1945

Vicky Anticipates a Social Season

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Recommended Citation
Riglin, Rosalie (1945) "Vicky Anticipates a Social Season," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 25 : No. 4 , Article 5.
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol25/iss4/5

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WITH the promise of the gayest social season in five years, Vicky is eagerly anticipating her holiday wardrobe. She's finding a new voluminous air about clothes this year, achieved with rounded shoulders, nipped-in waists and gathered skirts.

Colors are bright and clear, seeming to reflect man's hope of a bright, new world. The new atomic blue and the wine shades of red—claret red and vintage wine—are among the most vibrant.

Even the ever-popular black dress has answered the call to colors with such enticing combinations as fuschia and shocking pink swags over one shoulder, an atomic blue yoke, or sleeves of cinnamon, the cinnamon colored brown which Vicky feels adds just the right spicy touch to her basic black.

An elegance from the romantic era of Viennese waltzes is reflected in the sparkling bead work on simple dark dresses. It catches Vicky's eye now and will later capture the eye of her escort on a semi-lighted dance floor. Sleeves are still cap style in these dresses but they've literally taken wings in the suits and tailored woolens with the return of the deep cut dolman arnhole.

Vicky has decided that a soft suit to take her through the stage and concert season will be a good choice, especially if it is the basque type. She likes its rounded yoke, high neck, full sleeves fitted at the wrist and snugly buttoned jacket with a skirt that seems to gush out from the waist. A bright blue jacket with gold buttons such as Dutch boys once wore skating on the canals in Holland is exciting enough for a best suit.

Her second love was a suit with a flair of a peplum giving graceful fullness to a sleekly fitted jacket. No ordinary gathered on peplum this, but one set into the jacket with a pleat in the center. Made of black faille, the suit has a dropped shoulder yoke and scalloped pocket edges that mark it as part of the trend toward romantic clothes.

The one-button jacket means an opportunity to display a blouse, so Vicky chooses one of white crepe. Its softly gathered neckline and small knotted tie spell femininity plus.

Thankful that she bought her jersey dress in a soft gray last year instead of the bright green she'd considered, Vicky plans to give its classic simplicity a new twist with a leopard belt and a gold choker of closely woven mesh. By varying these accessories with the coin belt brought her by a friend in Europe, Vicky plans to get twice as much wear from her last year's favorites.

A new winter coat receives much consideration and thought from Vicky. Does she need a dress coat only, or one that will go everywhere? If it's the latter, she'll choose the superlative short coat that goes countryward, campusward and citywise with lots of dash. It has magnificent built-out shoulders that lend a lissome look to its waist and hips.

Lucky Vicky, if she gets to buy a dress coat, for she'll feel just like a princess in a picture book in a fitted black coat with a tiny ermine collar and muff to match. Since the collar is removable, she has a basic black coat for the career days ahead.

When Vicky says "I want Champagne for Christmas," she refers to a champagne colored formal. The satin and net gowns with bouffant skirts and low decolletage call forth memories of soft candlelight and music.

Rivalling even gay holiday music are the blended colors of a crisp plaid taffeta formal which Vicky saves for only the most dazzling occasions. The strapless basque waist is sleek and tight fitting, and the full skirt billows out over her hips.

Innocence and sophistication entwine in a black taffeta formal which rustles in tune to either jive or dreamy waltzes. Pink roses nestle in frothy net shoulder puffs, making the only color note against the raven-black.

Flat shoes hewn to the foot and close to the ground attract Vicky. She likes the light-as-a feather feeling of wearing them and the open look of the velvet black suede straps. Though tall girls adopted them as the answer to a prayer, short girls too are declaring them tops on the shoe hit parade for the neat, small look they give.

Smooth from tip to toe is Vicky's motto for happy holidays, so she's searched out a hat to complete her costume. It's close-fitting, head hugging, emblazoned with sequins and beading to harmonize with her colored dresses and enliven her somber ones. If she decides on two, second choice will be a tam typical of the Scotch Highlanders. A large sunburst pin or coat of arms clip decorate the band. It's simple, but oh so smart.

by Rosalie Riglin