

Gramps, Pop Can Reminisce Faded Fads of Yesteryears

By LES LANGLOIS
Staff Writer

Fads, says Webster, are customs or styles that many people are interested in for a short time. They stress, he continues, the impulsive enthusiasm with which a fashion is adopted.

Webster could well have derived his "many people" and "impulsive enthusiasm" from the college campus.

Sporting everything from brush cuts and gossies to bermudas and knee sox, college students today don their Ivy League wardrobe and take up their briefcases.

BUT WHAT OF the "old look" the fads of yesteryears?

The changes and choices of college clothes since the late 1800's and early 1900's have been numerous and varied.

Gramps and pop provide recollection of these "fads of the ole days."

Contrary to popular opinion, the college student wasn't always a devotee adherent to natural shoulders with minimal padding. Nor was he always a staunch supporter of the conservatism that rules his current mores in clothing and accessories.

IN FACT, GRAMPS probably chuckles to himself when he recalls his off-to-school outfit which resembled an exaggerated version of the late "zoot suit."

Gramps' jacket was long with exceptionally wide shoulders that were as square as padding and buckram could make them. His three or four-button coat buttoned high, barely showing the top of his high-cut vest which crowded his high starched collar.

And, if Gramps was really "putting on the dog," he wore a high wing collar draped with a brilliant colored cravat—at least five inches wide.

IF HE WAS a sport, he added the final touch of securing his cravat with a big gold horseshoe stickpin.

Of course, Gramps' pants were pegged. Baggy and wide at the thigh and knee, they tapered down to narrow "bicycle cuffs" that broke at the tops of his high-buttoned bulldog-toed shoes.

As a dashing young collegian, he sported a wide flat set brim fedora with a low crown in the pork-pie crease, the silk ribbon of which was frequently emblazoned with his school colors.

GRAMPS DIDN'T have much in the way of sports clothes. He was limited to a "salt and pepper" tweed suit with a Norfolk-style jacket, a flannel blazer—similar in cut to the "new" one his grandson is now wearing but carrying two-inch wide stripes or contrasting colored braid at the edges—and some off-white flannels for tennis, boating and outings.

If Gramps attended an Eastern college accessible to a golf club, he might also have had a sporty knickerbocker suit. But—golf or no golf—he didn't progress far into his freshman year without acquiring a high turtle-neck sweater in his college color.

Gramps, it must be admitted, was quite a man of fads in his day.

IN THE INTERIM period, after Gramps left school and set about producing another group of undergrads, the natural-shoulder suit evolved, looking much the same as it does today.

It remained the campus special, particularly in the Eastern Ivy League schools, until the early and middle Twenties when pop entered what was to be one of the wildest and most flamboyant of all college eras.

Pop, though he may be hesitant about admitting it, was the epitome of all the "Rah Rah Boys." His was the spark that set "Flaming Youth" ablaze and he fed the flames with bootleg hooch poured from a hip flask.

MASSIVE CONCRETE arenas were built across the nation and populated on autumn Saturday afternoons with hordes of leopardskin coated, haggard painted collegians who pinched the fronts of their pork-pie felts and sharply tilted up both ends of the brims. Derbies and galoshes added an

even more incongruous touch to their outfits.

It was an age of rebellious youth. They turned from the classic natural-shoulder to a model borrowed from the Oxford Dons. The shoulders were wide but not as square as Gramps'.

The six-button vest was cut high and the pants were worn long, measuring at least 22 inches and breaking at the shoe tops.

SOME SUITS came with a fourth piece—the long, full-cut "Plus Four" knickers, so called because they folded to a depth of four inches below the knee.

The crew-neck sweater made its debut and the button-down collar oxford shirt gained popularity. Camel hair polo coats were adopted and wildly patterned Fair Isle sweaters were the rage.

Campus fashions had their dress-

BIRMINGHAM SECTION

FASHION SECTION—5

sy sides too in pop's day.

Fitted chesterfield coats, starched dickey-bosom shirts with separate white starched collars, peak-lapelled buzzcoats and even tailcoats were part of the well-dressed collegeman's wardrobe.

IN POP'S MORE sophisticated moments, he wore tall tapered-crown homburgs with tightly curled brims, yellow buckskin gloves and spats.

Yes, Gramps and pop may well wonder whatever became of the bold glenurquhart plaid, the houndstooth check and the dashing felt worn cocked at a "what-the-devil" angle.

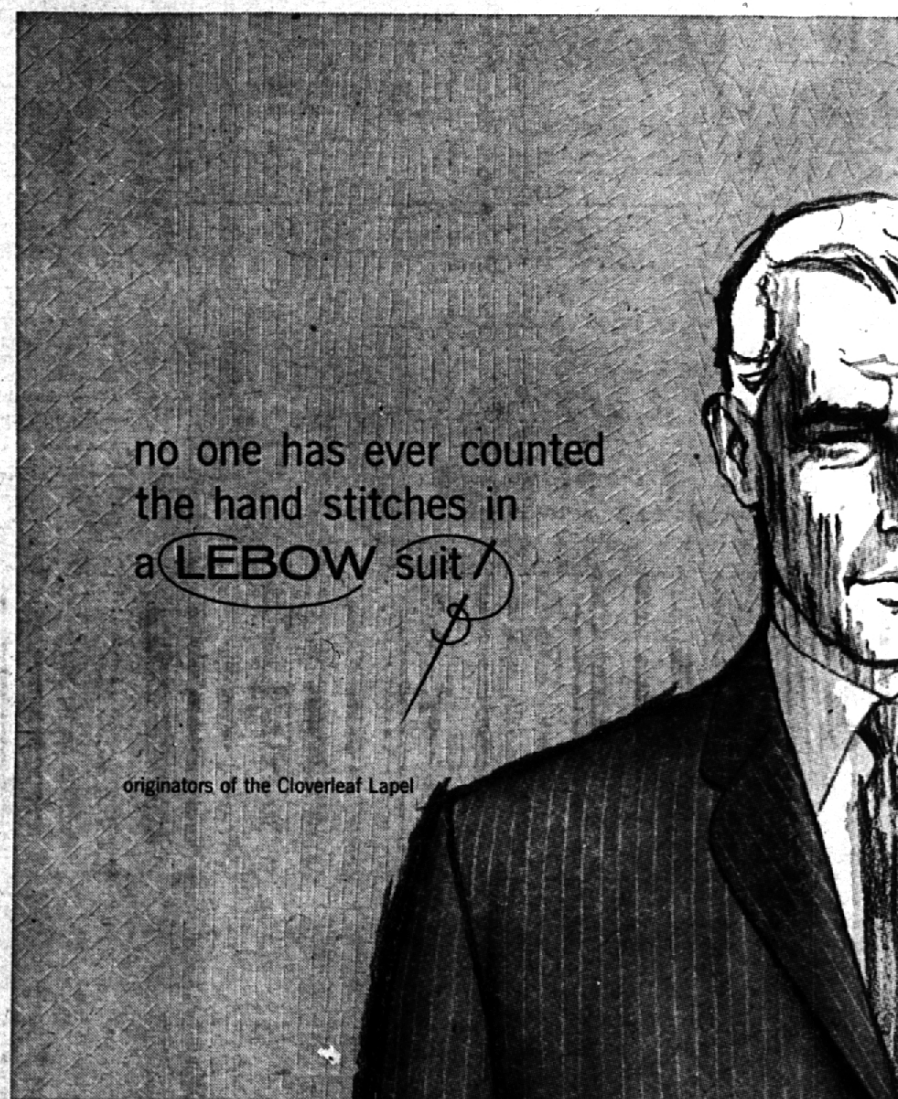
But then—they were only fads that seem to have faded away.

'Real Look' a Must In Fall Jewelry

Fashions in jewelry are swinging to the real look this fall with the trend to semi-precious stone in both beads and stone-set gold.

The newest emphasis is in the agate colors of darker greens, lapis blue and the important tawny tones of tortoise, varying to shades of carnelian and amber.

Costume jewelry will include gold chain scarf-tie necklaces, wide beaded bracelets—sometimes worn in pairs—gold fluted beads and small bead necklaces as well as black pearls combined with luster pearls.



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