

# DRESSED TO WIN by Elizabeth Hawes

## What to wear in a wartime world Use ingenuity to outwit scarcity

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**T**here are a lot of irate women in the world this spring. Some are saying "if we don't keep 'feminine,' the boys will never come home." Others are rushing into uniforms to the exclusion of all other clothes. Let us all keep calm.

The boys will come home—successful—if we get our work done here, making no effort to obstruct any conservation necessary to war production. The boys will be very happy to see us girls IF we have done our part and I doubt if they will care just how we are dressed. The bright look on the faces of a victorious population is going to supersede the fact that we have holes in our stockings or are wearing coveralls as we step out of a machine shop to cheer.

The U. S. Bureau of Conservation (WPB) wishes we wouldn't all go charging into uniforms, creating problems by demanding enormous quantities of identical material and color. There are dye shortages coming up. And why should we all look alike anyway?

What is important is that each individual furnish herself with the minimum number of necessary garments, and that those garments be made to last as long as possible. Making them last is what's going to be fun.

Instead of striding about tastefully but boringly dressed in a neat pair of beige stockings and a simple blue shirtwaist dress, we can burst out in a gay conglomeration of patches and darns, hearts on our elbows, arrows over the holes in our trouser knees, green embroidery snakes crawling over the runs in our stockings.

Life will be a pretty mess if the women of America fuss over their knitting because they can't have a new dress! Start patching up and re-combining the clothes you have.



*To boost morale, turn holes and runs into decoration.*

CLICK's solution to the Summer rain problem is a shower curtain slit in the center that folds into a neat packet in your pocket or the bag swinging from your shoulder. Add a soft rain hat. A good cleaner can make winter woolens water repellent.

**DRESSED TO WIN: CONTINUED**

## Femininity is not precluded by war But imagination replaces shopping

**A FEW PRECIOUS SCRAPS** left from the curtains, a bit of upholstery material, the skirt of an old evening dress, a yard of stuff for the top—and you have a dress like this which cost its owner \$165 in a famous New York shop.



**A SUIT OF ALL WOOL WORSTED** (best wearing wool) is what every woman needs for the next years. Here you have a fur lined top coat, slacks which hang comfortably from the shoulder by suspenders, a flared skirt, and simple jacket. This combination with skirt and trouser side pockets, plus flat shoes, caps for protection against wind or cold, sweaters or blouses, cotton stockings, warm gloves, cotton underpants and brassieres, will answer fall, winter or spring clothing work-needs.

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**A RAG, A BONE, AND A HANK OF HAIR?** Where are the hat, clips, veils, bracelets of yesteryear? Gone with the war before long. There's work to be done. Part of it is to look attractive? Sure. A few yards of any old material, a contrast of color set off by a good belt. What more do you need? Let's rid ourselves of excess baggage. It only detracts from your face—and the war effort.



**WOULD IT REALLY BREAK YOUR HEART** to be asked to give up what you see above? The fur jacket, worn for chi-chi in Summer? The high heeled, open toed, impractical shoes? The silly hat with its useless veil? A load of clips, bracelets and necklaces? Will the boys refuse to come home if we climb into slacks? Not much. They didn't ask us to cover ourselves with all this junk.

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*fashions of*

*1942*

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**NO NECESSITY TO BEMOAN** the fact you can't have a brand new evening dress every season IF you get yourself one of those costumes which have satisfied the women—and men—of other countries for centuries. The girls above, each according to her type, have laid aside their pastel chiffons for the longer lasting beauty and greater attention-getting value of timeless clothes.

**T**here's no necessity for people writing letters to the press or buying ads to say that "we women must keep up our feminine standards." Every one of us has to solve the problem individually and no one in high Government position wants us to turn into dreary khaki robots.

After you have acquired your basic, necessary work clothes (see previous pages), you can solve the fun clothes problem by going to a remnant counter, or into your own ragbag, and furbishing up some simple costumes which depend on color and fabric combinations and on your own charm for success. The simple expedient of having two skirts and blouses which interchange and constantly using different belts with them has kept me happily clothed for the last two summers. (Denims for work!) No lack of compliments, either.

You can buy many types of foreign costumes in antique shops, Thrift Shops, and from still-existent importers or make them yourself. Parties will be far more wonderful if each of us makes her choice from these costumes, already designed for every type of woman.

An important item on the grooming agenda is to find a way of doing your hair yourself so it will be becoming and stay done. Adjacent are four pictures of movie stars (Lamarr, Day, Russell, Weidler), all with their hair done in a way any woman can manage alone.

Dressing for war is no problem. Imagination replaces shopping!



OKAY IF WELL BRUSHED!



THIS ONE IS FOOL-PROOF



BEST TO BRAID FINE HAIR



FINE IF NATURALLY CURLY

# CLICK

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