

Haute couture by Bonwit Teller

Natural fabrics layer up

By LORRAINE McCLISH

Soft and easy natural materials in natural colors or muted tones predominated the parade of Bonwit Teller fashions shown to guests when Sisterhood Adat Shalom staged its "Many Faces of Woman" this spring.

Leading designers have always pretty much clung to the 100 per cent cottons, silks or linens, mostly for comfort.

But Beth Sparling, coordinator of the show for Bonwit, added to this by saying, "The natural look is in keeping with today's woman. She is confident enough in herself to have wrinkles in her clothes."

Today's woman will also be wearing



a lot of clothes if she goes along with the layered trend that is doubling up on just about everything she'll wear. Ankle socks are layered over knee socks. Full peasant skirts fall one on top of the other. Sweaters were shown, one on top of another, or over a blouse or a shirt. Scarfs are knotted in pairs.

VESTS ARE worn over anything and everything, even tunics. Shirts and

tunics are all much longer than last season.

Rope belts are wrapped, two or three at a time, around the waist, or around the neck, with seashells being the big new accessory.

Oblong scarfs, loosely woven from natural fabrics, are knotted at the end. Other than the outfits shown for sportswear, there were no other pants for women in the show.

"Dresses are our hottest item," Ms. Sparling said. "We've doubled our sales in dresses this year over last year and we're only in April."

In sport clothes, a great deal of khaki was shown, and most mix and match sets were put together with neutral shades.

For evening wear, Ms. Sparling said, "Pants are a rarity. Skirts are full, falling mostly to mid-calf, only a few reach down to the floor. The blouse is still with us. The key is very feminine. Loose sleeves. Flowing prints. Muted color."

A CONTINENTAL festival and market, an author's lecture, luncheon, and the haute couture fashions by leading designers, marked the sisterhood's donor event for 1978 in the Farmington Hills synagogue.

The event was chaired by Claudia Gold.

"But if you must have pants," she continued, "your best buy is one good pair of cigarette-legged jeans."

The knotted-at-the-ends scarf is made of loosely woven natural fabric and is used as an accessory for all occasions. White sportswear for men is fashioned exclusively from natural cotton.



Fashion calendar

Monday, April 17

Alvin's Week — During an entire week of fashion events Alvin's will celebrate the reopening of its Oakland Mall store in Troy with a series of activities. Today's events will include fashion shows at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., titled "What's new this season." Customers are invited to view the entirely remodeled store, which was designed by Jon Greenberg, recipient of numerous architectural awards for his designs in natural textures and fabrics.

Tuesday, April 18

Saks Swimwear — All the size and sleek under the sun will be featured during Saks' Super Swimwear Show at noon in the second floor Sand & Sea Shop of the downtown store at Second and Lothrop.

Alvin's Week — The Oakland Mall store continues its grand reopening celebration with fashion shows at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. devoted to "Whizzing up your wardrobe with accessories."

Wednesday, April 19

Jacobson's — Leisure wear for pool, party and patio will be informally modeled in the Apparel Shop of the Birmingham store from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Fashion Group, Inc. — The Fashion Group will feature hair fashions plus fashions with slides and live models at the St. Regis Hotel, W. Grand Boulevard at Cass, Detroit. Cocktails at 11:30 a.m., luncheon at noon, and program at 1 p.m. Members and guests inclusive. Luncheon and program are \$8.50 and program only is \$3. For reservations contact Juliette Tibble, 817 Henrietta, Birmingham, 48009.

"Invitation to Spring" — The Auxiliary to the Salvation Army will present an afternoon of luncheon and fashions from Martha's Closet of Grosse Pointe. Program will also feature TV's "Bowling for Dollars" host, Bob Allison, who will provide music and officers of the Army and their wives who will model current uniforms worn by the Army. Program begins at noon. For information and tickets contact Mrs. Robert Craig, chairman, 905 Lone Pine Rd., Bloomfield Hills.

Women's Council of Realtors — The South Oakland County Board Women's Council will present their annual fashion show featuring fashions for men and women by Hale Hawaii of Birmingham. Program begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Michigan Inn, 1600 J.L. Hudson Drive, Southfield. Tickets are \$9.

Thursday, April 20

Jacobson's — Famed beauty expert and author, Adrien Arpel, will appear in the book department of the Home Decorating Shop from noon to 2 p.m. to analyze individual beauty needs and autograph her book, "Adrien Arpel's 3-Week Crash Makeover/Shapeover," Birmingham store.

"Spring is really busting out all over" — The Parent Teacher Organization of Green School will present its annual luncheon and fashion show at the Pine Lake Country Club. Fashions will be presented by the Don Thomas Sports House and the Gum Drop Tree, a children's specialty store. Cocktails at 11:30 a.m. and luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7.50 per person and the presentation is open to the public.

Photos by Cynthia Abatt



Soft linen in soft rose shade is fashioned into the soft and flowing afternoon-to-evening dress. All men's collars are to be turned up at the back this spring.



The layered trend has extended to socks this season, with short sweat socks topping knee socks. All materials in the two sports outfits are of natural materials.

Where It's At

Soap

What is a nice, old-fashioned neighborhood-type store doing in a modern office building like this? It's delighting a lot of customers from all over town. One of the many unusual items you'll find there is the very popular Bouquet De Flores soap, a great-smelling glycerin and coconut oil soap handmade in Spain. Another is "6 Cal," a delicious six-calorie per piece candy in chocolate-flavored caramel, vanilla, or assorted fruit flavors. It's also good to know that the store will laminate your business cards, photos or anything that measures up to 8 1/2 by 11 inches in size, while you wait.

Heritage Gift and Smoke Shop, 21901 Northwestern at Evergreen, Southfield, 356-0688.

Of things past

Several years back, Time-Life put out a wonderful series of books called "This Fabulous Century". It consists of seven volumes, each covering one decade from 1900 to 1970 and is a mixed bag of marvelous photos and prose on such topics as the arts, sports, politics, economy, fads and fashions of that particular period. Still in print and in stock in most bookstores, I like to give "This Fabulous Century" to friends on important birthdays. Whether you give only one volume (the one that covers the year your pal was born) or several, they make unique and meaningful gifts. One decade in a book is \$10.95.

Keeping postered

No two ways about it, colorful framed posters are a super inexpensive way to spruce up the walls of your home or office and the Allen Rubiner Gallery has the best selection in town. Ranging in price from \$45 to \$100, the artists' styles vary from realistic to extremely abstract. You can select from such world-famous artists as Calder, Miro, Vasarely, Mondrian, Dine, Klimt, Jasper Johns, Georgia O'Keefe, Steinberg or Rauschenberg. The whimsical Cyrk series done by various Polish artists (cyrk means "circus" in Polish) are perfect to hang in children's rooms.

Allen Rubiner Gallery, 621 S. Washington, Royal Oak, 544-2828.

A new leaf

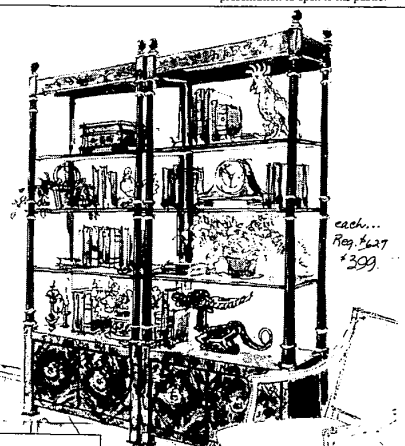
Here's a terrific gift that's bound to give newlyweds a good start. It's a brown vinyl looseleaf notebook (\$26) in which they can record all of their vital statistics now and for years to come. Featuring 109 colorful pages with marvelous graphics, there's a place to put just about everything you can think of, including credit card numbers, family immunization charts, emergency and service numbers, birthdays, anniversaries, appliance serial numbers etcetera, etcetera.

Paper Fashions by Lois, Suite 209, 24901 Northwestern at Evergreen, Southfield, 355-0230.

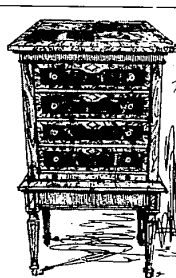
WIGGS CHOICE: 3 Ways to Save on Elegant Accent Pieces...

We made a VERY SPECIAL PURCHASE of these three versatile Accent Pieces! Some are manufacturer's close-outs, some overstocked items, all 3 are beautiful buys! Come see them... you won't be able to resist the elegant style, craftsmanship and prices! Naturally, quantities are limited at these low prices.

Right: Classic Hickman Etagere in cherry, myrtle burl and black columns. Factory overstock allows this excellent piece 36 x 15 x 82 h. Reg. \$627... SALE \$399 each



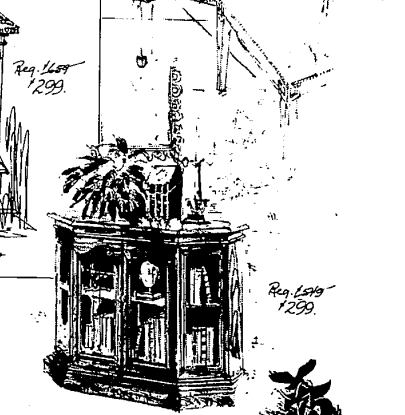
each... Reg. \$627 SALE \$399



Reg. \$549 SALE \$299

Inset: Hibriten Silver Chest... unusual design offers loads of storage in lined drawers. Crafted in pecan wood with burl inlays with pull-out shelf. Every drawer locks. 25 x 16 x 42 1/2 h. Reg. \$659... SALE \$299

Right: Hibriten Curio/Console. Traditional design with glass shelves, glass doors and interior light to display your collectibles. Solid pecan and veneers in brandy hue finish. 42 x 14 x 32 h. Reg. \$549... SALE \$299



Reg. \$549 SALE \$299

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