

# Not Really Fine Art of Posing the Hands.

## How It Affects Sitting for Your Portrait, Appearing Before An Audience, Or Successfully Acting In The Movies.



A Beautiful Hand Pose by the Duchess of Westminster.

BY ALLISTER BRUCE.  
THE average person who sits for a photograph, or who is placed in any situation likely to make that person self-conscious, very soon meets the awful problem of the hands. Whichever emotion or a controlled pretense that there is no emotion may accomplish with the face, the hands are not so easily managed.

Every photographer knows this. Every stage manager, every movie director, knows this. You who go to the movies have been in the habit of thinking of faces as presenting the great difficulty. You probably haven't stopped to think of the hours of labor spent by actor or actress or by the director in getting hands to do their work properly.

It all looks so easy! When a thing is right, when it looks natural, we take it for granted.

**The Child's Hand.**  
A baby's hand doesn't need to be posed. It spreads or closes like the petals of a flower. The unconscious gestures of a child, the most accomplished actor or artist with envy, in those rare cases where forgetfulness of them gives them habitually or on occasion something of the grace that nature has given.

The Delarte students, the dramatic students, the art students, all are taught to remember that the hand should be "the fringe of the arm." The arm should "flow" out into the fingers. Next time you watch a great actress in the spoken drama or on the screen notice how her fingers follow her wrist action rather than precede it.

We are talking now of beauty, of grace. There are dramatic obligations which at times demand that the hand shall, while keeping its right relations to the wrist and arm, have the initiative of a serpent's head, as in some clutch of covetousness or anger.

**Dramatic Obligations.**  
But when you go to be photographed your problem is of a different sort. If you are a man you want your hand to look manly. A "lily" effect would be absurd. If you are a woman you don't want your hands to express masculine energy, but the pliant, dexterous energy of a woman.

Let the photographer direct you. He will tell you to leave your hand absolutely "limp" before he places it and not to "set" it until he has found the best possible line. The dramatic teacher has one of his most exasperating tasks in teaching pupils to walk with both arms absolutely limp, and the hands hanging "like fringes."

**At Your Finger Ends.**  
If he is a wise photographer he lets the lens see your wrists the narrow rather than the wide way whenever this is possible. Of course he will not, if he is a good photographer, pose a private person as he would a public person, a quiet mother of a family as he would a stage favorite. A famous beauty like Lady Diana Manners can afford to be posed in a spectacular way, with her jewels, but most women not in public life and subject to continual pictorial publicity would prefer the simpler style in which the photographer has treated the Duchess of Westminster.



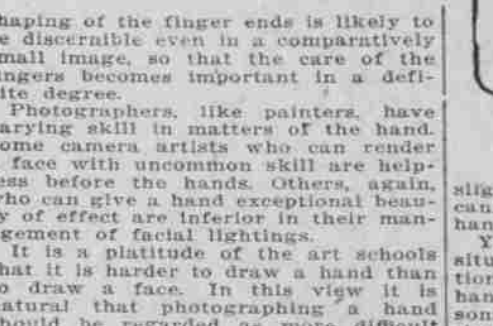
The Hand in Melodrama.



Photograph of Miss Laura Cowie, the British Beauty, Showing Hands as Adjusted to a Standing Position.



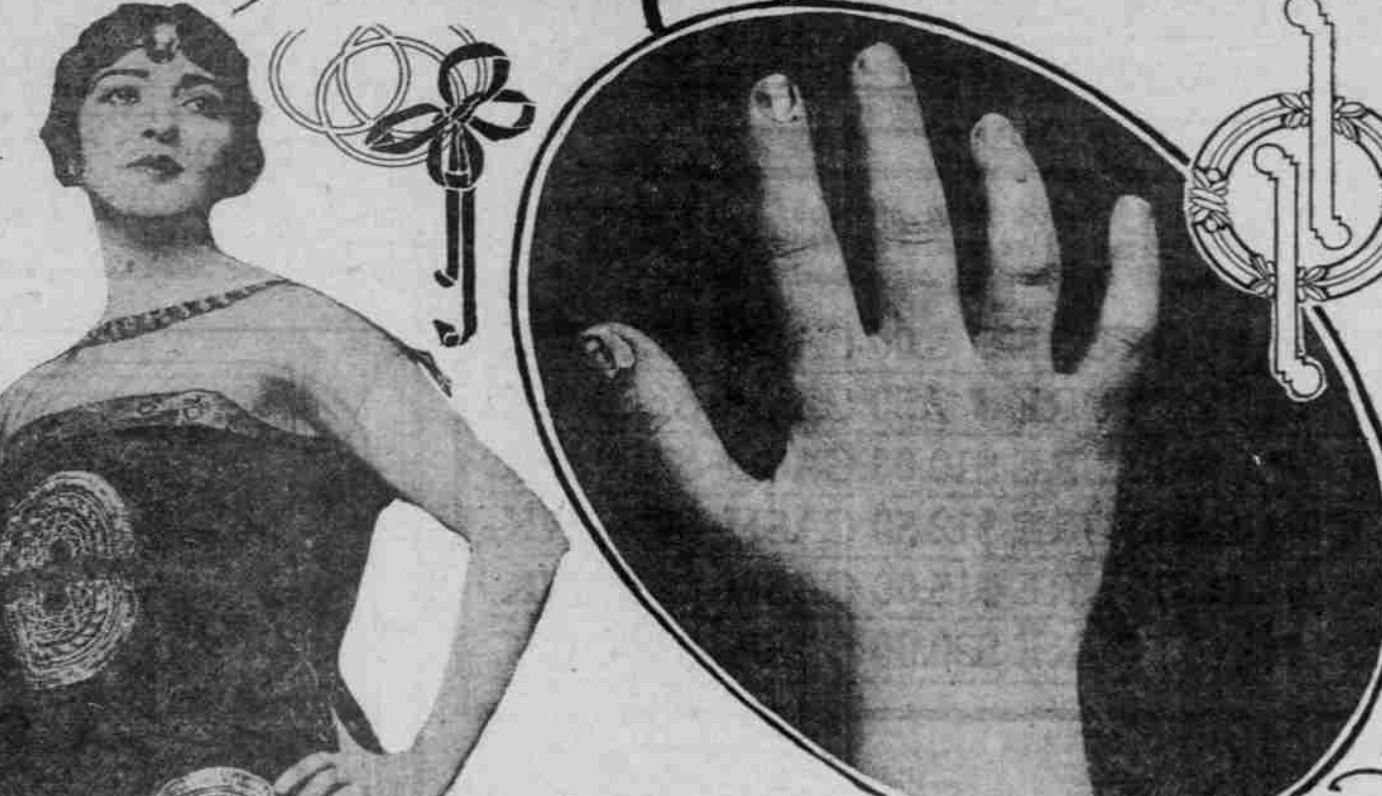
Hand of the Pianiste Leginska.



The "Double Curve" of the Two Hands Beside the Face.

shaping of the finger ends is likely to be discernible even in a comparatively small image, so that the care of the fingers becomes important in a definite degree.

Photographers, like painters, have varying skill in matters of the hand. Some camera artists who can render a face with uncommon skill are helpless before the hands. Others, again, who can give a hand exceptional beauty of effect are inferior in their management of facial lighting.



This Feminine Hand Shows the Application of a Fad for Finger-Nail Portraiture.



The "Eager" Hand, from a Fragment of Dramatic Action.



The "Flowing Thumb" Is Shown in This Pose.



The "Lily" Hand in Profile.



Artistic Position of the Hands in an Odd Pose by Miss Jose Collins, Photo © by E.O. Hopper

slight enlargement on that account cannot greatly mar the beauty of the hand or its pose.

**THANKSGIVING FEAST PROVIDED BY DOUGLAS COUNTY FARMERS**  
(Continued From First Page.)  
single herd in the entire state, for \$1100. No wonder these girls quit teaching to raise Thanksgiving dinners.



M. Caretto Says Hands Should Be as Completely Subject to Direction by the Photographer as Are the Hands of the Marionette.

to give his wife a good time, that Frank took it into his head to take Grace down to Sea Bright for a weekend. I had just come off a long case, so we went gladly to stay with the babies and hustle Grace off. We had no time for shopping so she had to go with the few things she had, but as this was the first outing she had had since her marriage the rest from the daily grind meant too much to her to cavil on the question of clothes.

**Wife Feels Out of Place.**  
When Grace came home she told me part of her experience, but the real pith of the story reached me through other sources. The Masons were at Sea Bright, too, of course, and a lot of other people whom Grace had never met, so this little homebody was a fish out of water among her husband's smart friends. She did not know the new dances, had even forgotten the old ones, so naturally she was left out. Frank, after a perfunctory show of interest at first, soon got so taken up with the young girls and Kitty he did not miss his wife when she wandered off by herself out into the stillness of the night.

Grace also told me about the crusty old gentleman who came in on the late train and sent everybody flying in opposite directions. Later, when the old man had slipped away from his party, he discovered Grace's quiet little nook. When he saw he dodged as if to make his escape, but, seeing she made no effort to speak to him, he dropped into a seat where he could watch the moon on the water, and it was not long before he was snoring lustily. With her motherly instinct Grace slipped over and gently laid her long soft cloak over him. This roused the man and he protested he had not been sleeping.

**Conversation Drifts to Bill.**  
Here was a woman who did not want to talk and was willing to let him be quiet, who did not try to be witty or tell him a funny story. Consequently, feeling there was no need at all to keep up a conversation, they fell to talking. The man made some allusion to the hot political pot. The woman said apologetically she did not know anything about politics. Whereupon the old man said "Thank God," and another long silence fell between them.

This woman's quiet, sympathetic voice had a restful effect, she did not try to get his vote for some special end, her thoughts were at home, and she was wondering if Frank had had his bath, so she listened quietly, saying little.

The moon played low on the water and the tide ebbed out as the figures waned. Something suggested the waste lands caused by the tide-water, and Grace, warmed to interest, talked on about the one subject she had brooded early and late. She did not try to make her listener agree with her; he seemed interested, so she talked on, but the older it was more to hear the crooning cadence of her voice he encouraged her to talk. It was the old-fashioned voice that had schooled in its cradle-sonnets and bedtime stories, its "carrying qualities" had never been developed for public speaking.

learn some more. They tell me, "It isn't done, you know," but I have some extra fine birds, and I want to know."

**Weight Is Invented.**  
Mr. Huntington has invented an ingenious "turkey weight," which is of great service in picking. It consists of an ordinary brick with a wire fastened around the middle of it so that a free end of some inches in length is left, which is bent into a hook, the point filed sharp. This hook pierces the nether bill of the suspended turkey and keeps him straight and rigid for picking.

**Friday Is Turkey Day.**  
Most of the Oakland turkeys are killed for the Thanksgiving market. The Friday before Thanksgiving is called "Turkey day." It is usually the most active day of the year in Oakland. Other Oregon towns have their rose carnivals, agate carnivals, huckleberry carnivals, strawberry carnivals, rhododendron carnivals, round-ups, and so on, without end, but Oakland, without a formal celebration, honors the turkey and, more important still, is honored in a practical manner by him. Between \$30,000 and \$40,000 is paid out by the local banks on that day. In the

**Evening the local high school basketball team plays a game with some neighboring high school teams, on the home floor, of course, because not only are the gate receipts heavy but so encouraging is the rooting that comes from the optimistic and pocket-filled sidelines, that victory generally results for Oakland.**

**Outing Reunites Home.**  
(Continued From First Page.)  
Martin had stalked him he had not been able to get a hearing.

**FISH KNOCKS MAN DOWN**  
Jump for Liberty Lands It in Face. Leaving Marks.  
SALINA, Kan., Nov. 21.—E. A. Hillman, of Wakeeney, has a sore face, caused by a tussle with a large catfish which he attempted to catch with his hands while swimming.