

The Social World ...for and About Women

Agnes Bolter, Editor



Dorothy Downing and Fashion

IT'S NOT THE PRINCIPAL, IT'S THE MONEY!

If there's anyone here who hasn't read a paper in a week, listened to a radio, or snapped on the television, seen a movie or talked with a neighbor, you may well hold the distinction of being the only living American who hasn't voiced an opinion on Monsieur Dior's latest order for reshaping the female form!

Yes, Christian Dior has spoken AGAIN, and again, 'n again...

And again the fashion conscious world has taken his Vogue to their heart and bosom, rearranged his crown, and shouted to the world, "Long Live the King!"

Well, this in itself can present a problem today. For if Dior has anything to do with it, the fashion conscious world will have one heck of a time finding it's bosom!

Although the press has heckled this trend, it is a fact that the world's top fashion buyers are completely losing their minds over this, the latest Look. How they intend to sell it to a nation of women who have pretty much let it be known that they have a mind of their own is something that could stand some research.

For certainly this is a mode without merit. To say that this '54 Fall Look is no worse than the '47 New Look is like saying chicken pox is no worse than deflated but infectious mumps. We were fortunate before that the skilled hands of our American designers sought and found a way to modify and mold the latter so it could harmonize with our own way of life. But what can be done this time?

Whatever else Dior is, he is certainly nobody's fool. And good fortune has indeed smiled upon him.

Not being one to sit in a corner and collect dust, this Parisian needleman has managed, for ever a decade, to belt out a series of New Looks that are, to the female figure, as rank as injustice will ever get. But even with this, he has always come up with the startling and sensational, thus winning more publicity per column inch than any other living designer.

Yes, the world of retailing is giddy-headed over the prospects of a truly revolutionary New Look, as well they should be. Certainly if the American woman endorses and accepts this mode, last year's styles will become as outdated as the 19th Century pantaloons. For, as one authority stated, "No amount of patching, mending, or letting out, trimming, tacking, or tucking can make last year's dress into this fall's Dior mode."

Well, time will tell. I for one think it's time we SLAM THE DOOR ON DIOR!!!!

Ardath Ave. Tots to Stage 'Sleeping Beauty' Aug. 13-14

"Sleeping Beauty," a play in two acts, will be the next major production on the schedule of the Ardath Ave. Players, all children under 12 years of age. The play will be presented at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 13 and at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 14, at 16410 Ardath Ave.

A gala parade, planned and executed by children, will take place Thursday, Aug. 12. Decorated floats and bicycles will be included in the line of march according to Mrs. David Osterback, director of the production.

Price of admission for adults is 15 cents, and for children 5 cents. This is the fourth production of the Players.

Cast members of "Sleeping Beauty" in order of their appearance, are Michael Cox, story teller; David Barrett, boy; Donald Barrett, herald; Jennie Emge, La Vada Gatlin, Patty Green, Emily Hall, Dale Keldrauk, Teddy Wegener and Steven Widner, all members of the soldier band and under 5 years of age; Donald Mattingly, King; Terry Keldrauk, Queen.

Sandy Wegener, nurse; John Mattingly, prince of Westphalia; Raymond Legere, prince of Denmark; Leora Gatlin, Donna Allis, Linda Knox, Kathy Knox, Donna D'Amico and Jeri Rae Green, fairy godmothers; Tommie Swain, dancer; Jimmie Nichols, strongman; Suzie Swain, Sleeping Beauty; and Paul Legere, Prince Charming.

Handing business is Sandy Wegener, 11, and publicity has been done by 10 year old Raymond Legere. His brother Dickie, who is 12, has the big job of stage manager.

Feting the players after their performance will be Misses Curtis Gatlin and Joseph D'Amico. Money from the production will be used to finance the Ardath Ave. Players' Christmas performance.

Former S. B. Prexy at THS Gives Ring to Lomita Lass

Popular Myrna Bacon and Jerry Farrar, a well-known two some in the younger set, revealed their engagement this week.

Miss Bacon, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Bacon of 24713 Cypress Ave. in Lomita, will be graduated from Narbonne High School in February. She is active in Tri-Y and GAA, and has been selected to model in several local fashion shows.

Farrar, a graduate of Torrance High School last June, ranged in school activities from student body president to Varsity football, where he was selected for All Bay League. Jerry was a member of Tartar Knights, Hi-Y, the Varsity Club, and California Scholarship Society.

He also was president of his sophomore and junior classes, and displayed his athletic versatility by receiving honorable mention from All Bay League in basketball and being first man on the tennis squad. He is the son of Mrs. Nadine Nickol of 1730 Arlington Ave.

The pretty Lomita lass and her fiance have not yet set a date for their wedding. Jerry is working at the National Supply Co. and will attend El Camino College night school this fall.



BETROTHED TWOSOME... Jerry Farrar, former student body president at Torrance High School, and his fiance, Miss Myrna Bacon, are shown as they danced cheek to cheek at the THS after-graduation party in June. Farrar, son of Mrs. Nadine Nickol of 1730 Arlington Ave., graduated with the class of '54. His bride-to-be is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Bacon of 24713 Cypress St.

Newly Enlisted Man Feted at Family Party

Hostessing a family dinner party Thursday night in honor of their son, Kelvin, recent Army enlistee who will entrain at 8 o'clock next Thursday morning for Fort Ord, were Mr. and Mrs. K. D. Figgins of 1832 Juniper Ave.

Invited to the informal gathering were Kelvin's mother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. K. D. Figgins Jr. of Long Beach, and his grandmother, Mrs. Blanche Figgins of Ontario.

Kelvin, a graduate of Torrance high school, completed his second year of college work at UCLA this June. He previously attended Redlands University.

Also slated to leave on the 8 a.m. train for Fort Ord is Neil Schwab, son of former mayor and Mrs. Mervin M. Schwab of 1508 Acacia Ave. A Torrance High School graduate, he completed a two-year course at El Camino College this June.

Fireladies Elect Mrs. Flagg Delegate to State Confab

Mrs. Ray Flagg of 1620 Hickory Ave. will be the official delegate of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Torrance Fire Department at a state convention of the Firemen's Association and women's auxiliaries in Monterey in September.

The past president was elected to represent the local auxiliary at the confab when members met at the Civil Defense building. Chosen as alternate was Mrs. Frank Tuttle of 1750 Elm St.

Other highlights of the session included the appointment of Mrs. Robert Moffitt, who served as hostess for the evening, to take charge of a proposed Christmas basket for a needy family. Mrs. Moffitt will investigate the local situation to determine a worthy recipient, and the "Fireladies" will contribute \$15 from their treasury and many volunteer cooking hours to fill the basket with food.

Assisting Mrs. Moffitt as hostess was Mrs. Harlan Whitacre. Prospective members attending were Misses, Bill Johnson, Sam

Son Born to Vallandingham

Announcing the arrival of their first child, a 6lb. 2oz. boy whom they have named Michael Andrew are Mr. and Mrs. John Vallandingham Jr. of 20619 S. Vermont.

The infant arrived at 1:30 p.m. July 31 at St. Francis Hospital in Lynwood. His father is employed at Bethlehem Supply in Vernon; paternal grandparents, the John Vallandingham Sr., live at 16941 Arlington Ave.

On the maternal side are Mr. and Mrs. Vergal Hines of Huntington Park.



OFF TO CAMP... Busy packing camping gear into trucks yesterday were Girl Scouts of Fern Ave. Greenwood PTA's Troop 1299, who left for a week's outing at Crestline. The girls earned all the money for the trip through a paper drive, calendar sale, a booth at the PTA carnival, sale of turkeys, and a cookie sale. Pictured left to right are Marsha Hunt of 3126 Torrance Blvd.; Susan Severin of 1222 Crenshaw Blvd.; and Diana Cook of 2063 W. 233rd St. Other Scouts making the trip were Donna Arrasmith, Paula Bischoff, Joyce Cannon, Sharon Carter, Marell Clayton, Sharon Giles, Susan Higdon, Diane Hinshaw, Diane Hunter, Barbara Krauszer, Loretta Robison, Virginia Sandstrom, Carol Shinoda, and Terry Tucker. Accompanying them were Misses Krauszer, leader, and daughter, Ginny; Charles Robison and daughter, Janet; Joseph Cannon, P. Bischoff and G. Arrasmith, co-leaders.

Gay Linen Shower Fetes Scout Trails Bride-to-be of W. Hollins

Pre-nuptial activity highlighted this week for Miss Virginia Buchanan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Buchanan of 1507 W. 215th St., as the Aug. 27 date of her wedding to Wayne Hollins approaches.

The bride-to-be was feted by Miss Jane Moffatt of 2032 Andros Ave., at a linen shower Wednesday evening.

Gifts were wheeled in to the honoree in a gaily bedecked kiddie cart, resembling a honey-moon car. "Just Married" read the sign on the back of the toy, and two dolls, dressed to resemble Virginia and Wayne, were seated in the front of the clever cart.

Cake decorated in yellow and green was served to guests on a lace appointed table. Tiny open faced sandwiches and punch rounded out the refreshment menu.

WINS PRIZE Miss Mickey Van Deventer won the shower game prize when she used her artistic talent to draw a picture of the benedict-elect which Miss Buchanan proclaimed as the best likeness.

Joining in the evening's festivities were Misses W. W. Buchanan, mother of the honoree; Ray Hollins, mother of the bridegroom-to-be; Ernest Moffatt, the hostess' mother; Misses Claudia King, Van Deventer; S. A. J. J. Speck, Jackie Richmond, Mary Lou Hutchison, Pat Mellon, Lana Tanner, June Rambo, Pat Larson, Norma Rowe, Carol Matoy, Janice Crabtree, Betty Hope, Sharon Kirks, and Avenell Buchanan.

Names of the entourage for her wedding Aug. 27 at the first Methodist Church were revealed by Miss Buchanan this week. Mrs. Maxine Kobes, wife of Rev. Wayne Kobes, who will unite Miss Buchanan and Hollins in marriage, will be matron of honor. Attending the bride as bridesmaids will be Misses Moffatt, Maloy, Crabtree, Richmond, and Marlene Schildmeyer. Misses Barbara Hiebert and Laurella King have been chosen as candlelighters, and Doris Munson will register guests.

David Strail will be best man and Hollins has chosen Bob and Woody Buchanan, brothers of the bride-elect; Glenn Hollins, his brother; Kent Hardin, and Gene Walker as ushers. Little Dolores Marie Prenevost, cousin of the bride-to-be, will be flower girl, and Robbie Tippin will be ring bearer.

Hollins is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hollins of 21313 Brighton Ave. in Torrance.

CDA to Plan Garden Party

Preliminary plans for the group's annual fall garden party will be made tomorrow night when Court St. Catherine, Catholic Daughters of America holds an 8 o'clock meeting at Nativity parish hall.

This will be the Court's only gathering during August and final details of the September party will be charted at the Sept. 13 meeting.

The three-hour event, slated for Thursday, Sept. 23, in colorful garden setting at the 1010 Beech Ave. home of Mrs. Laura Felker will feature a luncheon, fashion show, and card games.

MEETING SLATED

Mrs. Jess Johnson, ritual chairman of Women of the Moose, Torrance Chapter 44, will conduct a committee meeting at her home tomorrow night at 8 o'clock.



COLORFUL POSTERS... of some of the most favored vacation spots will be the main item in Civic Auditorium decor next Saturday night, Aug. 14, when the Recreation Department stages a "Vacation Daze" dance for teen-agers. Tickets are 50 cents per person or \$1 per couple, and proceeds will help purchase new uniforms for the Torrance High School band. Looking over the posters are, left to right, seated, Beverly McEwen of 3973 W. 171st St.; Bob Silagy of 16402 Haas Ave.; Judy Breitenfeld of 17019 Arkinson Ave.; Virginia Fazio of 3721 W. 177th St.; Gail Castagnetti of 3721 Clark Lane; Loren Jones of 3423 W. 186th St. Holding the Catalina poster are Pat Webb of 18432 Elgar Ave. and Terry Baker of 18509 S. Wilkie Ave.