Nelema Cona 20th Century Dress & Culture 3/4/21

S-bend Corset

- https://lucycorsetry.com/research-corset-brands/guided-galleries/s-bend-edwar dian-corsets/
- https://redthreaded.com/products/fit-sample-sale-1900s-edwardian-s-bend-cor sets

The S-bend silhouette first appeared around 1900 and dominated until the decade's end. The S-bend is characterized by a rounded, forward-leaning chest with hips pulled back, which is created by a particular type of corset. The silhouette's name comes from the shape, which represents a tilted S. A flat, straight front and low on the busts, like corsets of late 19th century protecting the breast and pushing the waist, the corset itself is also flat. Many women wore busts improvers or padded corset coverings for the perfect complete, rounded, and unarticulated bustline. Almost always the subsequent silhouette is recognized as the pouter's pigeon as it appeared like a potor pigeon's chest. In the years 1904-05, the S-bend was at its peak of popularity. The S-bend was worn for day and night, but the night bodices were cut much lower than the day bodices. The classic "S-bend" shape is created by nipping in the stomach and exaggerating the hips with these corsets. Wide round hips, small waists, and low bosoms were all the fashion in this period. These corsets have a shorter mid-bust length. The pattern of those corsets would be an additional 2-3" in the hip and add hip pads that can be tacked or pinned onto the hip of the corset to fill out the side back and help you achieve this silhouette without excessive tightlacing. This gives the impression of a smaller waist. It is a natural Corset design, bringing comfort and easiness to the wearer, and it is a sleek, elegant body impact. Since each line is customized, there is no binding or short breathing. It places all of the emphasis on the hips and back muscles, keeping the body upright and straight and giving it a military look.

Though its corset has traditionally been linked with both elegance and sexism, today's corsetry has been reclaimed by women who are confident in their sexuality. Now, corsets are often made from silk, coutil, or other decorative fabrics. The corset is for anyone around the world, men preferred their stomachs to be pulled in, while women preferred their chests to be pushed up and out. Corsets are making a comeback in popularity at this time of period.





Bon Marché S-Bend Corset, circa 1904



