

There's Been Change From Time to Clime

Wars have changed men's lives; women have changed men's minds; revolutions, their ideologies; science, their world. But nothing, many have said, has changed the style of their clothes.

The by-now threadbare observation however, is false.

ALL OF THESE have had a strong influence on the cut of a man's coat, the fit of his trousers. The change seems least noticeable in the 20th century, but even here there has been definite change, and, according to one local tailor, changes are becoming more pronounced than ever.

Many minor elements in men's clothing are vestigial—remnants of long worn-out practices and needs.

BUTTONS ON cuffs seem to have had a double origin. Some historians say that Frederick the Great, king of Prussia (1712-1780) got tired of seeing soldiers wiping their noses on the sleeves of their uniforms. In defense of the German uniform he had four or five buttons sewn on the front of the sleeves.

When men wore lace at the wrists, buttons allowed them to peel back close-fitting sleeves when they wanted to get down to business with a foil or sabre.

The cravat, or necktie, has felt military influence. A Croatian regiment in the army of King Louis XIV of France (1643-1715) wore bright-colored neckerchiefs, which caught on and soon graced many a French neck. A "cravate" is a Croatian in French.

THE HARD-headed, hard-working nouveau riche created by the industrial revolution discarded the laces of the old aristocracy.

As a sign that they were the new aristocracy they replaced the frills with a practical, neat starched white shirt.

Back to buttons—those on the tails of a tuxedo once fastened pockets when men's trousers were

Sophisticated Styling Theme In Men's Wear

American men have a new and sophisticated look these days, and the main cause of it all is the new elegant Continental style.

The hallmarks of the Continental suits for this Fall include slightly shorter jackets, pockets on the bias, more rounded jacket fronts, and trousers with a slim silhouette, either cuffed or cuffless.

Some models have higher and squarer shoulders that offer a slimmer tailored look. Others present the natural shoulder drape. All achieve a look of dressier sophistication combined with a trim, neat profile that sheds pounds from the man who may be overweight.

SOME CONTINENTAL suits boasts novel touches such as trousers without hip pockets and sleeve cuffs. Still others come with matching vests.

The excitement over the Continental style is not expected to dampen the spirits of the Ivy fans. Ivy suits with their easy, natural lines will be seen plenty this Fall.

Two other style influences are competing with Continental and Ivy—the California-inspired Ambassador suits, and the American natural style. Any and all suits come in dark to medium shades of blue, gray, brown and olive, among other tones.

PATTERNED FABRICS are offering fresh competition to plain ones. There's a wide range of plaids, stripes and checks, some of them pretty bold looking.

Topcoats have gone Continental, adding a dress note. Chief among the features are shorter length, slanted pockets, and a slim tailored look.

The less formal split raglans include models with set-in sleeves, military style collars and fabric straps instead of cuffs.

THERE'S A NEW trend toward double-breasted coat models this fall, both topcoats and overcoats. Virtually all of the so-called short warmers, or British warmers, are double-breasted. These casual styles sport leather button trimming and knee lengths.

too trim to allow any storage space.

MEN'S HAIR has been growing steadily shorter since the Renaissance. The reverse process was speeded-up by the French revolution. The "Brutus" haircut (hair cut unevenly and combed forward into the face) worn by Napoleon in his Egyptian expedition is remarkably similar to today's "Brush" and "Princeton."

Creases in trousers are a recent development—caused by the inventing and improvement of pressing machinery.

The permanence of many such outmoded features may be an indication of the severe regimentation male styles have undergone in the last few decades.

"**EVEN THE** president of a corporation is afraid to wear anything out of the ordinary," said Robert Gwynn, proprietor of Gwynns Custom Tailoring, 112 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

"But," he said, "there seems to be hope for the regimented American male in the recent breakthrough in men's fashions."

Men's clothes look on a decided flare—almost a glare—in recent years and "I've had orders for more unusual, 'off-beat' clothing in the past few years than ever before," the clothier went on.

"**FIVE YEARS** ago I wouldn't have been able to give the stuff away."

History seems to say nothing about the handkerchief carried in the breast pocket of a man's jacket, but its purpose seems obvious.

Socks Lean Toward Bulky Knits and Color

Men's socks this fall, are completely in style with the season's hit fashions. One category is coordinated to the university styles, and is named as such. The other—keeps pace with the new Continental style that is sweeping the country.

Sport socks—continue to favor bulky knits with new take-offs on the classics. Diamonds, checks, plaids and stripes come through in new colors and shapes. Wrap-around cable motifs are a favorite and so are ski patterns and tweed effects.

Crews are still around, even though the colors and dress weights are all new.

The Continental look points up a neat look for lilies and stretch blends with textured knits, many panel ideas.

Ski Caps Tops With Sportsmen

Ski caps are expected to become very popular again this coming season.

Last season stocks were completely sold out of this comfortable headwear; manufacturers and retailers alike are expecting a repeat performance.

The knit trim, so successful and so fitting with this sweater season, is still the big bet.

But a few things like the new checked tweed fabrics, Perisan lamb-fabric trims and more tapered crowns will increase interest.

REGULAR CAPS have fairly well settled in the gentlemanly medium shape. One promising new introduction, however, is the modernized eight-quarter cap.

It is especially designed to give new smartness to the small shape which is best suited to the Ivy and Continental look in sportswear.



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