

Woman's Observer

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WE may be starting to shake out our winter woollies, but Swiss manufacturers of fashion fabrics Viscosuisse already have some very clear ideas about the style that will make fashion headlines in the spring.

The predominant theme, say Viscosuisse, will be a natural one in terms of colours, textures and design themes.

Uncomplicated styles and pale colours will be the things to aim for.

Fortunately for us the wearers, some of the more startling suggestions will be diluted on the way from the designer houses to the chain stores – otherwise we may spend next year looking like medieval peasants.

"Rustic and craft fabrics, with open weave and irregular knots"

are suggested as appropriate for the fashionable woman.

Add a hemp belt, "primitive" sandals and you're set for the spring of '84.

Happily, it won't look quite like that in the shops.

The natural colours, such as moonstone, oyster and cactus, will be there, and so will the simple, ethnic shapes.

But only the very young or the very daring will be asked to wear the newlook just as it appeared on the drawing board.

For those who prefer something a little more sophisticated, the good news is that the two piece suit – known in the '50s as a "costume" – is back.

The shape for these business suits is very slim and neatly cut, a real contrast to the shapeless sacks described earlier.

Jackets will be either cropped

Whatever

off at the waist or three-quarter length, and in both cases worn with straight skirts which will be very narrow in cut.

"Gloves", say the fashion pundits at Viscosuisse, "will be mandatory". It's a real return to the formal fashions of the fifties.

But there will be a place for glamour next year, even though it is restricted very carefully to the evening.

By day, you may be a rustic peasant or strictly suited business-woman. By night, say Viscosuisse, you'll become "an alluring, man-eating, siren-like, eternal female".

This is strong stuff from a respectable Swiss textile com-

pany, but what they really mean is that evening wear will be very theatrical and flashy.

"Much naked skin flashes through daring vents" continues the prediction, making one wonder if it will be safe to go out at night.

"Clinging, body-hugging dresses . . . with generous necklines and corset belts", we are told will "underline the refined female."

The alternative to this vampish vogue is "frills, fringes and giant flowers in the hair".

Whatever happened to the little black dress?

Huntsman's snack

WITH the end of our glorious summer in sight it is time to start planning the menu for what could be the last picnic of the season, so why not try this hearty, traditional Swiss dish?

Huntsman's Snack is quick to make and exciting to taste, with the distinctive flavour of Gruyere Switzerland complementing the pork particularly well. Here is how it is made:

Ingredients:

- 1 pork cutlet
- 1 good slice Gruyere Switzerland
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon paprika
- Salt and pepper
- Fat for frying
- Pickled gherkin (optional)

Method:

Season cutlet with salt, pepper and paprika. Fry in fat or, if preferred, grill well and allow to cool.

Slit cutlet lengthwise to bone and insert Gruyere Switzerland and a few slices of gherkin.

Serve cold with horse-radish or mustard if desired.



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