Detroit-born Hylan Booker revitalizes British fashions

DETROIT-BORN HYLAND BOOKER, the only Afro-American fashion designer in Britain, presents one of the outfits in the spring collection in London, on Model Vicki Hodge. Black culottes feature a decolletage which plunges below the navel, a jeweled suede waistband and flaring slit sleeves. Booker is chief designer for the House of Worth.

LONDON (UPI) — Hylan Booker, the only colored American fashion designer in Britain, lifted London couture out of its staidness last week, with a spring collection of daring figure-baring clothes.

Booker, designer at the newly reopened House of Worth, became the first London couturier with the courage to show a see-through dress.

He somehow managed to make it look demure in frothy white organza with high neck, blue cummerbund waist, hem to floor and a hard look required to see the model wore nothing beneath the bodice.

He brought more revelations to his culotte outfits with deep-V decolletage, cut-outs just below the navel and flashes of flesh down the side seams.

The collection featured throughout a Japanese look of wrap-around clothes, kimono sleeves, cummerbunds, flaring trousers and bamboo hats worn by models with Japanese make-up and hair styles. They paraded to modern Japanese jazz through a salon decorated with blossoms, lanterns and Japanese dolls.

The Detroit-born Booker, 30, who first came to England with the U.S. Air Force, was chosen last year to be chief designer when the failing, 111-year-old House of Worth was taken over by a London businessman and revitalized. The overflowing audience at this season's show attested to the upswing in Worth's fortunes.

Booker, smiling with delight at the reaction, said he was trying to put excitement back into London couture.

"I would say the houses have been dictated to by their clients, by traditional, country-type clothes. They have produced no particular lines," he said. "It would be nice if people made a bigger effort. You've got to go whole hog, to make it exciting."

The most important point about his clothes is that they make the most of the feminine form, showing off busts, curves and legs rather than hiding them in beltless or other figure-hiding designs.

His day clothes were four or five inches above the knee, belted, clean-cut, with the wraps around kimono look for light wool coats and dresses in the Japanese pale colors of sand, honey, beige, lemon and pink.

"One thigh-length mink coat was dyed lemon and belted in gold chain. Beneath the coat were navy culottes with the flesh-revealing insets slashed down the side and over the navel. Another mink coat was dyed bright green.

An outfit of black culottes had low decolletage with two wide straps for decency's sake and cut-outs at the sides of the waist that was emphasized by a gold cummerbund.

Art exhibition at Atlanta U.

ATLANTA — The 28th annual Exhibition of paintings, sculpture and prints by colored artists will open on Sunday, March 30, at Atlanta University. The university is offering purchase awards to the prize-winning works which will become part of the Atlanta University Negro Art Collection. Annually, artists from all over the United States vie for these awards.

The following prizes are offered: $250 for the best landscape in oil; $300 for the best portrait or figure painting in oil; $150 for the best oil, any subject; $100 for the oil receiving the highest number of ballots from those attending the exhibition; $125 for the first prize in water colors; $75 for the second.

March 3 is the final day for the receipt of entry blanks and of works entered. The Jury of Selection will meet on March 12.

Entry blanks may be obtained by writing the Art Exhibition Committee, Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga. 30314.

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New Harvard plan expected to be approved

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (UPI) — Harvard University is expected to approve a program this month revising its priorities to improve the life of the black student on its Ivy League campus.

The university's faculty of arts and sciences will meet Feb. 11 to give expected approval to a report prepared by a special committee on Afro-American and African Studies.

"I think this is a question of setting the right priorities," Professor Henry Rosovsky, chairman of the committee said.

"We are dealing with 21 million of our own people with a special history, culture and range of problems.

"If we can bend over backwards to help foreign students, why can't we do it for our own people who have the potential but just may need some extra help?

* * *

Among the committee recommendations were:

—Setting aside up to 20 five-year scholarships indefinitely for black students and intensive recruitment of blacks for both undergraduate and graduate study.

—Establishing a degree program in Afro-American Studies and improvement of existing African studies courses.

—Construction of not only a center for Afro-American Studies, but a social and cultural center for blacks, similar to the International Student Center or the Newman Center for Roman Catholic Students, since "black students feel aliematet from, even neg-

—Hiring 10 specialists in leitet within, Harvard."

—Hiring 10 specialists in the Afro-American fields of history, sociology, government, economics, literature and the arts.

Harvard, which was found in 1636, has several hundred black students in its total enrollment.

FEBRUARY 11

John Eager Howard School No. 61 PTA, meets 7:15 at the school, 2011 Linden Ave.

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PRIETO MARINATED ARTICHOKE HEARTS 3 6½-oz. jars 99¢
FLOATING SOAP TWO GUYS PURE WHITE giant bars 19¢
SPRAY SIZING SMOOTH FOR EASY IRONING 1-qt. 6-oz. aerosol cans 39¢
TWO GUYS CHOCOLATE MALLOW COOKIES 5 7-oz. boxes 51¢
LICKITY SPLITS BURRY'S CHOC or VAN 1-lb 1-oz box 43¢
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That's why LEE SIMMS Is the man for the Job of District 8 Director

1. Lee Simms has the experience.
He's worked his way up from the ranks. He's been active in organizing, servicing local unions, arbitration, processing grievances, negotiating contracts, supervising USWA staff activities.

2. Lee Simms has integrity.
He knows the union has to work for all its members. He knows that trade union principles come first when carrying out union business. He's proud to live and work in the Steelworker tradition.

3. Lee Simms has the program.
He knows that a district director must concentrate on local needs. He knows what the international headquarters can provide, and how to get headquarters help when Maryland Steelworkers need it. He knows that housing, health care, education, and retraining programs are important additions to union goals of wages, hours, and working conditions.

Those are three good reasons why you will benefit from the election of Lee Simms as District 8 Director.

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Committee to Elect Lee Simms District Director, District 8, USWA

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Your Federal income tax

The AFRO-AMERICAN, in cooperation with the Internal Revenue Service, Baltimore District, will publish each week in this column, tax information that will enable taxpayers to become more familiar with the Federal income tax laws.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. — I received my tax forms in the mail but my son didn't. Why is that? He started working last summer and taxes are being taken out of his wages.

A — A tax return is mailed to everyone who filed a return for the previous year. Your son would therefore not receive a tax form if he started working in 1968 as you indicate.

Copies of the 1968 tax forms and instructions are available at local IRS offices as well as many post offices and banks.

Q — If I file my 1968 return by the end of January can I forget about the fourth installment of my estimated tax?

A — Yes, if you file your 1968 return by January 31 paying any balance due at that time. But don't forget that 1969 declarations must be filed by April 15.

Q — Last year I sold some stock I had received from my father's estate. Do I have to pay tax on this money?

A — You will only have to include in income any increase between the value of the stock at the time your father died and what you sold it for.

The amount of the increase will have to be reported as a capital gain on Schedule D. However, if the stock decreased in value the loss may be used to reduce any other capital gains you might have to report for 1968. For details see the instructions on Schedule D.

Q — I got married last year and my wife and I both received 1040 tax packages. If we file a joint return, whose label should be put on the form, mine or hers?

A — On joint returns the account is primarily identified by the husband's social security number. Therefore, file the return with your label adding your wife's name to it but be sure also to enter your wife's social security number on the return in the space provided for it.

Q — I can't find the W-2 form I got from my summer job. What should I do?

A — Contact your former employer and ask him for a duplicate copy of your W-2 statement.

Q — Is it true that if I have less than $100 a year in dividends I don't have to report them on my tax return?

A — All the dividends you receive should be reported but generally the first $100 in dividends is not subject to tax.

Q. I work as a baby sitter in a private home and earn $30.00 a week. My employer takes out social security tax. Shouldn't she be taking out income tax also?

A. No. Income tax is not withheld from domestic or farm employees by the employer.

Q. My husband is past retirement age and gets a monthly social security check. We have one child now age 17½ and I along with the child get a monthly social security check. When my child reaches age 18, she plans to go on to school. Will both my daughter and I receive our social security checks as long as she is in school?

A. No. Your daughter can continue to receive her social security check after age 18 and up to age 22 so long as she is unmarried, a full-time student and not earning over $1500 per year; however, your social security check will terminate when your child reaches 18 unless you are then age 62 or older. Three months before you are age 62 you should get in touch with your social security office. They will assist you in applying for benefits.

Income tax booklet out

"Your Federal Income Tax," a 160-page booklet on Federal taxes, written in layman's language, is now available at most Internal Revenue Service offices throughout Maryland and the District of Columbia, according to Mr. Irving Machia, District Director of Internal Revenue.

The booklet may also be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, at 60 cents a copy.

Law to protect interstate land buyers enacted

WASHINGTON — The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has published in the Federal Register its proposed regulations for administering the new Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act.

As enacted in Title XIV of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, this law protects buyers of unimproved lots offered by mail or by other means of interstate commerce. It takes effect April 28 this year.

The new regulations spell out the procedures by which developers must comply with the law in registering with HUD and furnishing property reports to lot buyers in advance of sale or lease of land sold by mail or any means of interstate commerce. The Act exempts developers of subdivisions of fewer than 50 lots.

Persons who seek changes in the proposed regulations have 30 days to submit their comments to HUD's Office of Interstate Land Sales Registration, Washington, D.C. 20411. The regulations were published Jan. 28.

MARCH 22

The Villa Regina School will hold a Cultural Tour to New York City. For information, call Mrs. Betty Wilson 947-0479 or Sister Agnes at 377-2774.

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