

NAUTICAL influence is strong in this polyester gabardine pant suit by Country Set. They call it "City Sophisticates."

Sailor To Southern Belle -- A Spectrum Of Styles

Much variety is offered this spring — everything from the square shouldered military look of the sea captain to the soft ruffly look of the Southern Belle.

You can pick and choose.

The Navy got rid of its sailor. collars on sailors but it's doubtful they will ever be eliminated from the fashion scene.

Whenever the ice breaks on the river, nautical sports wear is back in style, some years more so than others.

More so this year. If it's red, white and blue or a nautical print; if it has a sailor collar with a bow in front or a military blazer wear it.

Besides the blazer and pleated skirt, designers are showing two and three piece suits and simple, tailored knee length dresses, all of which flatter the mature figure.

For evening, designers offer ankle length floral, ruffled, halter dresses, oriental costumes and again the blazer, this time with a long skirt.

Women's fashions seem finally to be concentrating on comfort, taste and variety — emphasizing a woman's personality and life style rather than her legs, waist and bosom.

Here is a capsule summary of what's chic for spring.

HATS are a must with the blazer suit. Made of straw, felt or cloth they have large or small turned up brims. Sort of like you used to wear to Sunday school.

HAIR: the length is not as important as the cut. The cut is called the "reverse angle" by a local hairdresser, or the "Femme Fatale" by a hair-do magazine.

It's the type of haircut you'd expect under a Sunday school hat. Unlike the shag, the hair is cut all one length from crown to end, with the longest hair in the back, and curled under like a page boy. The sides are cut in an angle to meet the bangs.

ACCESSORIES: Hoop earrings, gold chain necklaces for tailored fashions. Chunky oriental jewelry for oriental fashions.

FABRICS: Soft, pastel leather for skirts, dresses and coats, polyester for a fresh look in everything. Denim for both sports and office wear. Floral and nautical prints, gingham checks and madras seersucker are popular.

SHOES: Spectator — two tones for day, high heeled sandals or open-toed shoes with 1940's ankle straps for day or evening. Wedgies and platform sandals that look like they were worn by Harrod in Jesus Christ Superstar are in local stores. (Podiatrists have a few bad words to say about what a four-inch heel can do to your leg muscles.)

COATS: Soft leather, brushed denim in double breasted military or belted with ragian sleeves.

The Topper, longer than a jacket but shorter than a coat promises to be around through the summer and into fall. They are available for casual, office or evening wear.

MAKEUP: Natural with a little color. Eyeshadow goes under the eyes as well as above. Eyebrows are back, but plucked thin. Put some color on your lips and cheeks but not too bright.



