

THE MAN OF SPRINGTIME AND HIS CLOTHES

Styles That Have the Indorsement of the Leading Tailors



A REVOLUTION has taken place in the fashions of men. It has brought us to the era of individuality.

A revolution which, although startling in its way, occurred so quietly that when you get your spring suit and outfit you will not, perhaps, notice it. It began a number of years ago, but only now, to the observer, are the effects quite visible.

This spring you will notice but few radical changes in men's dress, an amazing absence of fads in his attire, a conspicuous sobriety in color and tone and few alterations in the cuts.

"This is because the best tailors no longer build a suit after a certain ordained fashion," declared one of the "best" tailors the other day, "but we make a style for every individual man. The day when a single style was made for men of all ages and all sizes has passed."

"The modern tailor sizes up his patron and builds a suit accordingly. His purpose is now to bring out the good features of the man, to harmonize the suit with his shape and bulk, and make of him an artistic creation."

As well be out of the world as out of fashion.—Cibber.

"YOU have heard," said the sartorial authority quoted above, "that London fashions influence the fashions of men here. That is a myth to a great extent. Comparatively few English styles take root in this country."

"For instance, ever there at present they are wearing body-fitting garments. We should not think of making a body-fitting garment, unless we decided it would show to better advantage than any other kind on a particular patron."

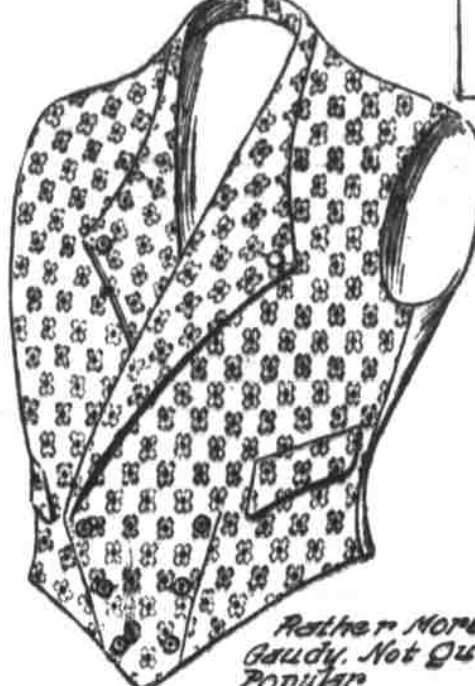
In the cuts of suits there are comparatively few changes, and in the more radical styles the distinctive feature will be a bulging of the coat about the chest, with a pronounced collar roll.

Colors will be subdued. Many weird and unique

An Advanced Type of Walking Suit



Pronounced Collar Rolls a Distinctive Feature



Likely to Lead the Waistcoat Array



This is English, You Know

will insure a relief from any possible monotony in the vogue of that color. At the same time innumerable shades and designs in blue and gray offer an almost confusing opportunity for selection.

Striped with harmonious colors, many fabrics also show faint "invisible" stripes. These delicate combinations of color will offer the opportunity of harmonizing waistcoats to the suits; in fact, one can run a combination of stripes, from the tie, through the shirt and waistcoat to the suit.

A RADICAL IDEA

Perhaps one of the most radical and really new styles is that of a coat cut rather full, with a swelling, rolling collar, or collar. This coat will be cut about eight inches fuller than the chest measurement.

Sack coats will be cut of a medium length; two and three buttons will be used; vents will be worn either at the side or center. Last fall coats were made without vents.

Upon one thing the tailors are unanimous—the concave shoulder has gone for good.

A happy medium has been obtained, a compromise between the concave shoulder and the natural.

The effect of the new coat with the rolling collar will be particularly cool. A style of sack coat will dip in the front. Single-breasted sacks will prevail. Another radical coat will be a single-breasted sack closing with one button.

Cuffs on the legs of trousers will not be worn, excepting in negligee and outing suits. Made slightly narrower than those of last season, the trousers will give the suggestion of the pegtop. At the seam there will be a three-eighth-inch welt.

Waistcoats! In these the gay heart of man has been wont to disport in rainbow hues and golden, jeweled buttons and glistening silken braids.

Yes, Mr. Man, you will be able to wear bright colors this Easter, but not so bright and variegated as last season. For some reason the sartorial authorities have decreed to tone down the colors; and perhaps it was not unwise.

These waistcoats will be worn mostly single breasted, with five or six buttons. The gold and jewel buttons of last spring have been superseded by the button of plain pearl.

Flannels will be favored; of various colors, such as light brown, light gray, pearl or tan, striped suitably as will match the stripes of the suitings. Vestings of linen and duck in white, pearl and tan will be popular.

The aim in waistcoats will be, first, to harmonize them with the suit. In lieu of this, it will be eminently proper to produce a decided contrast. A double-breasted waistcoat, made of flashy fancy material, will be worn by less conservative dressers. But it will not be so popular as the plainer single-breasted garment. Collars will not be made on the waistcoats.

A unique walking coat will appear with the spring. This will be made of rather fancy goods and dip to the front. There will be two buttons. To appreciate the modish effect, you have only to compare it with the English suit, which is narrow, body-fitting and rather ingressive.

While the English coat is cut round, the new American walking coat is cut in a straight line from the last button.

A Prince Albert coat with a roll collar will undoubtedly prove striking. Whether or not it will win any degree of favor remains to be seen.

Of course, the least possible changes are made in the full dress. But occasionally some one takes a vagary, and a slight innovation appears. With the dress suit

this spring a coat will appear which will dip slightly to the front, and with a shawl collar.

There will be a Tuxedo with a peaked lapel and outside breast pockets. Of a medium length, it will be made with a cuff on the sleeves, with four or five buttons. Silk will run to the edge of the cape.

This style is rather unusual, and the effect is exceedingly picturesque. Tailors, however, do not hesitate to say that only the most radical dressers will affect this coat.

Trousers with the dress clothing will be made with a three-quarter-inch flat silk braid on the seams.

Dress costume stands for convention. And few tailors have the temerity to meddle with this grouch, hidebound old creature. Some brave spirits, however, are willing to run the gauntlet of social criticism, and so each season some little novelty in dress is introduced.

Now, the extreme of full dress is the outing attire. Here one may take liberties ad libitum. The designs for these suits are optional with the tailors. A sack coat with two or three buttons will prevail.

Light flannels and club checks will vie for favor. There will be many charming worsted effects. Trousers will be turned up at the bottom. Grays and light tan will, perhaps, keep a close running for popular favor.

Spring overcoats will be made in gray and shades of brown and green. They will extend to the knee, a medium length, and hang almost straight in the back.

Pockets will be of the patch variety, with outside flaps. Collars will be made of the same material as the coat or a contrasting shade of velvet. When this is done, the cuffs will be piped with velvet.

It would be impossible to describe the shirtings and ties. They run the entire gamut of colors and shades. Pinks and greens, browns and blues, or blue and yellow and brown, and yellow effects, and purple and yellow or red will predominate.

Narrow ties, as well as the flowing silk ties, will be worn, the prevailing designs running in stripes. Last spring there was a riot of color in men's fashions. Like the peacock, he blossomed in gay suitings, waistcoats of screaming hues and bizarre combinations of color.

Now, for good or ill, he has selected the more sober dress, and his gaily will run in waistcoats, shirtings and ties. Perhaps, indeed, he has taken to his heart the maxim of Lady Montagu:

Be plain in dress, but sober in your diet.

And if that old saw of Herrick:

A sweet disorder in the dress
Kindles in clothes a wantonness.

be true, the man of spring will be irreproachably sedate and proper in dress and action.

In surveying the spring fashions, the striking feature is the lack of novelties, of extremes. Gone are the exaggerated peg trousers. Into the nether depths of oblivion have sunk the concave shoulders, so popular a few years ago. Perished are the spotty cuffs at the bottom of man's bifurcated apparel. And faded are the wondrous iridescent hues that glowed and burned on once-popular waistcoats.

Instead, there comes an era of harmony. Man, say the gods of the fashion world, is not a fool; at least, he should not be. Let him be a work of art. Let the ped, the horse, like the farmer, will shed his coat. Bay

colors wherein he clothes himself not clash, but run in delicate lines of accord. Let his garments be such as to display the best features of his shape.

And so the man of the coming spring will step forth a thing of beauty to look upon. At least, so 'tis said.

Quoth the tailor emphatically:
"The age of extravagance and eccentricity, let us hope, is past."

"That the age of sense in men's costume has come there is no doubt."

"Among the cheaper dressers fads will arise and pass, but the man who cares for his appearance and who wishes to look well certainly will not adopt a certain cut or style just because it happens to run in general favor."

"The best tailors are hardly ever able to tell you what the predominant style will be at the beginning of a season. The good tailor now studies a man and schemes out a style for that particular man. He does not follow a stereotyped fashion. He must be original to be successful. He must make his work artistic."

"And that's what we are doing. I think this spring will be manifest the coming spring possibly more clearly than ever before, simply because of the absence of the bizarre."

"The absurdity of a vogue of a particular fad can be seen at a glance. Imagine a tall man wearing an extremely short coat simply because the short coat is in vogue; or the fat man, for instance, wearing an unusually long coat if long coats be 'the' thing!"

"We now make clothes for the man. The man must not necessarily fit himself to the clothes."

Well, let us watch and see!

Spring Styles in the Country

THERE will be little change among spring styles in the country for 1908. Of course, the winter nubias, wristlets, knitted scarfs, pulse-warmers, knee-warmers and ear-taps will be laid aside.

The farmer will discard his coat and vest and substitute overalls for his trousers. The snake will slip out of his skin for a more gorgeous one. "The wanton lapwing will get himself another crest." If not clipped



One of the New Ideas for Spring

will be the prevailing equine color.

Among trees, green will be the prevailing shade. The well-ordered sky will wear various hues of blue, and clouds will be in good form, either in white or black. The moon will be yellow throughout the year, like some newspapers, and the stars will twinkle in emulation. Pessimistic people will look blue, and envious persons green.

Coat styles for country editors are longer. Immediately on discarding the overcoat, no garment shorter of frock length will be permissible for his appearance in public with any degree of self-respect or desire to obey the laws of the land.

Plumbers' and doctors' bills will be worn longer. Money will be shorter and tighter, while stocks—except for the neck—will be discarded entirely.

The Hat that Crowns the New Spring Suit



When You Go the Limit? The Tuxedo Top Piece The Season's Derby Idea For the More Sedate Has a Careless Air

OF COURSE, the question, Wherewith shall a man be covered? is not nearly so important as that which concerns women.

But the styles of men's hats are matters of no little importance to the artists whose purpose is to create some new and attractive headgear for the sterner sex.

New styles in hats for men! Certainly. Hardly as conspicuous as the Italian garden and Japanese mountain effects, with the popular ornithological creations, of the women, perhaps. But

SPEAKING of new spring styles in hats—not for the women, please, but for men—there are quite a few new features.

Not so conspicuous as those of the fair one. No, no. Nor so expensive. But as important—to the men.

During the spring and summer straws naturally will be worn—as they always are. However, this season the brims will be slightly wider than those of previous summers, and the crowns will decrease slightly in height. The favorite hats, it is said, will be of the coarse and fine sennit.

A fine split straw, as usual, will be favored, while the soft, split straw, with the slightly broader brim, will be favored for daily use. Panamas will remain in popular favor, but with crowns less high than formerly.

A unique feature in the fashionable straw hat will be a cord about the edge of the brim of the hat. This will give a peculiarly neat effect.

A soft mackinaw will be largely in favor, too, and will be worn turned down in the front.

For a rather dressy person the cord-edged hat will afford a certain glowing flower, these hats certainly can be changed only in the lines, width and turn of brims and in the height and shape of the tops.

SOBER HEAD COVERINGS

Man undoubtedly is modest compared with woman when it comes to hats, and while you will see the ladies wearing hats with immense, wide, amazingly wide, brims, decorated with wonderful plumes, brown, and crimson and green, man will adopt a stiff hat with a slightly more pronounced bell-shape dome or top.

Women, too, will affect a very small, neat French hat, which will fit snugly on the head. Made of colored straw and covered with feathers, or simply buried in gray glowing flowers, these hats certainly would eclipse the new derby hat for men, which can boast of only a slightly more narrow brim than formerly, curving upward.

The stiff hat is dramatic. Any hat worn by women may be a poem. Man may occasionally disport in gay waistcoats; his bosom may glow with variegated flannels and gold-braided silks, but when it comes to hats—well, his gaily suddenly stops with the close of his college days.

A new style of the stiff derby hat for spring is extremely low. In most of the styles the tops will swell out just slightly more than usual. A hat for more

conservative men will be rather high, with a perfectly flat top.

While the derby hat will grow in size, the silk hat for men will become straighter than formerly. The change, however, is very slight.

In soft hats there has been little change. A telescope will be popular, as will the high soft hat, with the crease in the middle, for business men.

The colors of soft hats will be black, tobacco brown, Belgian black, pearl and elephant, which is a light green, and other new shades.

Of course, if you are spotty, your soft hat must harmonize with your dress. There are many new colors extant in cloths, and the hat makers have not been behind in getting new shades, such as mouse and elephant skin shades, snuff colors and greenish effects.

Undoubtedly, many eccentric individuals will crush their soft felt hats into bizarre and eccentric shapes. Perhaps, as a novelty, it would be interesting with a new and rather extravagant style of hat for men evolved.

When one considers the hats of the old civilization, with their drooping plumes—hats now copied by the famous women dressers, among them Cecil Beal, the Parisian actress—the heart of man occasionally yearns for something a bit more gay.

However, for a considerable time to come it is likely mere man will let Vanity Fair carry on its monopoly in hats. Styles for women may change from mushroom shapes to peacock-tailed affairs, while the season man will merely observe the widening of the opening of the width of a brim, the swelling and shrinking of a top and the occasional adoption of a new, yet somber, color.