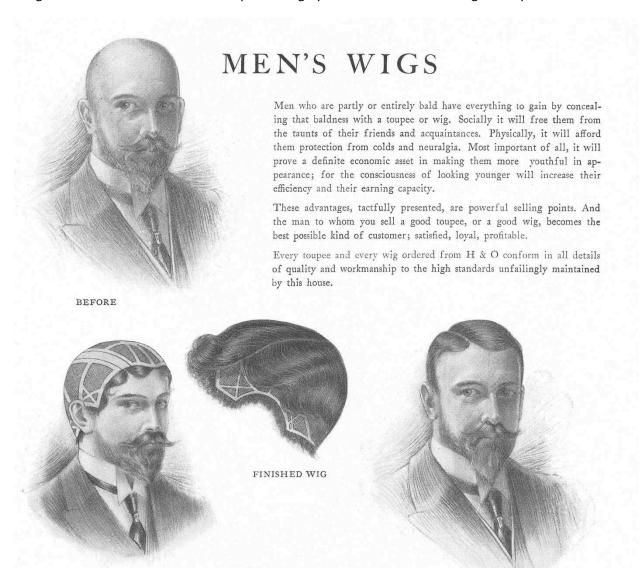
Men and Wigs

by Jackie Brooks

Men wanting to appear youthful could discreetly purchase a full wig or toupee. There were several companies that manufactured hair pieces. The Hyman & Oppenheim Company of New York City was established in 1878. They were providing services to beauty salons, barber and specialty shops well into the Model A era. They also manufactured wigs of all kinds, holding several patents.

They put out a handbook, which they referred to as, "More than a catalog" in 1928, consisting of 150 pages of Beauty Shop essentials. Their trademark was reputed to be, "Known the world over to be the dealer in hair goods, distributed furniture, equipment, appliances, novelties, cosmetic supplies and hair goods.

Long hair was more common in Europe and highly valued to be used in wigs. Many women sold their



HOW TO PUT ON A WIG

AFTER

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long hair which was processed, sometimes dyed and curled. It was then hand tied into a silk net base which was then used to form wigs and hairpieces (also known as "Transformations") of various sizes and styles for men, women and dolls.

The local barber could take the required measurements and pictures. He would then forward the information to the company.



Use an accurate measure. Brush the hair back flat before measuring. Give all 5 measurements. Write us the size of your customer's hat and send a photograph if possible.

Measure from point to point, as shown by tape measure.

No. 1-Measure from where hair grew on forehead around back of head to starting point.

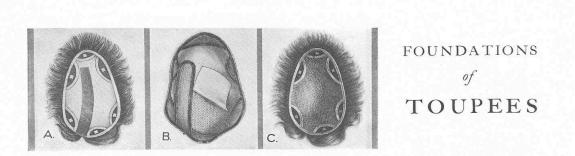
No. 2-Measure from where hair grew on forehead over top of head to the nape of neck. No. 3-Measure from ear to ear across the forehead.

No. 4-Measure from ear to ear over the top of the head.

No. 5-Measure from temple to temple around the back of the head.

Indicate clearly just what each measurement is.

A ventilated wig, in brown or black, cost \$30 wholesale. In grey and what was referred to as "Rare" shades it was \$35. The expected markup could be as much as 100%. This was a pretty penny for the day when a man on the Ford production line was paid \$20 a week. Toupees' wholesale cost ranged from \$30 to \$50.



- "A" No. 3200-Toupee in the regular best quality with an insertion of real hair lace. The dark segments are reinforcements of non-shrinking, pure silk ribbon and the strips represent bindings of the same silk ribbon. The small squares illustrate pieces of Toupee Plaster for holding the Toupee in place.
- "B" No. 3203 Same as "A" with the addition of a very thin, fine silk gauze lining, for additional smoothness and comfort.
- "C" No. 3206-A foundation of the costly hair lace entirely in one piece. The most comfortable and lasting that can be made.