

Jazz it Up

By Harriet McNeill

Have you been to a Model A meet and entered fashion judging? Maybe you are putting together an outfit that you plan to have judged at the next National Meet. Have you looked in the MAFCA Fashion Judging Procedures Manual and seen the forms that have to be filled out? Hopefully you forged ahead and said—'I am still going to enter fashion judging in spite of the forms and descriptions that I have to undertake!'

You will receive a sample page to follow along with the fashion judging forms once you decide to enter fashion judging, but it only gives the very basics needed. It would be beneficial to have additional, descriptive information on your entry form. Look at the sample in the MAFCA Fashion Judging Procedures Manual, Section 2, Forms, Page 4. Be imaginative.

A more complete description draws the attention of the judges to the finer details of the item. Here are some ideas to 'spice' up your entry description. Rather than just saying "a dress with a full skirt!", add some pizzazz! It could say "a soft, circular, flowing skirt to match the curved lines on the collar." By broadening your description, the judges have a better understanding of the beauty and authenticity of the item being brought before them.

Look in catalogs and magazines and you will find that they give great descriptions. You can almost picture in your mind exactly what the ensemble looks like with a detailed description.

The example below has lots of room for a description....separate matching jacket, blouse attaches to the flowing skirt, comfortable for walking, flared cuffs on the jacket sleeves, self-belt trimmed with a buckle (if you know what the buckle is made of,

include that in your description), and an eye catching ruffle on the blouse. Be creative!



23W7445—Rose.
23W7446—Light Blue.
23W7447—Orchid.
NO—we made no mistake on this Misses' charming dressy Frock. Light and summery-looking, yet its fashionable fabric makes it an ideal choice for all year 'round. Hasn't it quite the daintiest cape collar you've seen —of ceru lace trimmed with the material itself, softly gathered at front with a dainty flower? The modest flared skirt is cut all-round in smart pointed sections.
Misses' Sizes: 14 to 20 (to fit 32 to 38 bust). See Scale of Sizes on page 14.

Major Garment: *Late afternoon blue and tan chiffon dress with a bertha collar.*

Suggestions....

Collar is daintily tucked.

Collar is edged with lace to match the flared cuffs on the sleeves.

The dress has an uneven hemline which drapes into graceful flowing lines.

The dress has a side-tie fastening that draws the waist in to give a semi-fitted look.

Picot edging finishes the hemline and the neckline.

If multiple fabrics are used, don't be afraid to say that they complement each other.

Headgear/Hairdo: *Hair styled in finger waves with a rhinestone hair clip.*

Suggestions....



Hair is short and styled in tight finger waves.

Shape of the hair clip—large or small

If you are wearing a hat, describe it in detail such as...

Self-bow at the side adding flattery

Bow completes the crown beautifully

Close fitting crown or

Cleverly scalloped brim with blue and white ribbon trim

Coordinated Apparel: *Outer garment-Long coat*

Suggestions....

All wool coat with unique sleeve detailing

Type of wool could be described

Stitching on the cuffs and belt matches the stitching on the face framing collar

Belt is of same fabric and has the same flattering stitching and is accented with a gold buckle

If by chance you are wearing a shawl, give information as to the fabric, where found, length of fringe and/or length or width of shawl. Maybe you could even say it matches perfectly with the color of shoes or the major garment.



Accessories: *Clear crystal 2 strand necklace...*

Suggestions....

Give the type of fastener on the necklace

You might say a brilliantly becoming necklace of clear crystals

Matching silver and clear crystal drop earrings with screw backs

Leather Purse....

Suggestions....

Lining, color or fabric

Compartments

Type of handle or if it's a clutch,

Is there a back strap?

Design on the flap



Whiting and Davis blue and tan purse complements the color of the major garment

Describe the handle or the type of opening or if there is a lining (or not)

Give the shape of the compact if one is inside or if it is to be judged



C1. Steel cut beads on an all metal frame. The lining of French silk has pocket for small coin purse. *Montgomery Ward, F/W 1928*

Illustration from *MAFCA Fashion Guidelines*



Footgear: *Blue satin one-strap pump with a Cuban heel*

Suggestions....

Attractively cut out sides

The strap and buckle gives new beauty to the instep

Tell the color of the seamed silk stockings

Round garters rolled above the knee.

The blue satin looks beautiful with the blue in the major garment.

Additional information: *Hair and nails done in era fashion.*

Always be sure to include what you have done to go above and beyond to achieve the look of the Model A era. Be sure to bring dated documentation of items not pictured or described in the *MAFCA Fashion Guidelines*. You can find documentation in catalogs and magazines dated through the Model A years.

It also is helpful to add the *MAFCA Fashion Guidelines* reference to the section, page and item that closely resembles your item. A judge can flip to the page and see the item thus reducing time and stress in the judging room.

Illustrations from *National Bellas Hess Co Inc Spring & Summer 1931 and Fall & Winter 1928-1929*

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