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Through The Eye of a Needle

THE BIBLICAL metaphor concerning the eye of a needle has another application, according to Mlle. Susanne Boitard, a French journalist now touring on this continent. She affirms that the Canadian woman needs a closer acquaintance with the eye of a needle in order to pass through into the kingdom of the smartly dressed. It is because French women, almost without exception, know the art of wielding a needle, and thereby giving their attire touches of individuality and occasional "first aid" when seams give way, that they are able to dress so

but few of them are 'artistic with a needle,' in the French sense.

"The French shop girl may have but a single blouse, but she understands how to launder, iron and care for it herself to keep it always looking fresh and lovely. Here, blouses are sent to the public laundries and they come back clean but with all their freshness mangled out of them.

"In Paris, there is a tiny store in nearly every block, where one may purchase needles, buttons, yarns, tape and all the minor things of the wardrobe—the things which one works with.



Mademoiselle Susanne Boitard a French journalist now touring this continent.

well on such a small amount, compared to our expenditures, Mlle. Boitard says.

"The French woman is so well-dressed because she understands the art of being her own maid," declares Mlle. Boitard. "She knows the value of personal adornment, and what is more, she is trained in the little devices which save money in caring for a wardrobe. Over here I find that women are more helpless. Some of them are 'handy with a needle,' as it is called,

But in this country one has to go to a distant department store for these things, and then walk for miles and miles through crowded aisles, looking for the 'notion counter.' The very remoteness of the notion counter shows the slight importance which it has in the estimation of the average woman. If things tear or become frayed, she discards them, or sends them away to be fixed. The French woman does this personal service for herself."

NOVEL IDEAS ABOUT RUGS

IF RUGS are faded they can be made to look like new by the following treatment. Take a cupful of smoking tobacco—any pipe tobacco will do—put it in a pan and steep it as you steep coffee. Drain this liquor off and add three tablespoonfuls of household ammonia to it. This can be used for any kind of dark rug, brown and red, red and blue, etc. Dip a heavy cloth in the solution, scrub the rug well with this, dipping the cloth again and again and wringing it out before using. The result will be a clean looking rug with colours as bright and clear as when it was new. F RUGS are faded they can be made

For a carpet in which the predominating colour is blue, get three gills of ox-gall from the drug store. Dissolve this in a pail of warm water and go over the carpet several times and then wring the cloth out in clean water and remove all the suds. A great

water and remove all the suds. A great freshening and brightening will result.

For a light, tan coloured Brussels rug, use potato water, made by scraping a half dozon potatoes, pouring water a half dozen potatoes, pouring water

over them and straining off the liquid. This will stiffen the Brussels rug as

well as clean it.
In winter nothing cleans and brightens carpets better than to sweep them with clean snow. For dark carpets damp clean snow. For dark carpets damp tea leaves can be used, scattering them about the room and sweeping up immediately. And since dust-down is now an expensive luxury, make it at home. Take a bag of sawdust and dampen it slightly with kerosene oil, stir thoroughly and leave it in an air tight receptacle—an old tin wash boiler is excellent—for two or three hours. It is then ready for use in sweeping.

For matting use two quarts of water

For matting use two quarts of water and one cupful of vinegar and the colours will come out almost as clear

as when new

as when new.

Dust cloths can be made in the same wash boiler as the dust down. Add a few drops of kerosene oil to each cloth and put on the cover, leaving them for a half day or longer. The oil will then have permeated the entire cloth, and it is ready for use.