

# Spring Styles For Men



We find ourselves, like the fairer sex, on the verge of a new era in styles for spring and summer clothes.

It has always been conceded that fashions depend for their innovations on the trend of current events. If we take that for a fact, it is reasonable to suppose that we will have a heterogeneous array of styles to choose from. It is so with women's apparel, and with matters of decoration; that we are in rather a muddle as to what we do want as to clothes as well as government and silhouettes. But make, our tailors decided on one thing for us early in the spring, and to that edict we shall stick, through the summer months at least, and leave it to the fall to bring a brand new set of rules for cutting our clothes.

According to this early decision of artists, the outline of the male figure is to be definitely discernible in the styles for the next few months. Form fitting is the note, and from some of the samples, it is reasonable to fear that mature men with a decided tendency to plumpness will have to wear stays to get away with the last word in masculine decoration. The idea is to have the clothes dashing and youthful without being extreme.

Classy in cut but not conspicuous. Tailors realize that they have not the same figures to fit that they had in ante-war days, and they are allowing for the increased breadth of chest and muscular development of legs. The scoop-shouldered effect will be taboo, and in their stead will be coats a trifle longer and looser, but still fitting the figure, trousers not quite so skimpy, and plenty of room for the new strong backs which military experience has created.

The single breasted suit is the favorite this spring, and exceedingly good are the lines developed in these models. Shoulders are slightly wider, and the seams are accorded treatment which add to the total of good looks. Crescent and slash pockets are both seen a lot, but there is still no tendency to fancy effects in flaps. There are no buttons to speak of on sleeves and none at all on pockets. It is very evident that we cannot recover all at once from the embargo on such luxuries. Double breasted models are seen also, and there are plenty of discernible tricks to their fashioning which make them as popular with those who prefer them as the single breasted. All of the suits reflect the military influence in a general way, by the widening of the shoulders as mentioned above, and almost without fail they are all showing the new waist line which is very much used. Even plain, prosaic business suits will have this nipped-in effect imparted to it by the high waist and a long vent back.

In materials we will have as the most popular the unfinished woolsens, chevot, homespun and cashmere for early wear. For sports and summer uses there are flannels, light weight serges, gabardines and mohairs. There is already a tendency toward recreational garments to be made of silk, linen or other delicate materials.

In patterns, stripes will be the vogue, with a second in overplaid effects. Narrow stripes will prevail, while those of the shadow type will also be good. Checks will not be used with as great prodigality as in former seasons, though there are men who cannot live through a spring triola without their gambler's pincheck suit.

Green is the predominant color note in suits and overcoats, and we see a lot of brown, tan and gray represented in all the patterns. There are a few shades of blue, which is always good, but the two first named colors will have preference over

others for every day wear. Materials of a very dark foundation have over treatments of a salt and pepper effect in reds and greens which are quite snappy for the young man.

Top coats for spring are practically the same as they were in the winter when it comes to lines, except like the suits they are more form fitting. The knee length style is the best buy, and the skirts flare a bit more this season. Few pockets are seen. Reversible motor coats of leather on one side and gabardine on the other are quite useful and come in a number of styles, some with patch pockets and others rather plain with only a belt. They are in three-quarter or full lengths.

Heather brown and green are the predominant notes in color for the new sports togethery. Riding suits in the former fabric have flaring skirts, a back vent running to the inevitable waist line, diagonal pockets and on some of the swaggy ones we find an extra outside flapped pocket in which to carry change. Golf suits show practically the same lines, with a little additional strapping and probably another tab or two for good measure. It was sports clothing that missed the extras most when we had to forego them.

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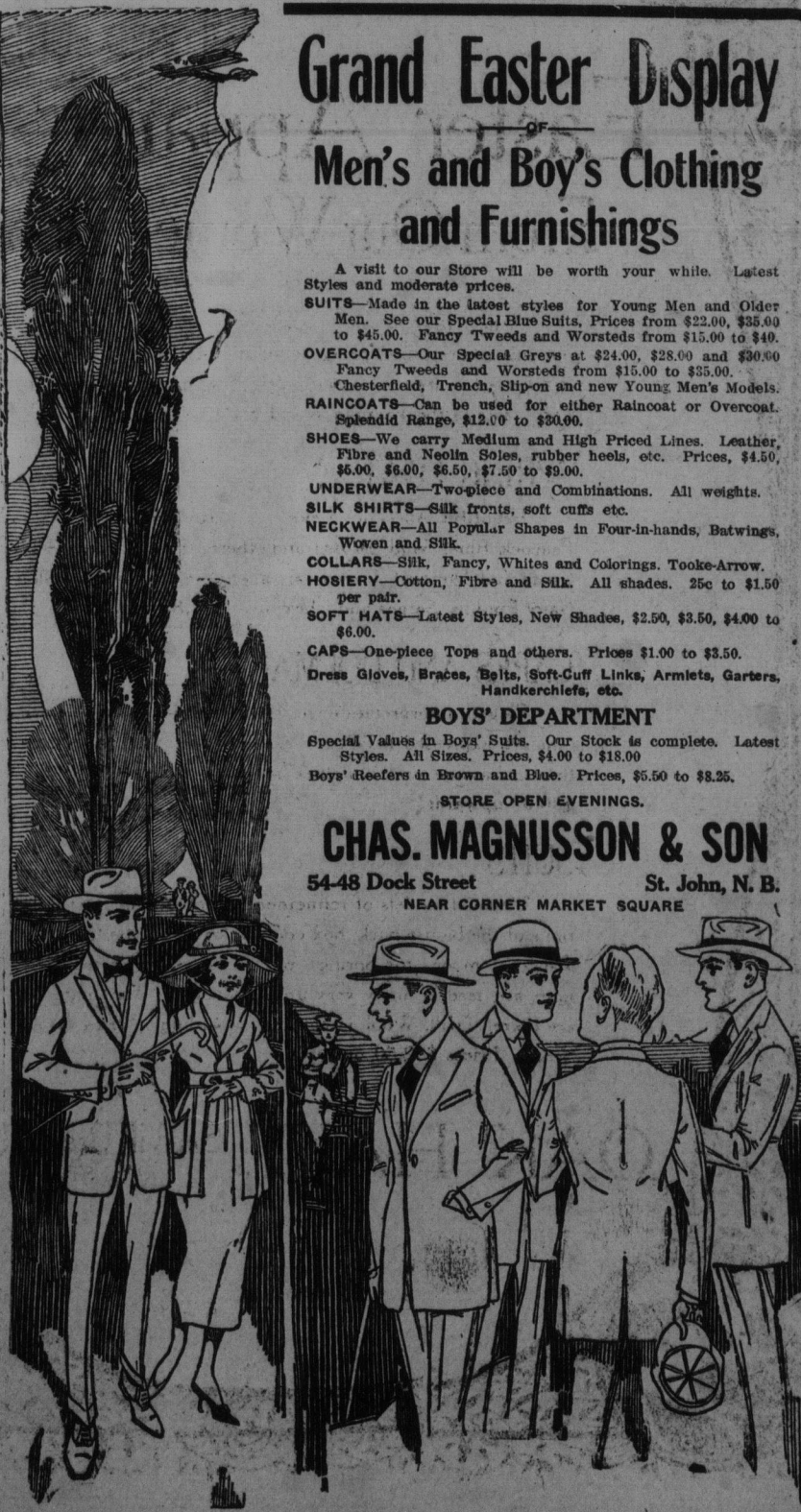
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## Spring

The past few months have been a time of watchful waiting on the part of students of fashion. The great question—shall we have a new silhouette?—has been answered a dozen different ways. Some designers say we shall, and have gone so far as to contribute sketches of the new woman of the new era. We looked and read, dubiously at the longer and perceptibly smaller waist-line; the full effect over the hips and the flatness in the back and in the front. This sounds very plausible, and is a hypothesis for countless degressions, except for those vertical lines in the back and front of the skirt. They are very well to consider for the slender figure, but when one just isn't vertical anywhere, the well laid plans of our dressmakers must come to grief. However, so far there is no radical change in the figure's outline, though there is no telling where the whims of the experts may lead us before the summer is over. It is perhaps worth while to consider that other wars have had their effect upon styles but gradually, with no sudden difference in the mode, simply a slow drifting over a period of several seasons into a culmination of a new fashion.

After all, does a silhouette really matter? Women have become independent along other lines, and when we stop and take a look at the varied periods we see sponsored on the smartest dresses, it does look as if they were no longer slaves to their modiste's dictation. We see simultaneously on the newest and most dashing costumes any one of three styles of waist, high, low, and the new "near-waist" waist. We have skirts pleated, skirts short and skimp, skirts long and slit for ease in walking. We have long, light sleeves, flowing sleeves and short fitted sleeves. Variety is the word, yet it spells style as expressed by individuality.

Woolen fabrics which are the most popular for early spring suits are duvety, tricotine, gabardine, light weight broadcloth and the ubiquitous serge. Black, blue, gray, and combinations of blue and heath, black and tan, and gray and navy are seen in the popular coat dresses. Braiding is extremely popular again, and is carried out in silk and wool combinations.

