

Black Designer Blasts "Fairy-Like" Trends in the Clothing of Men

(Special to Muhammad Speaks)

A top Negro clothes designer blasted the effeminate trend in men's garments sweeping Europe and America, saying it was an

choose clothes the way women do — not for durability but for style," he added.

OF COURSE, men's designs change. When the trend to only single-breasted suits caught on, within a few months it was impossible to find a man wearing a double-breasted suit. When Ivy League and Continental styles started, the trend in men's styles again underwent a somewhat radical change, with the eventual acceptance of the entire population, except perhaps the elderly.

"But these were modest changes," Dixon insisted, "compared with the styles these European designers are coming out with now. I would be willing to bet the vast majority of men, both white and Negro, will never accept the effeminate clothing of these designers."

He said even in Europe these styles are only popular among the youths of the so-called "upper-crust." Some of the European nobility in the upper-age bracket have accepted these styles, he added, but these are the "gay cats" (homosexuals).

Since these new designs are so apparently effeminate, does he think homosexuals have taken over the designing of men's clothes? Dixon paused a long moment before answering.

"I'LL PUT it this way," he said finally. "When I was in London, Paris and other cities of Europe, I learned that much of the 'upper-crust' is tinged with homosexuality. It seems to be accepted in all areas of life over there to a much larger degree than in America. Naturally, some of this is carried over to the clothing industry, in both men's and women's wear.

He said this is not the case with Negroes to a large extent. Even the Negro homosexual, he continued, does not wear the "way out" de-

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Carl Dixon

outgrowth of the "long-hair fad" and would soon fade away.

"AT LEAST I hope it'll fade away," said Carl Dixon, owner of Fantasia Custom Garments located on Chicago's South Side. He told a MUHAMMAD SPEAKS reporter that he considers the men's styles recently publicized in Life and other magazines indicative of today's "youth's overall insecurity and the tendency towards 'fascinity' among white men.

"The schools, the homes, the entire culture is responsible for this," he explained, gesturing with his hands and leaning against the counter in his shop.

"Boys, to a very large extent, are kept from being and acting masculine and remain 'mama's boys' instead of maturing emotionally and growing up. You will notice that these new styles are popular mostly in the 17-to-24-year-old bracket. I don't think you'll ever find older men wearing this kind of stuff."

Dixon said there is an economic factor, too. These styles are an attempt by designers and clothing manufacturers to persuade men to

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Black Designer on Effeminate Trends in Men's Clothing

(Continued from page 21) signs white homosexuals wear.

"In the final analysis," he said, "the Negro male from any point of view is more masculine than his white counterpart."

Dixon, who has been tailoring and designing men's clothes for more than 20 years, said that the new look in male fashions is strictly a short-term fad.

A GRADUATE of Dunbar Vocational School of Tailoring. Dixon is married and

the father of four children. He works sometimes 12 to 14 hours a day and says he is steadily building a larger clientele.

"But I think I would lose all my customers if I tried to push some of this new stuff," he said. "I advise the more conventional garments. Within this framework, there is enough variation to suit any taste and my customers seem to be pleased. Of course, if I get a request for something on the line of this new stuff, I'll make it. But I wouldn't push it."



ADVOCATE OF BETTER styles in men's clothing, Carl Dixon, noted Chicago designer of Men's apparel and proprietor of Fantasia Tailor Shop, believes the modern "effeminate" trend in men's apparel will be short lived.

News From the Camp of the Champ



MANNERLY MEETING between world heavyweight king Muhammad Ali and the man who may be his next opponent, German heavyweight, Karl Mildenerger, was warm but wary. Muhammad told Mildenerger that he looked like a good boxer. Appearing to "referee" the meeting is Herbert Muhammad, son of the Hon. Elijah Muhammad.

Suit Hits Texas Bias

HOUSTON — This city's school system has been hit by a suit charging that almost total segregation is maintained. Parents of seven Negro children have gone into U.S. District court with a complaint that the system was bussing Negro children to overcrowded all-Negro schools, maintaining neighborhood school boundaries, and using other tactics to keep the races apart in the schools. Houston, the South's largest city, has the nation's sixth largest school district, with 226,350 pupils.

Let the Buyer Beware

(Continued from page 19)

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