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People

TEMPO 3

Cost of life in the fast lane

He has money and mansions, but denies alone in his front window, the top-ranking Melbourne restaurant that bears his name. MICHAEL CAVE talks to Dennis Gowing, a man of millions.

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jobs, working for the SEC, at hotels, as a photographer and finally as a trainer car salesman.

"I was offered two jobs — one in new cars and the other in used cars," he says. "The weekly wage was higher for getting used cars, but I noticed that the home of the new car salesman was in a suburb with a bloody mansion that belonged to the head of the SEC."

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Sitting at a table for one with a cordless telephone last week, Gowing ate a quick lunch before the one o'clock rush. He passed the time by reading the paper, but he was not a reader. "I could have without papers, but I couldn't go without them. I would have had a friend. What about dinner?"

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Russian women dress to cover up



RUSA GOBBACHEV's designer takes short skirts. The last few years were high, in the '80s, Yves-senior Zolner said. There was no mystery left. And mystery, to the man who dresses the Soviet Union's fashion elite as well as Russia's best-known couturier, is much of what fashion is all about. This may be the day of 'openness' in Soviet politics, but in Soviet fashion, as with much else, it is almost all covering up still the rule.

It even means to see. "You have to have the women concealed in fashion," Zolner's primary styling has done since his visit to New York. "You have to have a bit of mystery so men's eyes see everything. The more you can learn about the woman, the more interested they are in her, the more interested she is in them."

This makes him, he suggested, something of a marriage therapist as well as a dressmaker. Zolner remembers a woman from Siberia who came to see him in his Moscow fashion house. She was married with three children and had read about him in the press. "I felt my husband was having an affair and I was not sure if I should tell him or not. I don't like to tell him," she says. "I told him and he told me. I told him and he told me. I told him and he told me."

Some of Zolner's clothes on parade are from his collection over in Moscow; others are for sports, designed in Moscow but imported to be made in North Carolina for sale in the United States. This most recent collection, bootstrapped, the Soviet policy for garments, the Soviet policy for garments, the Soviet policy for garments.

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