



SUITED FOR WORK

By
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The New York State Institute of Agriculture, at Farmingdale, L. I., New York, has been turning out scientifically trained soil fillers since 1912. Open to high-school graduates, courses cover such subjects as vegetable and fruit growing, dairying, animal husbandry, poultry breeding, rural engineering, ornamental horticulture. The Institute is co-ed and it is no uncommon sight to see boy and girl dressed alike in denim overall pants, plaid shirts

WHAT with one thing and another, tweeds are being knocked on the head for off-duty wear, and ice-cream pants are yielding to things more durable, for the duration. If you haven't been looking around much lately, it will pay you to notice the number of large stores now equipped with work-clothes departments featuring the duds worn by assembly-plant and factory workers who ask, first, for serviceability and, second, for style, but manage to get both. Maybe you're about to take a war job or maybe you just want some sensible clothes for switching those tires, or painting the storm windows, or fixing for a barbecue. In either case, here's the toiler's choice.

Meander around an airplane plant (if you can get in) and take a gander at the coverall—the long-sleeved, one-piece suit with plenty of pocket space. You can jump into one of these garments in about four seconds flat and be completely dressed. Student flyers and their ground crews wear the coverall, and New York's air-raid wardens have adopted it, in blue, as standard uniform.

Differing from this is the overall, with shoulder straps worn over a shirt (as though you need be reminded), used extensively in shipyards, for bench work, bricklaying, carpentry and on farms. A plaid or the classic blue chambray work shirt goes with it. Fine wear for garden chores.

Standard outfit for most factory war workers is heavy cotton pants and work shirt. The fellow at the filling station who says you can have four gallons next Tuesday, maybe, wears this regulation industrial suit, and you'll find it in railroad shops, lumber mills, stockyards, mule markets, feed mills, barge terminals, Army depots and on big construction jobs. Blue, tan and green are

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the standard colors, although a few days at the grind renders the color inconsequential. There are plenty of home uses for this ensemble.

Those pants and shirts worn by railroad workers are handy from cellar to attic. Their narrow white and blue stripes have come to be known as a railroad stripe, and the wider ones are called hickory or carpenter's stripes. Blue denims (from the French *serge de Nîmes*) is perhaps a more refined phrase for the dungarees generally worn with plaid shirts around oil fields, but now covering thousands of high-school lads replacing our fighting men on farms. Also not taking a vacation are the gents who are speeding up graduation by spending the summer in college and who find slacks of denim, Army twill or corduroy very wearable indeed.

All these fabrics are used in various types of work clothing; and if the stuff stands up in factories and can take campus activity, there isn't much more you could ask of it.



Two highly trained industrial workers—John Kasin, Jr., and Philip Roger Stephenson—of the Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corp., checking over a "Widgeon," a new type amphibian plane Grumman is turning out for the U. S. Coast

Guard. Both are wearing the coveralls you'll see on the majority of aircraft workers, pilot students and ground crew. This is a one-piece outfit with plenty of pocket space for miscellaneous tools

Wash 'em with Strong Soap

Meriting your attention is the very slight relationship between work clothes and the laundry problem. A man crawling around inside a boiler isn't much concerned about the way his suit looks. Generally speaking, he wears it until it looks like something from the bottom of a crankcase, then tosses it away. But if you're worried about what the neighbors think, you can restore work clothes to reasonable good looks with strong soap and very little attention to the Cleaners and Dyers' code.

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When a man buys an expensive suit he finds the label tucked carefully and modestly away. In cheap and practical work clothes the label is as visible as a No Parking sign. It's a badge of distinction, these days, so wear your labels outside—and save money. ★★★

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