits have two jackets to the skirt, or vice versa, two skirts to the jacket. One, either the skirt or the jacket, is sure to be plaid, not just a plain plaid but a big bold plaid that does things for you. The umbrella skirts are gored. Probably old lady fashion got the idea from those winter formals whose motto was "minimum waist and maximum skirt" for the umbrella skirts open up in a full parasol manner that is most intriguing.

"Jackets are at their peak. They may closely resemble the plain mannish suit coat or they may be short, collarless, reverless and simply cut and buttoned. The shoulders should be trimmed like those of a West Point Cadet.

"Suits that are more dressy have square but unexaggerated shoulders and high flat closings. They are collarless and colors suggest such romantic things as England and the king. These suits are found in Windsor blue, coronation blue, beige, thistle, dusty rose and the balmoral plaid, the last because it has been a favorite of both the abdicator and his brother.

"Suggestions for suits with contrasting colors are: pink and navy, pink and petunia, black and fog blue, lime green and black or coronation red and navy. If you want to create a pencil slim silhouette, try a longer mannish jacket with a slim skirt made of tweed or men's worsted.

"But the collegian is more apt to want fitted short jackets buttoning high to short notched collars with emphasis on curved seams, curved, slashed, and very high pockets, and a flared skirt."

And then, Sally divulged exciting tips for evening wear. She mentioned the glorious wraps of coronation velvets, blue crimson or purple. A full, circular (perhaps a complete circle) and gathered spring formal skirt of Hawaiian prints in all colors, large and small, would really swing to the catching notes of the college dance orchestras. The waist is tiny with peasant notes topping the swing skirt. Those youthful fitted bolero jackets in brilliant colors over the finely printed swing spring formals make an evening distinctive.

"And speaking of prints," Sally continued, "swinging along the streets in the afternoon in May with taffeta, or cotton flooded with coronation prints of the unicorn, bleeding hearts, eups, coronations and plumes.

"Leaves are budding out with the spring as design themes. They are appliqued or folded in outlines in delicate organzies against self backgrounds on neckwear. Scarfs work such patterns in jacquardings and damasks. A few jewelry novelties introduce leaf etchings. There are even leaf clasps on handbags.

"Overblouses are cut so short that they just cover the top of skirts—and a new type of blouse has been designed which combines the best features of tuckins and overblouses, being made to tuck into the skirt in back while little pocket flaps or waist coat points extend over the skirt in front.

"Jeeper and Jigger Coats! Have you heard of them?" Sally exclaimed excitedly, and because I sadly shook my head (how was I to know anything embroiled as I was in the abyss of chemistry, psychology and biology) she went on to explain, "Jeeper coats might be called dame fashion's special gift to the college girl. They are the classic two-thirds length coat of plain angora, and they go with just anything. They can be worn for dress, sport or on the campus—in fact they can fit in anywhere and you'll be taking them everywhere. The Jigger coat makes nice wearing. It is buttonless, hangs twenty-eight inches to the finger tips and

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makes a successful third member of any suit combination.

“As for coats themselves, the back is the center of the show. It is full of tricks, gores, and panels. For the rest, coachman pockets, or stitched or quilted pockets . . . or just pockets . . . make the coat different.

That graceful coat which floated backwards when the wearer moved was too good to give up. Only now these swaggerers are being made on the bias or with multi-gores.

“Every spring cluster ideas revive in jewelry. This spring wooden clusters are worn. Odd shapes such as matchstick effects, tiny cubes suggesting dice or tiny ball beads are combined in novelty effects that are almost always in multi-colors.

“One of the smartest sweater propositions for spring is the classic sweater daintily embroidered with flower clusters. The sweaters are in pastel shades and are made preferably of angora or soft wool.

“Jacket ensembles will get first place in the Easter parade. These include one-piece frocks with woolen jackets, or separate redingotes with printed frocks.

“Square heels, square toes, simple stitching make up the design of spring shoes. Some of the toes are rounded and some of the heels are hollowed. And best of all, subdived but nevertheless colored shoes are worn everywhere—for sport, for dress, and for afternoon wear. Hose are not to be outdone by the shoes and are found in good looking British tan and even red shades.

“Your dress should be printed—a small neat print featuring coy or romantic or fantastic symbols. Or if it must be in plain colors, there is the new basket weave silk that looks like closely-woven burlap, and there are silk rayons woven to resemble shantung.

“Stitching decorates antelope gloves, which put the finishing touch on the outfit.

“Well,” sighed Sally, “here’s a summary of new fashion twists:

Light woolen dresses

One piece frocks in thin wool with matching jackets
Monotone frocks with printed accents
Skirt lengths slightly shorter being 13 to 14 inches from the floor
Shoulders that are smoother
Skirts pleated, gored, shirred or then again slim and trim
Suits, frocks and ensembles with accent on that tailored quality that is still distinctively feminine
Necklines definitely lower—in V, square, and boat outlines
Peasant influences strong in afternoon dresses.”

All of a sudden Sally stopped, cocked her eyebrow and took a good look at me. “Hum, have you been working pretty hard, haven’t you?” I didn’t deny it. “Well,” said Sally determinedly, “listen to this little poem, with its subtle hint at good grooming and up-to-dateness. It was in my nursery rhyme book years ago; I’m surprised you haven’t heard it before . . . you and those other Iowa State coeds . . .

“There was a young coed and what do you think! She lived upon nothing but text books and ink.

Text books and ink were the chief of her diet—

No wonder her week ends were so VERY quiet.”

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Color Passports to Spring

By Gaynold Carroll

“BEAUTY that dims the moon,” and hues that beg to be used in twos and threes are characteristic of the novelty colors in unusual casts that have been introduced in the color calendar this spring. The color pendulum swings with the season and gives you what it takes to catch that new feeling—"new" with a tinge of smartness and freshness.

The prelude passes! A salute to the new spring colors is in order. Your color passports to spring are:

Molyneux’s “Gauguin Pink”—an intense cyclamen
Vionnet’s “Ochre to zinnia”—and “Reddish—Violet”
Paton’s “Rose de France”—soft candy pink
“OmbreBleu”—a dark linen blue
“Bleu Romance”—a pastel tint of blue
Schiaparelli’s “Seine Sunset” and “Seine Sunrise”—purply pink and red in the cyclamen gamut
Louiseboucher’s choice—greens to add variety; accent on resea; light jade
Paquin’s deep navy and royal blues
Erik’s coral red and vivid French flag blue
Creed’s yellow beige resembling molasses candy
Beige is the natural color for spring. Wear it with brown accessories and very smart; wear it with black for high style; and wear it with the new vivid print dresses with a dashing hat.

The newest in colors for the "soft little suit" that has been causing a quiet furor ever since Schiaparelli spotlighted "little suits" are pomegranate red, poster blue, lichen green, or beiges—natural or tawny. A heavenly new shade is toky—a pinkish wine that casts a rosy glow over you.

Like lightly fired clay baked in the oven—like color borrowed from a primitive palette—the orange-red pigment of the newest color "red earth" takes perfectly to fabric. Wear it with blue, brown, or black. Tis a warm promise of spring.

For sports wear the following are recommended: purple blue, gold, leaf green, and rose quartz.

Plan:

—a ginger brown coat over a green dress with tango red sleeves;
—monotone grey with Argentine copper crocodile accessories and one touch of bright color as Paris does.

Wear:

—a nasturtium suede jacket over a slate blue tweed skirt;
—a suede gilet in parlor pink with a mauve tweed suit;
—a mauve suede scarf, hand-sewn in pink with a mauve and pink suit and short mauve hand-sewn gloves;
—a nasturtium hat, dark green jacket, natural tweed skirt, and one of your favorite angora sweaters dyed to match;
—brown buckskin gloves stitched in beige with your country tweeds; purple; green; red and white in a print.

Combine:

—chartreuse; plum-brown; claret color and dark green with a touch of russet; yellow and flame red and a clear turquoise;
—vivid green with delft blue; mustard with black.

Try:

—brick red lace over a delphinium blue taffeta slip; beige over pink;
—delphinium blue over pale blue;
—a new blue-smoke, windsor, coronation, or postman blue.