

"What's What" In Correct Spring Clothes FOR MEN

Fashions are so definitely influenced by current events that it was only natural that the military note should stand high in fashion details for men. This trend became so pronounced in its ornamental and embellishments of belts, inverted pleats, fanciful pocket designing, etc., that it produced an alarming consumption of fabrics so precious at this time in the national scheme of wool conservation.

The Economy Board of the National Defense Committee have found necessary to curb this tendency with stringent mandates to the clothing manufacturers and designers for the elimination of all fashion details that require an unnecessary employment of fabrics.

The edict has gone forth and all the clothing associations, both retail and wholesale, have complied with the order thereby introducing for spring and summer a conspicuous moderation in fashion details. Belts on both suits and overcoats are absolutely taboo. Likewise box pleats, inverted pleats, flaps on vests, pocket decorations requiring extra material also cut ornamentation which contribute to the wastage of cloth.

At first thought one might think that this order will rob men's fashions of all character and distinctiveness but an observation of the styles already shown for the season will immediately impress you with the clever resourcefulness and versatility of those who design the clothing fashions.

There have been evolved beautifully artistic lines in modelling in both the suits and overcoats that express class, individuality and refinement. As a compromise to the elimination of pocket flaps we see smart looking crescent shaped pockets and slash pockets. These are set out with a touch of piping that adds a smart note of styling.

The models in suits are still suggestive of the military, but rather in the form tracing lines than in decorative details. This is accomplished by a widening of the shoulders and a military blouse effect without, however, the employment of padding. Also emphasizing the seams develops this military aspect to the styles.

Double-breasted suits will be extremely popular this spring and exceedingly smart lines in the modelling are introduced to make them so. These coats emphasize the military details referred to in the paragraph above. Either piped crescent pockets or slash pockets are evident in almost all these double-breasted suits. There will be some button ornamentation but less than heretofore which will be especially noticeable by the fewer button effects found on sleeves. Since flap pockets come under the embargo, of course, there will be no button treatments on flaps but a few models treat the button and pocket button hole without the flap.

Single-breasted suits are shown in many. None of these garments show full of box backs, nearly all reflect the semi-form tracing lines with straight fronts, high chest and slightly wider shoulders. Two breast and two side pockets are shown on almost all these Spring suits. Few of the coats show vents.

The popular materials are woads, chevots, cassimeres, tweeds, Scotchies and novelty weaves and mixtures. Among these novelty effects the most popular are light weight whippoorwill, flannels, iridescent, gabardines and coverts.

There really is no definite class of pattern effects that is given greater prominence than others in the pre-

scribed vogue. Checks, overplaids, self-stripes, shadow stripes, pin checks, interwoven mixtures and narrow stripes of the chalk line and pencil line variety are the most evident. The color edicts, as well, offer great latitude for the expression of personal preference. Colors which are displayed the more prominently are browns and greens in various tones, grays, mauve, plum, purple, myrtle, mauve and blue are all represented in the variety of pattern effects and combinations of these colors constitute the mixed patterns. Sprinklings of red and green are popular as the outstanding colors in the schemes that involve a number of colors on a dark foundation tone.

Vests are nearly all single-breasted

THE HOME COMFORTABLE

More and more is the fact being brought home to us that the home is the setting for the play of life. Particularly, now, that women are so universally leading the workaday life, done all day, to war charities and suffrage meetings, the sweet atmosphere of home is more poignantly dear to them than ever before,—they have their men folk's viewpoint, intensified by their own creative instinct. Home making is the thing, and at this particular season there are two paramount thoughts one should hold in mind—restfulness and spaciousness. Cool vistas, calm the tired business woman, and it takes but a good eye and clever arrangement to effect a restful whole. Open windows and spring sunlight have a way of making winter upholstery look fairly wheezy and out of humor. Putting one's domicile into the mood of summer sounds like a gigantic task, but in reality the doing is easy. A new bird cage, the porch furniture re-enameled, a bed of iris, a morning-glory trained over a window—any one of these is apt to change the family's humor of a fine warm morning.

Many of us will forsake the pleasures of summering this year to pursue the course of our newly acquired and vastly becoming state of "romance of affairs." A great many more of us will remain in our town houses because commutation is expensive, and so many of our friends are staying in the city. That leaves the great majority of us, who will stay at home because it is absolutely necessary! Let us then turn to flowered crotches and cheerful china, cooling and comforting touches to help through the summer months.

Attention to detail in lighting goes a long way toward helping in the home-making problem. Lamps shaded in cool greens and pale yellows are preferable to the tasseled and two-tone shades we use in more formal seasons. Side lights should be used almost exclusively, and shielded in colors harmonizing with the furnishings. What could be prettier, at the end of the long hall with its glistening floors, than a lacquered table holding a bowl of flowers and a lamp, the parchment shade glowing softly pink in cherry blossoms?

For the living room, which must be lived in all summer, colors for the furniture should by all means be used, because it is a change, and also saves the upholstery from the merciless sun's rays and from dust. Covers of two-toned blue striped denim are fadeless and refreshing. A linen rug in the same shades of blue and light shades

and many of them are unlined. The collarless vests are most in vogue and there are no flaps on the pockets. Trousers are about the same as heretofore in width, length and fullness. Fewer cuffs are shown on trousers as a move toward cloth conservation.

Mid-summer suits are shown mostly in cool cloths and other novelty patterned weaves that are washable yet look like the woolen fabrics. Homespuns, crashes and flannels are also popular and next to these come the Palm Beach Cloths and silk textures. Many of these suits are made with vests now so as to influence men to wear these earlier in the season thereby promoting the cotton mixture fabrics for preference over the wool-

en textures. This not only is toward wool conservation but likewise encourages economy because these suits are much more inexpensive than the woolen garments.

These suits are nearly all made single-breasted with the same restrictions as to belts, etc., as are advocated on the woolen suits. There will also be an absence of belts of the same materials on trousers, a vogue which started to assume some prominence last summer.

Spring Overcoats will be mostly form-fitted, flare skirt style and Chesterfield shapes. In nearly all these models the skirts are fuller and a trifle longer than heretofore. Some show patch pockets.

For the summer dining room we have with us still the lovely painted sets which add so wonderfully to a meal. One is indeed loath to leave in the morning, and bursting to return at evening, when one may eat off a gray enameled table sprinkled with apple blossoms and set with shining silver and gay china.

Bedrooms can but achieve a cooling result by keeping to washable rugs, or light colored ones, curtains of white or voile, and white covers for dressing table and beds. A young girl's room in old ivory with rugs of blue linen, might have bed spreads, curtains and dresser covers of white flaxen, edged with embroidery insertion and a slightly ruffled ruffle of Valenciennes lace, bows of blue moire ribbon to hold back the curtains, tie about the bolster and simply enhance the dresser covers. The ivory wicker waste basket might easily have a valance of flaxen with a perky blue bow on the side.

Daytime pillows of blue-satin with washable covers of swivel with lace insets add to a lazy summer's afternoon's comfort. A good looking pillow I saw the other day had a blue satin foundation, in the center of which was embroidered a monogram. The cover of cream lace had a round window with overcast ledges left in the center. Unique and very striking if executed with absolute correctness.

Looking into the garden, who can not coax some kind of flowers to blossom? What a pleasure to see a bed of blue iris, a bird, bath a row of hollyhocks. These are being the reach of all of us, and they bring as great joy as a Chinese tea house or a marble fountain. Simple pleasures are fast becoming popular. The art lies in making our creations commit for all we mean them to, and thus with a few things effect a delightful whole in our scheme of decoration—a fitting background for the business of happy home.

There are but few new notes in men's headwear for Spring and Summer. But slight variation in proportion of brim and crown are shown in both soft and stiff hats. By far the most striking effects are seen in the scratch finish soft hats with dashing shaping of the brims that in many cases develop a very debonaire jauntiness to the man's appearance. These hats are in various shades of solid colors and mixtures of two-tones or rainbow colors. The variety is about evenly divided between the raw edge sort and the braid bound styles. Where the latter are seen the trimming effect is usually in a contrasting shade to the foundation color, bands follow the same scheme. Some have the bow at the side and others show the bow at the center of the back. Light weight velours of the silky variety are also shown for early Spring wear, these mostly in the finer imported grades of French, Italian and Belgian production. These are fine fawn, pearl gray, golden brown, chocolate, oxford and mixed effects.

Smooth finish soft hats are also shown, these largely in solid tone of the shades that have prevailed in recent seasons. Trimming effects on these are of the same schemes as described above with reference to the scratch finish hats. Telescope shapes are not nearly as popular as they were previous to the European war as since that time the military influence has promoted the trooper, alpine, sombrero and regulation army shapes. Brims are wider and crowns slightly higher and more rounded to attain the army effect.

Derbies show almost imperceptible departures and these only in variation of brim and crown proportions. Black is of course, the predominant shade, though this Spring will show more dark brown, tan, oxford and pearl stiff hats than have appeared in many seasons.

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