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Woman's World

Fashion Notes

London's top ready-to-wear fashion houses figure on curves and slimming waistlines for autumn. Jackets curve in. Skirts flare or are swing-pleated. Day and cocktail dresses have dropped waists beneath bloused bodices.

* * *

Lacy wools are super-smart for autumn and winter. Suits and coats of bulky-looking, but light-weight wools that have an open, lacy texture are top fashion, and they are cut into beautiful shapes.

Dresses, too, take open-textured wools with grace and ease. They are firm, usually lined to keep them from scratching, and they can be cut into straight or flared shapes. These lacy wools are always in heavenly colours, which is one of their big talking points.

* * *

Designers are competing for the handsomest brocades and metallics for the winter's crop of evening gowns. Some are crisp for stand-alone gowns; others are slinky as crepe, and made into dresses as slim as if they were beaded.

The giant flower pattern decorates many of the metallics this year. White satin background takes silver and gold roses in oversize versions; sprays of flowers and leaves in many colours are contrasted or matched to backgrounds.

More about "Flexalene"

"Flexalene", the new iron-on interlining from Switzerland, is going to play an important part in helping women who make their own clothes to create the new Paris line in their own work.

"Flexalene" is firm, yet supple, ideal for shaping and stiffening all types of fabrics; it will not buckle or wrinkle, and can be washed, dry-cleaned or even boiled, without loss of efficiency. It is quick and simple to use and needs no sewing. Just place the "Flexalene" on the materials with the adhesive side contacting the reverse of the material. Press firmly with a moderately hot iron until "Flexalene" has bonded with the fabric, regulating the temperature of the iron to suit the fabric being used — delicate fabrics need a cooler iron and slightly increased pressure. This season skirts are news, particularly the eased-out look with gently flaring hemline favoured particularly by Dior — simple iron on "Flexalene" in panels to give the necessary fullness and strength so that the skirt will stand alone without the need for a petticoat.

For a narrower skirt, a broad band on "Flexalene" ironed along the hem will give just the right effect.

"Flexalene" is perfect for stiffening and shaping the new winter coats, such as the flaring Redingote styles of Cardin and Dior, or the Princess line of Patou, to give a gentle yet firm silhouette, and for the muffled-up look of Cardin and Grès. It is ideal for giving extra body to the scarf and cape collars, and is the perfect foundation for the rib-hugging line of Dior, ensuring perfect fit and comfort in all fitted bodices, shown by so many leading houses.

Being a woven fabric, it adds strength plus shape to the fabric to which it is bonded and is therefore an ideal foundation for the new wide belts, for adding crispness to little round collars on coats and jackets, and, indeed, in any place where added strength and shape are needed.

It is an exciting new sewing aid, quick and easy to use, created to give a professional look to all home sewing.

"Flexalene" is on sale in shops and stores throughout the country, at the haberdashery counter, price 4/11d. per yard, 15/16" wide.

It happened in Lausanne

A prominent visitor in Lausanne was Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, who stayed there three weeks when her sister gave birth — in a famous Lausanne clinic — to Anna Christina Radziwill, recently baptised in London during President and Mrs. Kennedy's visit to Europe.

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During a tennis tournament between two well-known schools of Lausanne, two famous names were among the players who displayed a great deal of talent: James, son of David Niven, and James, son of Stewart Granger.

* * *

Honeymooning in Lausanne recently were movie actress Ann Miller and her husband, Mr. Cameron. Joan Crawford was there on a business trip.

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