

The "Straw Hat Riots": When Men Attacked Straw Hat Wearers in New York City

By Melkisedeck Leon Shine · July 3, 2023

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? August 1922, a scorching summer day in the vibrant streets of New York City. The sun's fiery gaze made the sidewalks sizzle, and the air was heavy with anticipation. Little did the unsuspecting straw hat wearers know that a storm was brewing, one that would forever be etched in the city's history books as the infamous "Straw Hat Riots" ??.

? As the mercury climbed, the fashion-forward men of the city defiantly donned their beloved straw hats. These lightweight and stylish accessories were the epitome of summer chic. However, there was an unwritten rule in the unwritten book of New York fashion: Labor Day marked the official end of the straw hat season ?. This tradition, rooted in the social hierarchy of the time, dictated that straw hats were suitable only for summer and should be replaced by more dignified felt hats come fall.

? The date was September 13, 1922, a day that would go down in history. It seemed that everyone had woken up with a mischievous glint in their eye, ready to enforce the unwritten rule with an iron fist. The streets became a battleground, and the straw hat wearers had unwittingly become targets.

? The protagonists of this peculiar tale were not your average street gang. They were known as the "Fedora Gang," a self-appointed fashion police force determined to restore order to the city's sartorial landscape. Armed with sticks, eggs, and a fierce determination, they roamed the streets, searching for any straw hats that dared to defy the calendar ??????.

? Chaos ensued as the Fedora Gang clashed with the straw hat enthusiasts. Fistfights erupted, hats flew through the air like confetti, and the streets transformed into a tumultuous sea of fashion warfare. The police, caught off guard by the sheer absurdity of the situation, struggled to maintain order. This bizarre clash between fashionistas and fedora-wielding vigilantes captured the attention of the nation ?.

? The "Straw Hat Riots" were not confined to a single day. The battles continued sporadically throughout September, with straw hat wearers and their assailants engaging in wild scuffles. Finally, on September 15, the police decided enough was enough. They declared straw hats officially out of season, and anyone caught wearing one would face arrest ??.

? As the crisp autumn breeze whistled through the streets, the city gradually returned to normal. The straw hats were packed away, and the felt hats reigned supreme once more. The "Straw Hat Riots" became a curious footnote in New York's history, reminding us of a time when fashion was taken so seriously that it could spark mayhem on the streets ??.

? Today, we can look back on this peculiar event and smile, appreciating the quirks and idiosyncrasies of our past. The "Straw Hat Riots" stand as a reminder that

fashion, even in its most trivial form, holds the power to ignite passions, stir controversy, and even bring a city to its knees.

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