

Bess's Column.

The Proper Care of Gloves.

Gloves are a most expensive part of feminine attire, so it behoves us to take good care of them, so that they will last us a reasonable time. Every girl worth the name likes to be well gloved, rightly considering such to be one of the most infallible signs of good dressing and also of lady-like appearance. It has been said by an authority on good breeding, that

a lady bred
Dresses feet and hands before her head."

So we may take it, that these parts, which lots of girls think of not so much important as the suit and hat which are so much more prominent, are generally taken into greater account by the "chiel among us takin' notes." And rightly, too, for nothing gives one a more slipshod appearance than tattered or battered looking shoes and shabby gloves. Shabby gloves will spoil the appearance of the best suit ever made, while no matter how shabby the suit, if it is well brushed, carefully mended and well put on, it is "helped out" so to speak, if its wearer be well gloved and well booted. Therefore, seeing that gloves bear so important a place in one's wardrobe, we must understand, firstly, how to buy them to the best advantage, and secondly, how to care for them when we have them bought.

Buying Gloves.

Gloves should be carefully bought and as good a price given for them as we can afford, for a good glove will clean time and again, while a cheap pair is done for when soiled; also a cheap glove seems to soil much more readily than that of a better make. Have you noticed that? We ought also, in our glove economy, to buy suitable gloves; light ones being bought only for evening wear, while a sensible shade of tan is more suited for daily wear and tear. Never mind, although your best girl friend, does "sport" light summer gloves, perhaps her purse can stand the expense, while you know yours can't.

Putting on Gloves.

Putting on new gloves is a more important process than many believe, for on this first putting on, their appearance and the time they last depends very largely. New gloves ought never to be put on in a hurry, one ought to reserve this process till one has lots of time. Rather go out in an older pair than risk ruining a new pair by straining them on anyhow. If jerked on anyhow, in a hurry they are apt to split somewhere or else the side seams of the glove fingers will be down the middle of the fingers instead of at each side, or the fingers will not be down to the tip of the glove fingers. How often do we notice this in the gloves of our apparently well and carefully gloved friends. Just take a look at your friends' hands carefully one day and see how many have paid due attention to this important detail. The careful person who wants to make the most of her dress allowance, will fit on her gloves in the afternoon or evening, or any odd idle half hour she has, and will coax, rather than force them on. Holding the hands to the fire occasionally will help to stretch the kid. She will put the fingers in their places first not the thumb, and

Carefully Work Them on

with the first finger and the thumb of the other hand until the fingers reach the very glove tips seeing that side seams are where "side seams should be". She will, however, not press up between the fingers where they join to the palm of the hand in the mean time. She will next put in the thumb with great care and work it on very gently, (also having due care to the position of the side seams.) Next she will turn back the glove and slide it over the hand and wrist, working the glove into its place with the lightest pressure, and never, no never, hauling forcibly at the top edge of the wristlet, as nothing so surely pulls a glove out of shape. Now, she will with the gentlest pressure, pull the glove into position and will gently put in the first button. So many people do not do this the first time

putting in the second instead, thinking they will give the glove "time to stretch." So it does, but it stretches at the wrong place and pulls it out of proportion. Put in the first button at the first try on, it will go in just as easily then as later, and will thus keep the glove in its proper form.

Sew All Buttons on Gloves.

whenever you receive the gloves and before you even try them on, just the same as I hope you do with buttons on shoes or on a ready-made waist. If you don't you run the chances of losing two or three the first time of wearing and this means hunting around after you come home for "that kind of button" and finally, either having to go out and buy, or else put on some that don't match, giving a second-hand look immediately to your gloves, besides giving you double the work you would have had, had you firmly stitched on the originals before wearing.

There is also a

Right and a Wrong Method to Take off Gloves.

In taking them off, do so without wrenching or tugging. If the hands are hot gently coax the gloves off, then blow into them to restore to their original shape, and fold nicely, putting the thumb folded towards the palm. Do not roll them into a ball, but lay lengthwise in their glove box. If any buttons have come loose, stitch firmly into place before putting the gloves in the box, or if a nip or tear shows, mend immediately. A glove needle is necessary to the proper care of gloves, as an ordinary needle splits the kid. Cotton the color of the glove is better than silk, which pulls away the kid, and one should always have a few spools (tan, brown, beaver, etc.) in the house for the mending of gloves, for a "stitch in time" in glove mending, saves a great many more than "nine." If there is a gap or hole, do not be content to pull this together, or it will break out again. Do several rows of button holing one on the top of each other, at each side of the gap before joining. If a real hole that cannot be "bridged" in this way, mend it with a corner of kid of the same color from an old pair of gloves, overhanding the patch neatly on the right side. Never bite or jerk a thread to break it, or you will jerk it out of the kid, and the result will be a hole—always cut it. Save old gloves for mending—the fingers make capital coverings for a cloth on a sore finger.

Cleaning Gloves.

Any kind of glove can be cleaned with soap and water, if not made too dirty. Put on the hands and button in place, then wash as you would your hands, using as little water as possible and trying to keep the inside as dry as you can. Rinse and dry in the air and when dry, fit on very carefully. They will be hard and stringy, but if you take care to fit on very carefully they will look like new. Cleaning with benzine is more quickly done but care must be used as the benzine is so very inflammable. Cleaning with benzine is best done by daylight and with the gloves on the hands.

White Kid Gloves

may be cleaned with cream of tartar. Rub the soiled parts thoroughly with cream of tartar and let lie in it for an hour or so, then rub with equal parts of powdered alum and Fuller's earth, using a new (or thoroughly clean and dry) nail brush or tooth brush. They can be washed with skim milk and white soap using a clean flannel; change to a clean part of the flannel as it gets dirty. When clean wrap in a clean towel. They will dry quite soft.

Storing Gloves.

If you have light (or other) gloves that you are not going to wear at present owing to mourning or an overplus or any reason whatever, keep them in an air tight tin or they will soon spot. Your best gloves, or those not in daily use, should be wrapped in tissue paper before being laid in the bottom of the glove box.

In taking off new gloves some people

advocate turning the wrist of the glove, after taking out the buttons, over the fingers, and taking hold of the glove tips through this and gently withdrawing them. This is much easier on the gloves than pulling at them with the fingers. Smooth out all wrinkles before laying them aside.

LITTLE ECONOMICS.

How a Girl Can Take Care of Her Clothes.

As a working girl myself, and as I realise that scores of my sisters who know the value of money, know also that it is wise to economise in little things, I pass on a few hints that in my own experience have been helpful, in the hope that they may prove so to W. H. M. readers:

Silk Undervests.

If you have silk hose or undervests, do not put them in the family wash, but wash them out yourself as you would laces, in warm soapsuds, never rubbing soap on them but gently dipping them up and down in the soapy water. Rinse in clean warm water, partly dry, then pull into shape and iron with a moderately warm iron, with a soft cloth between.

Silk and Woollen Waists.

When a white silk or white woollen waist is to be laid aside and not worn for some time, owing to mourning or other causes, it should be carefully wrapped first in clean tissue paper and then in an old clean, washed sheet, to exclude all air and prevent it turning yellow.

To Clean Corsets.

There is no more excuse for dirty corsets than there is for dirty underwear, as they can be just as easily cleaned as the latter. First, carefully remove the laces from the back and then withdraw all the bones. Now, lay the two halves flat on the table and scrub with a clean nail brush and warm, soapy water. Rub till clean, then rinse liberally with clean, warm water; when nearly dry, iron with a moderately heavy iron, replace bones and laces and mend thoroughly, and you have a pair of corsets that look as good as new.

Tulle Rosettes and

Summer Stocks

may be made to appear fresh and crisp by ripping them apart and passing the tulle through the steam of a pan of boiling water. Chiffon and silk "mousseline" may be treated in the same way but must afterwards be pressed under a damp cloth. A tulle or chiffon hat which has become "limp" may be freshened and stiffened by steaming it well, made up as it is, then leaving it aside untouched till quite crisp and dry.

Do Not Have Your Skirt Fray

on the lower edge of the frill, or on the skirt proper. It is very, very common to see this, yet nothing looks as or betrays the "slut" so quickly. Nothing saves the edges of your skirts like braid, so have the edges of your skirts all neatly edged with it. It saves the skirt immeasurably and is easily replaced when worn or frayed. If you keep all your skirts nicely bound, the edges will stay "good" as long as the rest of your suit, and a neat edging of velvet or "brush" braid looks neat as well as preserving the skirt. It should project one-eighth of an inch below the edge of the skirt so as to afford the necessary protection. A friend of mine, who always looks the acme of neatness, edges even her white tub skirts with "rick-rack" braid, and she is always a pattern of neatness. For her morning skirts for house wear, she saves all her pieces of black velvet neck ribbon and waist ribbon and binds her skirts with this. She says she finds it of a much better wearing quality than the bought velvet edging and for a morning skirt the many joins don't matter.

To Clean Laces.

Laces always look dainty when clean but dirt makes them neither valuable nor attractive. Old lace which has become too much yellowed to look pretty may be bleached a little by being wetted and put in strong sunlight for a short time. As a rule real lace is not ironed, but if this seems necessary, iron it under muslin and over a pad, (say a folded sheet) so as to raise the design. White lace which

has become dirty, may be soaked all night in milk and soapy water, then soused up and down in the liquid, rinsed in cold water, and patted till nearly dry. Then lay out flat on a folded sheet, pinning out each scallop till nearly dry, when it should look like new. Ordinary imitation lace looks best done in this way, or if it must be ironed, that is, if it is a fairly heavy make, it is best ironed under muslin on a pretty thick pad, pressing it, of course, on the wrong side. To clean real lace it should be placed between layers of clean tissue paper, well sprinkled with calcined magnesia, and put between the leaves of a book under a heavy weight for three or four days. Then shake the powder off and you will find the lace to look almost like new.

Rusty Looking Black Lace

should be rinsed in a cupful of water with a tablespoonful of borax and the same of alcohol, wind round a bottle covered with muslin, and pin down each scallop till perfectly dry.

To Stiffen Silk Waists.

These will have just the stiffness of new silk waists if when washed, they are rinsed in water in which a little methylated spirit has been put.

Initialing Your Linen

Many girls are very fond of having their Christian initial embroidered on all their linen, and it is quite a pretty fad, don't you think? But when one has to buy separate transfers for each article, say, 1 doz. for handkerchiefs, ½ doz. for corset covers and so on, it becomes quite an expensive item. Now, it is quite a simple matter to let one transfer mark any quantity, if you will let me whisper my secret in your ear. Have a piece of coarse open Swiss muslin and press your transfer on to this with a hot iron. The transfer will come off on the muslin and this can be placed on each article where you want the lettering to be, and gone over with a lead pencil. The pencil marks through the open work of the muslin and you have the transfer just as neat as if you bought a separate one for each article. If not quite distinct on the article when you remove the muslin, go over it again with a pencil, as sewing tends to obliterate it at any rate.

To Wash Your Silk Waist Well

is not a difficult matter, but they must get separate treatment from the rest of the family wash, if they are to retain their pristine freshness for an indefinite period. Here are a few general rules:

Do the work quickly; rinse thoroughly press or squeeze out the dirty water, but never wring the silk. When the washing is completed, spread out the articles on a clean dry sheet or cloth and roll up, trying to have always a fold of the dry sheet next a fold of the wet silk. Iron in an hour or less. My rule is to put on the irons to heat after I have the waists rolled up in their dry sheet. Never hang silk out in the open air to dry; if you are delayed in getting to your ironing and you find the silk too dry; do not dampen it as this is never a success, instead damp the cloth and roll up the too dry silk in it having a roll of damp cloth always next the dry silk. Do not use too hot an iron. Iron with a piece of cheese cloth or muslin between the silk and the iron. To wash the white silk, it is a good plan to melt soap as you would for woollens, or to shred some white soap finely into a basin of hot water, then stir with a spoon till it is dissolved. When cooled a little put in the dirty waists, squeezing out the dirt, rather than rubbing, and above all being careful never to wring or stretch the silk as this breaks the threads quicker than anything. If ironed damp they do not need stiffening, but if a little is liked and some silks seem to require it put a little methylated spirit into the rinsing water. Above all take an afternoon to your silk waists, when you are not rushed, as careful washing will prolong their beauty indefinitely and one careless washing will ruin all.

Comfort for the Dyspeptic.—There is no ailment so harassing and exhausting as dyspepsia, which arises from defective action of the stomach and liver, and the victim of it is to be pitied. Yet he can find ready relief in Parmelee's Vegetable Pills, a preparation that has established itself by years of effective use. There are pills that are widely advertised as the greatest ever compounded, but not one of them can rank in value with Parmelee's.

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