

AN TOSTAL FASHION PARADE

Focus is on fashion at the Gresham Hotel in Dublin. Giving judgment is Madame Schiaparelli (here with Mrs. Sean O'Kelly) on the styles being displayed. Everything from the material and buttons, down to the thread that keeps them all together, is Irish made. The models on show in this special An Tostal parade give a pretty good idea of the sort of costumes that have been making fashion headlines for Irish designers.

All the costumes on display are Irish designed. Yes, the old country has really pulled up her socks in post-war years and has entered the world's fashion race in no uncertain manner. Already, Paris, New York and London are beginning to recognise that Ireland can turn out the tops in style and elegance, and is throwing out quite a challenge.

Madame Schiaparelli notes a neat dress made, believe it or not, of brown jute, lavishly embroidered with red flowers in wool. But this is an exception: most of the models are made from first quality Irish linen and Irish tweed. In this magnificent display Ireland shows her own people that they can compete with the world's top fashion salons.