

The French Whirl of Fashion

By Eunice W. Johnson

FRENCH fashions for fall have a new and fabulously dramatic silhouette. In "soul" colloquy, "bigness is the name and softness is the game."

The big, big skirt is big, big news (it's mostly flared, many are dimdls, some are pleated, others narrow godets) but highlighting the French fashion scene is the dramatic sweep of the cape. There was at least one in every collection, and all were soft, super-wide and full! Big news, too, is the return of the smock (or chemise) for daytime wear. It's definitely the "new woman in town."

The tailored suit was revived magnificently by Ungaro and Yves St. Laurent, and higher heels and boots were offered as a must to give proper proportion to the longer skirts.

Inflation had no effect, it seems, on Paris designers; they used yards and yards of the most beautiful fabrics this season. Many believe that couture is at its best in Paris, and we agree that all the big whirling and swirling for Fall '74 stop right there.



Courreges' big, hooded orange vinyl cape in egg-crate pattern is worn over sheer, orange nylon short-sleeve blouse and long, straight orange ciré skirt supported by cross-banding which turns dramatically into a turtle-neck.

Warm up to fall in Courreges' navy iridescent jacket which has vertical cable stitching. It's worn over a nylon body shirt and the new ankle-length, cuffed velvet pants. Completing the carefree ensemble are boots, of course.

