

How many readers remember the cobbler? He is described in Webster's dictionary as a man who mends shoes. Some years ago Lindsay had a number of cobblers and they were experts in that trade. These were the days when apprentices had to spend two or more years learning how to make shoes by hand.

Today many people throw their shoes into the garbage rather than have them repaired. In the past shoes were worn longer and cobblers were kept busy nailing on half-soles. Indeed a man or boy "kicked over the traces" when he had to wear half soles almost an inch thick.

"What a holler boys put up when they had to wear brass toe plates on their boots. That was a terrible infliction. It was also undignified to have to wear boots of cow hide which were given a treatment of oil to keep out the wet rain and slush.

Remember the steel plates on the heels which were designed to help the bow legged boy? Girls did not have to wear this kind of footwear, but they fought hard against wearing high leather boots. It also took the lassies a long time before mothers allowed them to wear short skirts.

Hoop skirts. Remember them? These skirts supported by a heavy petticoat, and some times a bustle, were in good taste. High button and high lace shoes? Even a mere man could go on and on telling about fashions and fads of yester years.

The masculine male had his bout with styles. Remember the celluloid collar which could be cleaned at home and the tail wing collar which almost cut the throat? For dress affairs, dances and balls the well dressed beau brummel wore buttoned spats around the ankles, a vest of brocaded silk, long shirt sleeves and starched cuffs, a black bow tie and at times a puffed cravat.

He was extra special if he wore a vest of silk and his boots were always well polish-

ed. If he could afford a pair of dancing shoes or "pumps" fine. A "dress suit" was something special, first the long claw hammer tail's style and later the tuxedo, which is still wearable. The outfit was enhanced by a silk vest, long shirt sleeves and big cuff links of gold or pearl. A noticeable bit of perfume was good taste.

An old fashioned ball might be well received today.