Two-in-One Dresses By Jackie Brooks

When you are looking through catalogs while doing research, you may find unexpected information. This ad from the 1931 Spring & Summer Lane Bryant catalog shows their new, versatile dress designed with the thrifty as well as stylish woman in mind.

The ad says that the sleeves are included. It does not say if they are attached with snaps or to be basted in the dress. The dresses I have seen with removable sleeves were basted in. At first glance, I thought the sleeveless dress would have been worn in the daytime, until I read the "May be worn" description.

The insight into what was appropriate in 1931, as opposed to what we expect in today's current styles, is the unexpected information. Note that the daytime dress is worn with a hat and the evening is shown with a decoration in the hairstyle.

