

# CORRESPONDENCE PAGE OF FASHIONS & BEAUTY

## The Care of the Hands

VERY often it is the things that we do not do, rather than those we do, which make or mar a pretty hand. This is particularly true of the girl who lives a sheltered life all winter and goes to a summer resort for the warm months. The city girl thinks it smart to drive a team of farm horses without gloves, and when her hands are blistered she runs to the local druggist for a patented cure. It would be much easier to don an old pair of large gloves and protect the hands, rather than experiment with unknown lotions.

One of the most baneful practices among young girls is the indiscriminate use of highly scented soaps. In nine cases out of ten these eat up the natural oil of the skin and leave it rough. Use only warm water and soft soap, with a plain, unscented pure soap. If the water is hard, add a few drops of benzoin to it. If the hands are stained, use lemon juice. Do not, as I saw a young girl do, not long since, take a bottle of peroxide of hydrogen from the shelf and literally pour it over the tips of her fingers to remove hairy growths. Within the next two or three days most of her finger nails broke off.

If soap does not agree with your hands try using the following lotion:

Blister almond meal.....6 ounces  
Coral root (powdered).....4 ounces  
Wheat flour.....4 ounces  
White castile soap (powdered).....1 ounce  
Borax (powdered).....3 drachms  
Oil of bergamot.....2 drachms  
Extract of musk.....1 drachm  
Oil of bitter almonds.....10 drops  
Mix all the powders thoroughly and stir them before adding the perfume. Sift them in and sift a second time. Keep in close-shut jars. It is convenient to keep a small quantity on the washstand in a jar with a perforated top, so that the powder can be shaken upon the hand or cloth when used.

Certain physical conditions cause abnormal perspiration in the hands, making them moist, thereby ruining gloves of any sort. The following lotion is very efficacious for arresting this condition. It can also be used on the face in warm weather to absorb excessive greasiness:

Rosewater, 6 ounces; elder-flower water, 2 ounces; simple tincture of benzoin, 1/2 ounce; tannic acid, 10 grains. This lotion should be well rubbed into the skin, and if gloves are to be put on immediately, it is well to powder the hands with talcum. Altered with the delicacy of picking wild flowers in the woods is the danger of coming in contact with poison ivy. This obnoxious vine grows in the most unexpected places, and to some skins its contact means weeks of suffering. If treatment is given immediately the inflammation can often times be allayed. As soon as you reach home, bathe the affected parts in a solution of one quart of lime water in which has been dissolved a teaspoon of soda. If the pain is intense, add a few drops of laudanum. If you are far from a druggist and cannot get these remedies, bathing with strong buttermilk is sometimes very efficacious, and good results have been obtained from rubbing fresh and very thick cream into the skin. But all of these remedies should not be applied at once.

The girl who has abused her hands by digging in the garden or by helping with the housecleaning and has neglected in much-needed protection of an old pair of gloves while at such work, will need a paste which will work a hurried cure. This paste is invaluable to the girl who has just returned from a long vacation and whose hands have become roughened from climbing, driving, picking wild flowers. It will relieve the itching and soothe the hands with the least possible delay. At night liberally spread the hands with a thick coating of this cream, then draw on a pair of old gloves several sizes too large and in the morning wash in warm water and pure white soap.

Myrrh, 1 ounce; honey, 4 ounces; yellow wax, 2 ounces; rosewater, 5 ounces. Melt the wax in a double boiler over a very slow fire, but do not let it boil. Just melt; now add the myrrh, which must be in powdered form. Beat these two ingredients together thoroughly, then stir in the honey and the rosewater. Then, strain by means of a piece of muslin into a bottle. Beat the mixture constantly.

Tanning, sunburn and freckles are much easier to prevent than to cure. If the skin of your hands is sensitive, rub it with cold cream before you start outdoors, or wear a thin silk glove. There is no such thing as a sensitive hand, as a nation they would have prettier hands, and softer skin the whole year round.

KATHERINE MORTON.

## Ribbons and Their Uses

Dainty ribbon garnitures seem particularly suited to the Spring season, and this year they are being used in charming variety.

Faille ribbon has displaced taffetas for all purposes where a plain color is needed, while in fancy ribbons the pompadour effects remain in high favor. The tinsel ribbons which were popular during the winter are now passé, and, barring the pompadour designs, the only fancy patterns shown are two weaves in the same color, perhaps a satin polka dot on a faille ground, or vice versa. Little or no more ribbon is being used, but even on light-weight Summer frocks touches of the effective velvet ribbon may be seen.

Enormous quantities of soft faille ribbon are used for millinery purposes, and eight yards are considered none too much for winding round the crown and making one of the new big bows. At the beginning of the season, however, bows of ribbons out of the millinery field, but the reaction in favor of bows has been pronounced. The bows are either long loops and many of them, or they are arranged in fat, thick curls or roses, with short, sharply notched ends behind the crown.

For Panama hats come wondrous

the empire gown. Often the sash is laid in folds and tacked into place like a high girde all round the waist, then under the left side, it is drawn high, fastened in a knot or chon, and falls, soft and sweeping, to the foot of the skirt. In net dresses these sashes are made of net and ribbon in alternate stripes with an edging of net or chiffon, alternating with soft ribbons each strip about an inch and a half or two inches wide.

One of the smartest of extra coats seen in a New York shop this Spring was made from eight-inch pompadour ribbon, alternating with strips of flint lace. Such coats are worn with thin lingerie dresses, and are most effective when cut on Louis designs, quite loose and straight of line.

Ribbons in many graduated widths are used for trimming the hems of skirts, to simulate borders. For instance, on a stunning little suit of brown and cream checked silk, the trimming consisted of seven rows of brown velvet ribbon, starting about

an inch and a half in width at the bottom and grading up to No. 2 at the top. Last season, the ribbons were applied in designs, particularly the Greek key design, but this season they are applied in one or two ways, either running straight around the skirt in graduated widths, or up and down, forming points or diamonds.

Ribbon garnitures for the hair are long and sweeping, suggesting an osprey, and this means clever wiring. One of the handsomest new hair ornaments is made from black velvet ribbon, cut and wired in perfect imitation of the long pheasant tail feathers, with a rhinestone ornament where the long bows and ends met.

The flat, pleated ruffs of malme or lace are in vogue, and these are fastened with long loops and ends of soft ribbons. Also faille ribbon is made into flat rose pleatings, finished with long loops and ends and worn so that the latter fall backward over the left shoulder.

Some exquisite effects in bed jackets, fancy aprons and petticoats are shown with wash ribbon playing an impor-

tant part. For wear under a chiffon or net gown, come wonderful petticoats with flounces of point d'esprit, decorated with narrow ribbons. If you have a white silk drop skirt which is a trifle passé, make for it a flounce of the net, with white ribbon half or three-quarters of an inch wide, applied in tiny ruchings. Circles at regular intervals, or interlacing diamonds or bow knots, all done in the fine ruching, are the simplest and most effective patterns. These ruffles can be bought ready made and they cost from \$12.50 up. A deft-fingered girl can make herself a "dream" for a third of the price. Sometimes within the circles of ruching will be seen small artificial daisies such as are used for millinery purposes, carefully applied with button-hole stitches.

Dainty aprons and waistcoats are made from alternate stripes of wash ribbon and Val lace. For the girl who wears flannel petticoats the year round, there is nothing prettier than a ruffle of wash silk and lace, which, by the way, does not cling to the form as flannel does. MARY DEAN.

When I told an intimate friend that I thought every book on etiquette should contain one entire chapter devoted to the graceful and little practiced art of leaving a house gracefully, she was greatly amused.

"Why, very one knows how to leave a tea or dinner or dance. You just say something that every one else says to your hostess about what a splendid time you have had, and then you run along and say the same thing to another hostess."

Now, that is a very lucid and distinctly feminine explanation or description of the trick, so to speak, but unfortunately its weakness lies in the last phrase. So few persons really know enough to "run

## Fine Art of Departing

along." They linger and make their departure a period of agony to everyone concerned.

For instance, I paid a Sunday afternoon call not long ago at the home of a woman with whom I am on most friendly terms. I arrived just as other callers had arisen to depart, a pretty girl and her fiancé.

And simultaneously with my arrival, came the family parrot, a creature of amazing vocabulary and violent temper. My hostess had arisen to speed the parting guests and receive the new arrival. The young lady and her fiancé were standing and so was I. The psychological moment for their departure had come—when, as I remarked before, the parrot walked stolidly in.

Immediately the man began to tease the bird, greatly to the annoyance of my hostess, though she held herself admirably in hand. Every minute or so the girl would say something like: "Come, Dick, we must be going," and my hostess tried tactfully to break up the conversation between angry bird and man.

And it ended in our standing there, the three women of us, changing from one foot to the other, the girl fumbling at her gloves in an embarrassed manner while that young man amused himself with the parrot for 18 long, weary minutes. My hostess and I marked the time on the clock.

When they had gone, we two women looked at each other, sighed and dropped gracefully into easy chairs.

"Do you think she can ever make anything of that man, socially?" asked my hostess, and then we both laughed.

Again, I was invited to dine with friends who live at an apartment hotel, where dinner is served on Sunday evenings from 6 to 8. After dinner we were going to an organ recital, so we had planned to go to the dining-room directly the doors opened at 6.

At 15 minutes to 6 a young woman arrived on the scene, and after a few minutes was urged by our hostess to remove her wraps and remain for dinner. She declined, saying she had another call to pay. Quite tactfully, a few minutes later, our hostess gave forth the information that we were going to Professor Blank's recital.

Naturally, if the girl had only come to call formally, she would have taken the hint, for our church was at some distance from the hotel. If she wished to accept the invitation to remain to dinner she should have accepted it at once. But she did neither. She sat and talked interminably while those of us who had begged recital tickets sat in nervous suspense.

Each member of the family as he or she appeared in the living-room urged the girl to take off her wraps and have dinner; but, no, she was going very soon. It was 20 minutes past six when she left. We got into the Sunday night church in the dining-room, reached the church so late that we were seated far back under the gallery, and missed the opening number. And because a thoughtless girl had not mastered the fine art of taking her departure gracefully, we were late for church.

There is nothing more ill-bred than outstaying your welcome, and I am quite sure that many young people do this simply because they do not know when or how to take their departure.

Never say you are going until you are ready to start. Do not rise to make your adieu and then remember something you want to talk about and keep your hostess standing indefinitely. Once you decide to go, go! Say good afternoon or good evening to others in the room, go directly to the hall, gather up any wraps you may have left there, and depart at once. Do not expect your hostess to accompany you into the hall and stand and chat interminably with you, leaving other guests in the parlor. Once you have said "good-by," her place is with those who are still her guests.

If you stumble upon a dinner party, when you are making a late Sunday afternoon call, do not apologize. Simply make a very formal call of ten minutes or 15 at the most and depart, as if you had never intended to stop longer. A formal call should never run less than ten minutes or more than 20.

If other guests arrive just as you mean to depart, do not embarrass your hostess by going with her to the door as she starts to receive the newcomers. Give her time to receive them and introduce you, then after a few conventional remarks, you can take your departure and leave the newcomers to the attention of your hostess. Never try to outstay a new arrival. It looks as if you were afraid you might miss something.

The tactful man or woman always recognizes when the call is made at an inopportune moment and times her departure accordingly. However gracious a hostess may be, a new arrival can detect in the very atmosphere that her call should be shortened.

PRUDENCE STANDISH.

## Stunning Lines in the Newest Linen and Lawn Costumes

TUB costumes this season go to extremes. Either they are extremely tailored and severe, or extremely ornate and fluffy. For street morning and athletic purposes, tailored lines appear, with trimming applied as to silk or cloth gowns. In the typical lingerie frock, princess lines prevail with such masses of insertion, both embroidery and lace, that the term "tub frock" seems ad-

dressy afternoon wear, coats and ensembles are inset with quantities of heavy lace to which fancy wash braids and buttons are added.

Wash braids come in many styles, from the narrow souché and flat Heracles braids to marvelous combinations of cotton or linen braid and lace of latter set on the edge or in medallions surrounded by braid.

Buttons for trimming may be made

banding should then be of heavy imitation Irish lace, which, by the way, washes excellently.

The shirtwaist suit is extremely natty and shows how little of the popular braiding can be used to relieve an otherwise severe costume. This skirt of eury lawn was laid in pleats stitched very flatly over the hips with many rows of stitching above the hem. The shirtwaist was laid in broad tucks front and back, with a

The bretelles can either be sewed tightly under the outside tucks of the blouse or they can be simply beated into lace and removed when the waist is laundered. The latter is by far the best method, as the iron's point can then get well into the gathers of the sleeves. The model in which this pattern was employed combined grayish blue and white check with only a hair line of the white, and trimmings of plain blue with large buttons



FIGURE A—SUIT IN COPENHAGEN BLUE LINEN WITH EMBROIDERED AND BRAIDED BODICE.

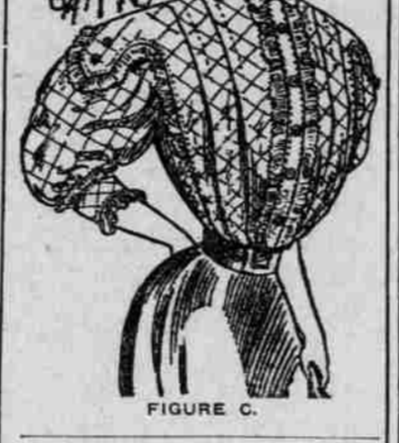


FIGURE C.



FIGURE D.



FIGURE E.



FIGURE B—SHIRTWAIST SUIT OF ECRU LINEN AND WHITE BRAID.

most a misnomer, and the services of a dry-cleaner are more necessary than those of a laundress.

While many costumes of plain linen and lawn are noted for both morning and afternoon wear, some stunning effects in fine hair line stripes, dots and other very fancy effects, you will find a woman who invests in a bordered material must expect to patronize the dry-cleaner when her suit needs refreshing. Very few of the tinted borders will really wash. The exception, however, is the white fabric with a single tone striped border, and vice versa, the single tone fabric with white border.

For instance, in linen you will find a white ground with a border of navy blue in bands of graduated width, or in pale blue lawn you will see a border made of diamonds in pure white. These bordered tub fabrics come in dress lengths of 12 yards each and the border appears about 48 or 47 inches apart, which for a short woman will admit of a princess effect.

The preferred trimming for tailored linen suits is braid and buttons. For

from molds covered simply with linen like the costume, or the linen may be criss-crossed with narrow braid, or the buttons may be crocheted or embroidered. For very fancy frocks, you will find buttons covered with crocheting or lace or embroidery and then finished all the way round with flat frilling or pleating of Val lace.

Pink and blue in half a dozen shades, lavender, green and yellow are shown in linens for suits, but far smarter this season are the soft shades of gray and tan made up with heavy white lace or bias bands of self tone or even white.

For tailored waist suits, pleated skirts, either with or without the yoke, according to the height of the wearer, and cutaway coats are shown. In more fancy costumes, the looser Louis coat is offered, with the circular skirt.

The very smart coat suit shown today in Copenhagen blue linen trimmed with bands in which braid and embroidery are combined. The skirt is cut on a circular pattern with a seam, covered by a band of the trimming, down the front. For the very short girl, the trimming around

the skirt should be dropped to its foot, and it also outlines the entire jacket. In the model shown this trimming was of the linen braided in self tone, while the embroidery, tiny conventional figures inserted between the braided circles, was in a peculiar shade which was neither amber nor coral pink, yet suggested both. To make this costume even more dressy, white linen could be employed, and the

double box pleat down the front. The shaped collar, cuffs of the plain shirt sleeve, the double box pleat, and the girde, were all braided in a simple but effective design in white washable souché. The braiding on the box pleat was finished with two ornaments of white mercerized flax, which wash nicely. This style would be effective if developed in pale gray with white braid or any of the more delicate tones. Like blue, pink or lavender. Lawn, linen, batiste, zephyr gingham, percales.

A remarkable feature of the present season is the use of bretelles in wash fabrics, and while this means work for the expert laundress, it certainly adds to the effectiveness of the average wash costume for the slender girl. In Fig. C will be seen a pretty development of the bretelle design in a checked gingham.

covered with the plain blue. It could also be made in white, with ruffles of lace or embroidery and lace-covered buttons.

Figure D shows the possibilities of shoulder straps in wash materials and was prettily developed in white batiste with narrow Chiny and Val lace. The shoulder straps can be made from odd bits of lace or embroidery or tucking edged with lace.

Figure E shows a type of waist of which every Summer girl should have at least one in her wardrobe. The simple Dutch neck emphasized by square insets of lace is the daintiest of finishings for a Summer dinner blouse. This blouse and skirt trimmed with deep tucks and insertion, will make a costume quite suitable for the Summer night dinner or dance. MARY DEAN.

## LINEN MADE IN AMERICA

A Massachusetts inventor has perfected a process of transforming flax straw into fiber that promises to add millions to the revenue of the American farmer, and to make possible for the first time the manufacture of linen fiber in the United States.

About 4,000,000 acres of land are devoted to flax-raising in the United States, but only the seed is utilized, and this, according to the census reports, has an annual value of nearly \$20,000,000. The flax straw from which linen is made is burned. There is no means of telling how many millions of dollars have been wasted in this way, but a late bulletin of the Department of Agriculture says that "Millions of tons of straw have been burned each year, most of which, in quality and length, for the production of fiber far exceeds the average straw from which the Russian peasants make the

fiber which chiefly supplies the linen fabrics of the world."

By the laborious process followed abroad, it takes from 15 to 30 weeks to transform flax straw into linen. There is first the "retting," which in Belgium is done by weighting down the flax straw in pools of water exposed to the sun, until the wood or "shive" is rotted away from the fiber. Then comes the "scutching" or beating of the dried straw. After this it is "hackled" by pulling the straw through the coarse teeth of combs and then through a series of finer combs for the purpose of removing snags and tangles. The softening and bleaching processes number 25, after all this has been done the finished linen fabric is ready for market.

Now comes Benjamin C. Mudge, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of technology, with a combined mechanical and chemical process that makes linen out of straw in 12 hours. In place of the European method, which con-

sists very largely of leaving the natural rotting process to accomplish the disintegration of straw, Mr. Mudge goes at this work by machinery until the raw flax fiber has been wrested from the stalk. Then the chemical process begins and I can testify from observation that, using three or four chemical baths, Mr. Mudge first degrades, then bleaches, softens, and in the end makes a glossy, white and exceedingly tough fiber out of what in the beginning looked like a mass of tangled horsehair.

The European method yields about 170 pounds of fiber from 1000 pounds of straw and sacrifices the seed crop. The Mudge process secures 250 pounds of straw after the seed has been saved. It converts the "shive," wasted by the European method, into a pulp for paper-making, and also saves the "tow."

The one reason why linen fiber has never been made in this country is that the European process would be impossibly expensive unless carried out by labor of the very lowest cost. There is no labor in the United States cheap enough for this purpose and for this reason Americans have been sending over \$30,000,000 a year to Europe for linen.

## WAY TO MAKE FUDGE

FIRST be sure that it isn't going to be other any one to have you in the kitchen. Unless mother or cook is more than willing to have you try this recipe, the fudge may not turn out well. First, day evening or a stormy Saturday afternoon is conducive to good fudge making.

Butter two tin or agate pie plates. Take a saucepan which will hold about three quart. Put in the saucepan, before you put it on the stove, three even cups of granulated sugar, one cup of sweet milk, a piece of butter the size of an egg, and two squares of unsweetened chocolate. Stir this mixture all together and put it on over a moderate fire. Stir it occasionally, especially after it begins to boil. Boil 10 minutes from the time when it first boils up hard. It will then have begun to sugar around the edge of the saucepan; take it off the stove, add a scant half teaspoon of vanilla

and stir briskly for about two minutes; then pour it out on the buttered plates. Be very careful not to stir it so long that it stiffens before it is poured out, nor so short a time that it will not be creamy. The fudge proper is never hard nor brittle, but will melt in the mouth.

A Barber's Keen Memory.

Kansas City Star.

"I believe you were in Galveston, Texas, about this time a year ago," a barber said to a man he was shaving this morning.

"How do you know that?" the man asked.

"I shaved you there a year ago and I remember that small scar on your chin."

"You have a remarkable memory."

"I have. But I remember that scar particularly. I nicked you there two years ago in Chicago."

Fate.

Two shall be born the whole wide world apart. And speak in different tongues, and have no thought. Each of us knows other's being, and no need; And these o'er unknown seas, to unknown lands. Shall all unconsciously shape every act; And bend each wandering step to this one end—That one day out of darkness they shall meet.

And two shall walk some narrow way of life. So nearly side by side that should one turn face to face, the other's hand would be ready to meet. They need not stand acknowledged face to face, but to a standard, dazed, blind— A picture flashing there He was, Bill, and I loved him for it, too— I cannot help be fair.

—Susan Marr Spalding.