

News and Gossip of the Fashion World

The Tailored Woman is Fastidious About Small Belongings

The perfectly groomed and perfectly appointed woman knows that it is the accessories of her costume, more than the costume itself, that render her well-dressed, well "turned-out"—as the English say. No matter how expensive a tailored suit, its effect can be utterly spoiled by shabby boots, a bedraggled veil, gloves that mended fingertips and a handbag that has seen much service. On the other hand, new, smart belongings of this character can make a last season tailored suit look correct and attractive. The foregoing is a truism, often and often reiterated; but it seems that some women will never learn the valuable lesson of fastidious care in the matter of small belongings of dress; again and again one sees the ensemble that, considering what it has evidently cost, should be perfect, irrefragably marred by some hopelessly out-of-keeping accessory.

Pressing is a detail of good grooming that too many women ignore. The man sends his suits to a tailor for cleaning and pressing with systematic regularity; but the woman will often wear a tailor through a whole season in the fond imagination that its pristine freshness and good lines have been retained. Home-pressing of a wool-woven garment is seldom satisfactory; the tailor has special irons and special pressing-boards and the price for turning out a coat and skirt almost as good as new is so trifling that there seems no excuse for the ragging lines, wrinkled skirts and limp untidiness one so often deplores on otherwise smartly turned out women. The importance of correct gloves and boots can scarcely be over-estimated and women are much more particular about these details of dress than they used to be. Seldom now does one see run-over boot-heels; but this careful attention to the footwear is undoubtedly owing to the shortness of skirts. No more may a badly shod foot be withdrawn beneath a kindly skirt-hem; no more may the top of the boot be left unpollished because only toe and heel will show, anyway, below the skirt. Vanity prompts the possessor of always obvious feet to keep them always attractively shod, even if a natural love of neatness does not impel; and it is more than likely that the nature of man's dress has been responsible for the reputation he has always had for fastidious care about his boots.

Gloves are an expensive item of the wardrobe—there is no getting around that; for gloves must be perfect, irre-

proachably new and fresh, to give the finish of chic to the costume. Fortunately, one may economize on evening gloves, these days, when bare arms are quite en regale with gaslight frocks; and may spend the extra amount on gloves for the street. Mended gloves are the sign manual of



The Elastic Band At Her Waistline Keeps The Tailored Girl's Neckwear In Perfect Position.

economy and rob the smartest costume of any claim to distinction. If mending must be done, it should be accomplished with painstaking nicety. The mending cotton should match the kid exactly and so that tiny, even stitches may be set. Soiled white gloves are even worse than mended gloves, and when a pair of white kid gloves can be cleaned over night for five or ten cents, there seems no excuse for anything less than immaculate daintiness in this detail of dress.

Neckwear is such an important item of dress that few women neglect this feature of the costume. The shops abound in dainty bits of neckwear and one may pay any price from a quarter of a dollar to a quarter of a hundred dollars for a chemise and collar to accompany the new tailored suit. It is far better to own a few very good specimens of neckwear, doing them up with exquisite care one's self, if expensive dry cleaning cannot be afforded, than to stock-up with a great many bits of cheap neckwear which never look like anything after a laun-

Feminine Fads and Fancies

Hints on Dress, Fashions and Toilet Accessories

dering. Fine organdie and linen neck-belongings should be soaked in cold water, made into a lather with pure soap, then washed carefully and pined out on a towel to bleach snow white in the sun. After they may be dipped in slightly blued water, partly dried and pressed with an iron. A very little boiled starch may be used just before the blued water if crispness is desired.

The adjustment of neck belongings is most important. Some women always look trim and tidy about the neck while others have a careless, disarrayed suggestion. There is nothing more deplorable than a "sloppy" collar, and most exquisite neatness and daintiness should mark everything worn around the throat. This, of course, means unremitting care and trouble for neckwear speedily becomes bedraggled, and discolored; but just as surely as one "takes a chance" in wearing a collar that "really ought to give one more day's wear," does one meet one's most fastidious and hyper-critical friend, or the certain person whom, out of a whole city-full, one would like to impress with one's exquisite daintiness of habit!

BRITAIN'S CHRISTMAS CHEER DATES BACK TO EARLY AGES
(Continued From Page Nine.)
On a stout pole is built strictly according to regulations which have been fixed by ancient custom. It is packed with wool over which tar is poured. A lighted piece of turf (matches must not be used) sets the clavic ablaze, all cheer for the King and Provost, and a husky fisherman carries it off. He runs through the thoroughfares with it being relieved at the junction of two streets, and thus the Clavic makes its way around the town and is finally placed in a socket to burn itself out. A fragment of the embers is eagerly sought after as a charm.

Wales to an extent shares in the common Christmas celebrations, but she has also customs of her own. Perhaps the most intellectual of all contests at this time of year takes place in the Welsh hills. A man puts on a horse's head, to represent Mari Lwyd, and accompanied by a group of admirers goes from farmhouse to farmhouse, where he attempts to gain entrance by his wit and gift of repartee. As he arrives the outer doors are locked and the cleverest person inside is called upon to engage Mari Lwyd in this battle of words. Should the visitor be worsted he goes away, but generally he will obtain entrance, and he and his followers regale at the expense of the victim conquered in this strange manner.

The Christmas carols in the mining districts in South Wales are very peculiar. Here are a few: Christmas is coming; The goose is getting fat, Please put a penny In the old man's hat. If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do; If you haven't got a ha'penny, God bless you.

I wish you a Merry 'Xmas And a happy New Year, A pocket full of money, And a cellar full of beer.

Another very puzzling carol regards some mystic young lady: She came from Gibraltar With a hat on her head; She wears a red petticoat And a hat on her head.

Then all carols end— Up! up with the kettle and down with the pot, Give us a penny and let us be off. If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do; If you haven't got a ha'penny, God bless you.



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