

Gayly Colored Cottons Favored For Sunback Dresses, Swim Suits

By **CHERIE NICHOLAS**



WHAT a sun-worshiper fashion has come to be! The big idea this year seems to center about the theme of brief and beautiful clothes that bare you to the beneficent and health-giving rays of the sun. The tactful feature of this sun-exposure vogue is that a bolero or jacket is always added, thus providing a most clever coverage when you want to go stepping, here or there, for your bareback play-frock transforms into a charming double-duty costume.

The bare-back frock to the left is a perfect example of the new trend to sun-exposure fashions. Quaker gray broadcloth makes this sunback dress that is far from demure with its back cut to the waist, but as you will note, she has her bolero in hand ready to slip on at will. The dress has a large soft bow at the neck in front. White fluting adds a pretty trimming touch. Worn with its matching bolero, this dress is as modest as modest can be.

Not only does the costume described go sunning on the beach, but it will be fun to wear to barbecue parties and all sorts of get-together outdoor playtime occasions. When it comes to the fabrics used for the new sun-frocks, it's gay colored cottons that turn on the glamour full force. The best of it is that in these modern times one need have no misgivings as to whether the gorgeous prints or monotonous will fade. One of the miracles of the age is the achievement of everlasting cottons that you can buy as bright as you like and launder as often as you wish without danger of color deterioration or shrinkage. Among outstanding favorites, spun crash registers as something new and smart. This "classy" cotton tailors beautifully and the separate bolero made of it is chic to wear with slacks and shorts and bareback dresses of contrast cottons, such as the modish eyeleted fabrics and the bright gingham and the gorgeous printed piques. Now that you can get seersucker in gay plaids, everybody's calling for it. Not only

does it make up stunningly in the new bare midriff, sleeveless and bareback fashions, but it is "the latest" for swim suits with sarong skirts and bra tops. Checked gingham and striped chambrays are also high fashion for sun frocks with boleros and for swim suits with matching beach coats. Yes, indeed, it's the soap 'n' water cottons that hold fashion's spotlight this summer.

Black cottons for sports and beach fashions especially rate top fashion. Speaking of black, the swim suit that is creating the big sensation is a sleek form-fitting one-piece made of black elasticized water-repellent velvet that is light as a feather in weight. Or you may choose models of black satin. Practical and ever so good-looking 'too, is the swim suit of black wool jersey. The girl centered in the illustration is wearing a handsome black swim suit. That this fair swimmer throws a white wool sweater about her shoulders is important news for a new fad is going the rounds which calls upon the sweater to play the role of a smart beach coat or wrap. Fashion-wise girls are taking up the idea with enthusiasm.

Much ado is being made over handsome accessory ensembles including bra and headress made of brilliantly colorful striped or plaid taffeta. As you see pictured in the inset to the right, the bra is formed of an artfully arranged scarf of woven taffeta in gay stripes teamed with which is a draped headress of the same beautiful taffeta. To add to the colorful scene on the beach, huge bags cleverly designed of fabrics to match the sun-exposure costumes together with wide self-trimming scarfs of the same material form a most fascinating twosome. These sets are ever so smart, made of gay gingham.

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

Checks for Summer



This New York style in navy and white crepe artfully designs the now-so-voguish dressmaker checks for a woman's figure. The styling given this daytime dress is unusually attractive. Self fabric ruching, a flat bow at the neckline, and a subtly arranged fullness in the skirt contribute smart details. The large white pearl buttons adds greatly to their charm.

Jacquard Sweaters Are Gay, Colorful

No wonder enthusiasm for the so-colorful, so-designful jacquard sweater is soaring to a new high. The advance models now arriving are beauties. Fancy seems to run to deep yoke effects. These sometimes extend over the shoulders in the new cap sleeve effect, forming an epaulet embroidery for the wrist-length sleeves. If you are going vacationing they are nice to take along. They look striking worn with the teen-age bright plaid skirt. Another practical sweater that is a welcome newcomer this summer is made of sear 'n' water white cotton jersey. It is grand to wear with the shorter shorts on the playground. Worn with slacks it makes the ideal garb for ambitious Victory gardeners. The cardigan-blouse type is attractively worn with smart pleated skirts or with the now-so-popular narrow wool skirt.

Dressmaker Apron Lends Glamor to Basic Dress

Something new in the way of a striking novelty has happened. It is the dressmaker apron or "fashion apron" as it is sometimes called, designed to glamorize the basic black dress. Made of fine colorful taffeta or faille and other dress-up fabric, and ruffled all around with lace, it is far removed from the humble kitchen type. It ties around the waist like any apron and has sash-wide "apron strings" for a bustle bow at the back. One fetching style is fashioned of apple green faille trimmed with a wide ruffle of black Chantilly-type lace.

Homesteading Opportunities In Alaska Interest Veterans

Vast Frontier Land Has Much to Offer to Hardy Young People

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Veterans of World War II dream as avidly of establishing homes on the land as did the soldiers of the Continental army, Grant's blue-clad veterans, or Pershing's doughboys in 1918, it is pointed out by the United States department of the interior. Requests for information on available public lands, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes points out, have literally inundated the department's offices. The average number of requests for information on homesteads alone in the general land office runs higher than 3,000 monthly and the number is increasing.

Exservicemen who desire to settle on public land, either in the continental United States or Alaska, will avoid many heartbreaking disappointments if they first fully inform themselves concerning all of the possible pitfalls.

One of the prime requisites, for instance, in obtaining title to public land is three years' actual residence beginning within six months after permission to enter has been granted. There are numerous other requirements concerning such subjects as the building of a habitable dwelling, the cultivation of the land and other details, about which prospective settlers would do well to inform themselves before filing an application.

The principal advantage that veterans have over other citizens is that service in the armed forces, up to a maximum of two years, is credited toward the three-year residence requirement. This applies generally to all citizens over 21 years of age who have served at least 90 days in the armed forces and who have been honorably discharged therefrom. Veterans also enjoy a 90-day priority in filing applications for settlement on public land classified for that purpose. Any veteran of World War II under 21 is entitled to the same rights under the homestead law as those over 21 who may be veterans of this or other conflicts. Residence requirements of such minors will be suspended until six months after their discharge from the service.

Moreover, homestead claims of veterans of World War II, initiated prior to their entrance into the service, are protected against forfeiture during the period of their service and for six months thereafter. Such veterans who are honorably discharged and because of physical incapacity due to their service are unable to return to the land, may make proof without further residence, improvements and cultivation.

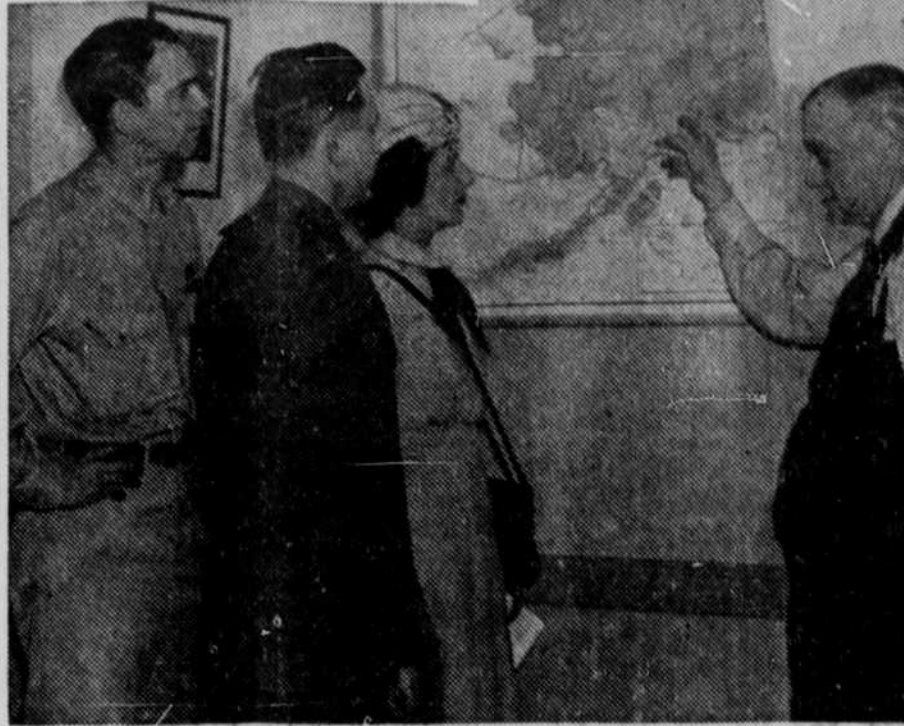
Go North, Young Man.

By far the greatest opportunities for obtaining title to and establishing homesteads on public lands lie in Alaska. This territory covers an area of 586,400 square miles, roughly equal to one-fifth of that of the United States. More than 90 per cent of the territory is under the jurisdiction of the department of the interior. The major portion is still open to settlement under the homestead laws.

But, while the chances in Alaska are undoubtedly vast, there are many difficulties to be overcome. Considerable progress has been made in developing the territory on a stable basis, but it is still no place for the faint-hearted. Those with sufficient financial backing and with courage and tenacity may reasonably count upon success in the long run, but without these essentials veterans and others would be wise to look twice before they leap. Much also depends upon the wise selection of land, as to quality and accessibility.

Many misconceptions about Alaska have been dissipated as a result of the war. Many who have seen service there have been fascinated by its picturesqueness, and impressed by its obvious possibilities. The territory has largely lived down its old and undeserved reputation as "Seward's icebox" — a reputation that was pinned on it by the critics of Secretary of State Seward who negotiated the territory's purchase from Russia in 1867.

To speak of the climate of Alaska is as misleading as to speak of the climate of Europe, or of Asia. The climate varies widely from that of southeastern Alaska, where it is virtually as mild as, but much wet-



Service men and women get pointers on Alaska land settlement from Commissioner Fred W. Johnson, general land office. Left to right: Pfc. Richard Bean, U. S. Army, (Newport, N. H.), Chief Warrant Officer Joseph D. Joiner, U. S. Navy (Atlanta, Ga.), and Yeoman 1-c Mildred H. Dietrich of the WAVES (St. Nazianz, Wisc.), learn of chances for future on public lands administered by the interior department.

ter than, that of Virginia, to that of the frozen wastes of the Arctic circle and the fogs and williwaws of the Aleutian islands.

Veterans have the same preference accorded to them by the homestead laws of the United States. In addition, where lands are newly opened or restored to homestead entry veterans will be granted a preference right of application for a period of 90 days before the lands become subject to application by the general public.

In addition to homesteading in Alaska, on sites limited to 160 acres, any adult citizen of the United States, whose employer is engaged in trade, manufacturing, or other productive industry in Alaska, or who is himself engaged in such business, may purchase one claim, not exceeding 5 acres, of nonmineral land at \$2.50 an acre, but for not less than a minimum of \$10. An applicant for such a tract is required to pay the cost of the survey.

Any citizen of the United States after occupying land in Alaska as a homestead or headquarters in a habitable house not less than five months each year for three years may purchase such tract, not exceeding five acres, if nonmineral in character, at \$2.50 an acre, but for not less than a minimum of \$10. Such an applicant is not required to pay the cost of the survey.

Fur Farming and Mining.
Fur farming has been carried on in the territory for a sufficiently long period to demonstrate that the raising of such fur animals as minks and blue foxes is profitable. This is especially true in southeastern Alaska and along the general coast line where fish, a basic fur animal food, may be procured cheaply.

Certain areas of Alaska are admirably adapted to the production of fur of good quality, and there is plenty of room for expanding this industry. There are hundreds of licensed fur farmers in Alaska, the majority of whom are raising minks and blue foxes, although some silver foxes are raised in captivity.

Mineral resources are known to be large and varied, and there are undoubtedly large and rich mineral areas still unexplored. Notable evidence of this has been disclosed by extensive searches for war-needed metals and minerals by the geological survey and the bureau of mines.

A large part of the territory's natural mineral wealth consists of gold, silver, mercury, antimony, tin, coal, copper, iron, lead and platinum. There also may be considerable oil reserves in some parts of the country, but to what extent remains largely to be seen. Transportation is, of course, a problem.

Since Alaska, a natural scenic wonderland and sport fisherman's paradise, is expected to grow in importance as a vacation land and as a goal for tourists, there will undoubtedly be great opportunities for veterans and others who desire to go into businesses catering to the tourist trade. Tourist facilities are comparatively meager, especially in many picturesque localities off of the beaten path.

However, here again, those contemplating the establishment of such businesses should do so with their eyes open. It must be remembered that in many places in Alaska the tourist season is short, and that the permanent population of the territory is normally less than 100,000 persons, or about one-eighth of the number of persons living in Washington, D. C.

As a general rule, it may be said that settlement on public land in

Alaska is encouraged but not urged. Those who choose Alaska as their future homes should do so with caution. There is little doubt that ultimately Alaska is destined to become an important crossroads at the top of the world. It is a natural way station on air lines to Asia and eastern Europe.

But Alaska itself, as well as those who settle there, will be better off if it has an orderly and stable development. It is hoped, for the benefit of all concerned, that sudden rushes of hordes of people with get-rich-quick ideas but with no sustained interest in healthy growth, may be avoided.

Dam Projects Could Create A Million Jobs

Material Makers as Well As Actual Construction Workers Would Benefit

Jobs for thousands of skilled and unskilled workmen will be created in every part of the country when congress approves plans and provides funds for building more than 400 irrigation and power projects proposed by the bureau of reclamation in its \$5,000,000,000 postwar inventory.

Although these proposed irrigation and power projects will be located in the 17 western states, where the bureau of reclamation since 1902 has been responsible for the conservation and wise use of water resources, their construction will create job opportunities from Maine to California.

Behind every man on the construction job there will be one or more helpers who may be thousands of miles away. An employment analysis of the bureau's postwar inventory reveals that of the 4,250,000 man-hours of labor required to construct all the projects about 1,650,000 man-hours will be required at construction sites.

Materials from 31 States.

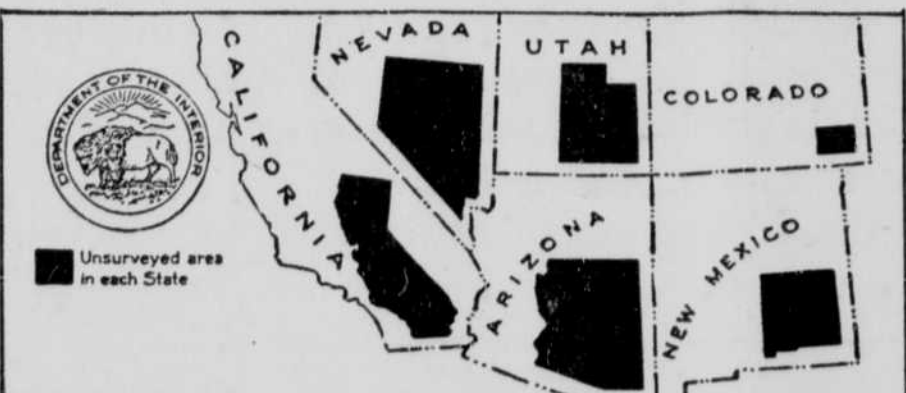
The materials needed for reclamation work, of which such basic products as iron and steel, cement, electrical equipment and supplies, foundry and machine-shop products, and lumber are of primary importance, must be obtained from widely separated sources. Much of this material and equipment will come from the 31 states outside the arid and semiarid regions of the west.

If funds are made available for construction of all the projects, bureau officials estimate that more than 450,000 men could be put to work the first year, less than half of these at construction sites. At peak employment in the second or third year almost 1,000,000 men could receive pay envelopes in different parts of the country as a result of this mighty effort.

Agricultural and industrial enterprises in the West will help to support and give homes to servicemen and others who have expressed their desire to settle on irrigated farms. Of the 2,000,000 westerners in the armed forces, it is estimated that 265,000 will want to return to the land.

Veteran legislation, authorized and pending, gives servicemen priority of settlement on bureau of reclamation projects. On some projects public lands will be open to homestead entry.

As of June 30, 1944, the remaining public lands — exclusive of areas acquired through purchase by the government for resettlement, submarginal land administration, military, or other purposes — consisted of 37,567,096 acres outside of grazing districts, 130,669,351 acres within grazing districts, or a total of 168,236,447 acres. Some portions of the west, in fact, have not yet even been surveyed by the government, as indicated by this diagram showing the ratio of unsurveyed areas in these states.



RETURNING SOLDIER

"What a country to get back to! . . . Boy, I could make love to its mud puddles, not to mention its rock and rills! . . . The first peep at that statue of Lib. . . The first look at the homefront skyline! . . . The skyscrapers! . . . The shops, the stores, the houses, even the hotdog stand! . . . The first eyeful of signs a guy can read, of windows with American clothes in 'em, and the names of beers, cigars and people he heard of before!

"Sure I seen 'em all before, but now they're in technicolor!

"No kiddin', even a 'No Smoking' sign in English is something beautiful. . . The words 'Hamburger and Onions' on a lunchwagon become full of poetry. . . And every dame I see becomes Hedy Lamar!

"See all them tenements out the car window? . . . Okay, to me they're palaces! . . . See them billboards boostin' tooth pastes, stogies, motor grease, the circus and somebody's brewery? . . . Baby, to me they become the world's ten thousand greatest masterpieces of art and literature! . . . Steve's Wayside Lunch! . . . I'll take it over the Rue de la Whozziss!

"Yeah, there's too many guys around that still got double chins and deadpans. . . Too many foul balls that don't pay no attention to uniforms, service ribbons and decorations. . . Too many creeps that give more attention to a loose dime in a train aisle than to a DSC on a marine's chest. . . Too many punks don't even know what your division insignia means. . . Yeah, and all that, but forget 'em! . . . And get a load of all the faces and smiles and voices and wisecracks and things that spell America, and I don't mean backwards!

"All that counts is being back where the papers carry full accounts of the ball games, where nobody wrecks houses except house-wreckers, where you can grab any door knob without thinking it could be a booby trap.

"Look at that taxi driver beating his jaws out in an argument with that laundry truck driver! . . . Boy, it's like long forgotten sweet music! . . . See that old number in baggy slacks setting out lettuce and tomato plants in that two-by-four backyard! . . . Kid to me it's the Queen of Sheba in the Hanging Gardens of Babylon!

"America! Of thee I sing, and every rattle, flivver horn and every yell of 'Sock it out, kid' makes swell accompaniment! . . . Thy woods and templed hills! . . . Yowsir, even all fouled up with beaneries, tourist camps and liver pill signs, they make the best scenery on earth!

"The home-town garbage truck seems like Cinderella's coach and four. . . The cry 'One up, with mustard!' gives me a greater thrill than 'Lafayette, we are here!' . . . The white picket fence around my house is a greater sight than all the shrubs and statues around the gardens of Versailles. . . And I'll swap the Rhine, the Po and the Thames for the water running off my sunporch roof after a June rain.

"You can have the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Mediterranean and the English channel for the brook that runs through Mulligan's Grove. . . I'll trade all the words of Churchill, Roosevelt, Truman, Stalin and Tony Eden and all the music of London and Paris for the sound of a certain party's voice. . . You take the Four Freedoms, I'll take her one smile. . . There ain't as much meann' in the text of the Charters of Quebec, Bretton Woods, Yalta, Cairo and San Francisco as there is in seven little words from my mom, 'I've got a homemade pie for you.'

"Well, the train is pullin' in now. Home again! Pardon me if I hug a couple of trees and kiss a few buildings. Gangway! Hey, mom! Hey, pop! Hey, honey!"

We expect to visit the place any day now and be introduced to a Vice Commodore in Charge of Fancier Cocktail Glasses and a Chairlady of the Committee to Tie Ribbons on Moorings. Skipper, an old-fashioned cuspidor, if you please!

The Japs now threaten to launch an all-out stratosphere balloon attack on the United States. Personally we think it is a lot of "ballooney."

What! No Roller Skates? "LIVING room, bedroom, baby and misc. furniture. Thermos lunch set, power mower; 4 cyl. 16 hp. outboard with 16 ft. boat. Selmer saxophone and clarinet and Saprone. 120 base accordion. 274 Sunset avenue, Englewood."—Bergen Record.

Getting Really High
A proposal to operate bars in airliners is disturbing legislators, as well it may. We wince at the invitation "See what the boys in the back-draft will have!"

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Persons now engaged in essential industry will not apply without statement of availability from their local United States Employment Service.

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