

# FREAK SUITS TO THE REAR

### Diamond Waistcoat Real Thing on Wednesdays—Specials Every Day

CHICAGO, Feb. 4.—Peg tops, cant cuffs, trouser cuffs, box collars, shoulder pads, big buttons, flaps, slanting pockets, annex shirts and all other freak features of men's apparel have been placed under the ban of the Merchant Tailors' National Protective Association, and a conspiracy has been formulated to put them out of vogue at the sixth annual convention, which is now being held in Chicago.

**New Walking Suit.**  
Notwithstanding the general taboo to be issued against frakishness, sartorial 1909 will feature several innovations. There will be introduced to the gentleman's wardrobe an absolutely new creation, to be christened the "American walking suit." It will correspond somewhat to the English article.

**"Diamond" Waistcoat.**  
The up-to-date man must wear on Wednesdays a diamond waistcoat. This has the flaps cut diamond shape, has diamond-shaped and diamond-set buttons. The pockets are diamond patch in style. To be complete a diamond pin should be worn with a tie of diamond stripes. There are other waistcoats for every day in the week.

**Brilliant Tie; Green Hat.**  
The favorite shirt this spring will be in tan and plaid broad stripes. The tie will be brilliant and the hats will be green. The double-breasted frock coat will be put away with the moth balls if the tailors' association has its way. It is to be superseded by a single-breasted frock coat with a dip front. All the last month, the tailors have been cutting, ripping and sewing to prepare these model garments, which will be exhibited during the convention this week.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Feb. 4.—The final vote will be taken in the senate this afternoon on the Walker-Otis anti-race track bill, when it will be the special order of the day. It is conceded that it will be passed by five to one. The opposition will move to reconsider, but will only delay its final adoption for a few days.

## PEOPLE OF THE DAY

**House Minority Leader.**  
Champ Clark of Missouri, successor to John Sharp Williams as floor leader of the house minority, is one of the most picturesque figures in congress. He is an all around big man—big in size, big in heart, big of brain and he has an abiding faith in the Democracy. Next to his party Mr. Clark loves Missouri best. A few years ago he was on the lecture platform in Kansas when he became ill and was told he had only an even chance to live. "What more does a man want?" he demanded. "Just put me in a car and



CHAMP CLARK.  
start me back to Missouri. Going back home is enough to make any man well."

Before the train reached Kansas City he was on the road to recovery. Mr. Clark is a native of Kentucky and will be fifty-eight years old next March. He has worked as a hired farm hand, clerked in country stores, edited a country newspaper and practiced law. Before he moved to Missouri in 1875 he was president of Marshall college, West Virginia, and for many years held the record for being the youngest college president.

The new minority leader is serving his seventh term in congress and was re-elected last November. He was permanent chairman of the Democratic national convention of 1904 and chairman of the committee to notify Judge Parker of his nomination.

**Kipling Made Taft Smile.**  
William H. Taft wasn't born to his famous smile. He didn't have it while in college. A close friend of his declared it was formed from reading Kipling, says the New York World.

Mr. Taft was very ill in January, 1902, when he left Manila on the train port Grant for San Francisco. While confined to his stateroom he read Kipling. "The Naulahka—A Tale of the West and the East" pleased him most, especially this verse:  
Now, it is not good for the Christian health to handle the Arabian bow,  
For the Christian rises and the Arabian smiles and waxes the Christian down.  
And the end of the fight is to restore white and the home of the Christian down.  
And the epitaph reads: "The man here who tried to handle the Arabian bow."

Reckless Kipling, Mr. Taft has other hobbies. One is music, particularly ragtime—favorite tunes, "Rufus Rasmus Johnson Brown" and "The Road to Mandalay."

# LEWIS WRITES OF PRUNING

### Issues Statement Regarding Trimming of Trees and Tells Latest Methods

Professor C. I. Lewis, professor of horticulture at the Oregon agricultural college, has issued the following regarding pruning of trees:

Many people seem to think that pruning is a weakening, a devitalizing practice, and it may be such; but only under very unusual circumstances. Nature is a vigorous pruner—probably not more than one bud in ten survives in the race. Notice the forest trees, how the lower branches die; or even in our orchards how many of the branches succumb in the battle of life. Pruning when properly done, instead of devitalizing, should give more life, more vigor, to the plant.

**Learn Balance First.**  
The first lesson for us to learn is that there is a natural balance between the root and the top. Disturb gently this balance and you give rise to serious reactions. Deep plowing of an orchard which has not been plowed for years cuts off many of the feeding roots. Unless the top is pruned back we find that the tree makes a feeble growth, the leaves being often less than half their normal size, the fruit small and often worthless. On the other hand, should you prune the top very severely on trees of good vitality, the reaction will be a thick growth of water-sprouts, which will sap the vitality from the other parts of the tree. Only by laborious summer pruning and everlasting vigilance for several years can the tree be restored to its normal condition. There are certain cases where heavy pruning is advisable. Often old peach trees have lost all the vigorous wood, especially that which is found on the inside and lower sections of the tree. Such trees have outlived their usefulness but often have the vitality sufficient to grow a new top when they are very severely cut back to stubs. Likewise old cherry trees which have in some cases ten or 12 feet of dead wood in the top can be built into strong, vigorous, heavy producing trees by cutting back severely, to vigorous wood. In such cases we are confining the whole energy of the trees to a much reduced number of buds. Bodily frozen trees are given the same treatment.

**Young Trees Hardy.**  
Young trees will stand much more severe pruning than old ones. The reaction can be handled much more easily, by a combination of summer and winter pruning. The problems of pruning, then, differ with the age of the tree. We find the habits of the young tree to be different from those of the old one. In the young tree the terminal buds are the dormant ones, while in the old tree the lateral buds become the stronger. A pruned tree always tends to return to its natural habit of growth. But the center from a tree and you will note that it strives to develop a new one. Head in a strong grower, it tends to shoot upward again. I would not have the reader think that we can modify by pruning, for it is well known that the heading in of young trees develops a stronger lateral growth. This heading in, if too severe, in some cases serves as a check to the tree and serves to induce fruitfulness by causing the formation of fruit spurs.

The season has an influence on pruning. Winter tends to produce wood. Summer pruning, if lightly done, probably aids in the formation of fruit buds. A combination of the two will probably give the best success. As an example, the thinning out of surplus wood in winter and the light heading in during the summer.

Such phases will be discussed more in detail in the future.

In conclusion, I would state that the habit and individuality of the tree must be studied if one prunes intelligently. Some trees are naturally very fruitful; others are not, and often in such cases pruning seems to be of little value.

**GOVERNMENT LETS BIG CONTRACT FOR CANAL**  
KIAMATH FALLS, Or., Feb. 4.—The first large contract for canal extension under the co-operative system has been let by the government to W. H. Mason. The contract comprises six and a half miles of laterals in the lower project. The bid was 22 cents for first grade, 40 cents for second grade and 41 third grade. Payment will be made in scrip under the cooperative plan, and this scrip can be applied on payment of water rates. It is negotiable so that the contractor himself will not necessarily apply it on his own water rates.

**HERMANN TO CONTINUE HIS WORK IN WASHINGTON**  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Ex-Land Commissioner Hermann stated last evening that he had no intention of going abroad pending his trial. "I wish to go abroad, but cannot go this year," he said. "I intend remaining here until after inauguration, and then expect to return to Oregon. I am here trying to get appropriations for Oregon rivers and harbors, and while the outlook is not bright, based on the action of the house committee, I hope when the emergency rivers and harbors bill reaches the senate that the appropriation approved by it will be enlarged, so that work under progress may be carried on, surveys made which have been recommended, and a start made on new projects which have been surveyed and approved."

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