

CAPRICIOUS BUT FEMININE

Soiffield writes from Paris:

ONE month has elapsed since the Summer Collections. But in this short time Paris has definitely adopted the ultra-feminine mode. Feminine charm must rule. A slim silhouette, a normal waistline, flowing lines for evening wear . . . a train when you will. Afternoon dresses with flounced skirts and picture hats with flowers in profusion. Long-sticked sunshades will go to the races.

"Truly, this year of grace will vie with the smartest pre-war days, when a walking dress was really a walking dress, but, above all, when an afternoon dress looked like an afternoon dress and compelled a stately salon or brilliant garden party setting.

"Worth, showing his Collection, brought in two mannequins. One wore a model from his 1926 Collection; the other a model from his 1930 Collection. The first looked almost indecent as a straight chemise dress; the other, with its graceful long lines, oversteering and insertions was grace itself.

"The new mode is essentially for the slim. Reducing and beauty parlors will continue to ply their busy trade, that the fashionable may contend with the new clinging lines. Hips remain slim, but Victorian curves will be an advantage.

"A word of advice: If you would be fashionable, be feminine. Nineteen-thirty demands it.

"Sports dresses are following the lengthening line. Some of the latest tennis dresses are cut to give full freedom of movement, while the blousing of the bodice adds comfort. White is the favorite color for tennis. Width in skirts is obtained by insertion of pleatings or circular flares.

"Many of the new ensembles for evening are so made that madame who has been *en visite* during the afternoon need not remove her coat and yet be equally well dressed for both occasions. This, of course, applies to the late afternoon. It is not possible if one's evening dress is to be ultra long. But I have seen some ensembles that have three-quarter-length coats of matching material—the majority are in black—and have flared skirts, flared sleeves and are worn with a small lace cap. A flower over one ear invariably trims the hat, and is repeated on the coat.

"At the *Ritz*, the other evening several women wore long dresses of extreme décolleté, and wore their hats and long gloves when dancing. Very chic they looked, too. The fashion now is to wear your diamond bracelets outside your *gants de ceremonies*. If this mode persists, rings will either have to be made larger to permit of their being worn outside the glove or they will disappear entirely as ornaments for evening!

"Madame la Mode is a capricious soul. I wonder what the next vogue will be?"

Soiffield.



Patou shows here what the smart woman should wear for motoring. A light weight marocain dress with a thoroughly comfortable tweed travel-sports coat; beaver trimmed