

The Bee's Home Magazine Page

Protective Coloration in the War

By GARRETT P. SERVISS.

A striking instance of the application of scientific knowledge to the purposes of war is the color of the German service uniform, a kind of invisible gray-yellow-green, which blends with the prevailing hue of a landscape, so that bodies of troops become, as it were, concealed in a chromatic maze.

Naturalists have long been familiar with the "protective coloration," which is found among many species of insects and other animals, and it is rather surprising that this principle, which science declares to be a result of evolutionary adaptations, has not sooner been employed in the appareling of armies. Khaki uniforms, which have been widely adopted since the Boer war, represent a first step toward the development of a scientific military investment.

But according to the descriptions that have come from the seat of war in Belgium, the new German soldier's dress is an effective advance upon this. It is a dress that tends to conceal the movement of troops, is almost as important as smokeless powder, which keeps the secret of the location of guns, and its importance is accentuated by the increased distance at which armies now fight one another. Troops dressed in dark or flaming colors can be seen afar off, but the modern scientific uniform possesses something of the concealing power of the chromatic patterns with which leopards, tigers and zebras are covered.

Those who have never seen these animals amid their natural surroundings can form no clear idea of the blinding effects produced by protective coloration. Hunters in Africa have told almost incredible stories of herds of zebras standing in plain sight of the observer, and yet actually invisible to him until a sudden alarm sent them away in a wild scamper. Their color and their markings are wonderfully accordant with the yellowish hues, and the barrings of black shadow that characterize the landscapes amid which they live.

It would seem a natural suggestion that this principle should have an important application to military operations and dirigibles. Contrary to what might at first sight be deemed probable, it is likely that white, or pale gray, rather than blue, would be the most effective color for an aerial craft which was to be rendered as inconspicuous as possible.

In the earlier days of warfare armies generally wore uniforms calculated to make them terrifying, rather than invisible, to their enemies, but the time of the "pugnacious red" has passed, and now nature's method, which tends to utilize the principle of optical deception and illusion for both attackers and defenders, is being followed. In our day the Assyrian wolf no longer comes down upon the fold, with "his cohorts all blazing in purple and gold," but he steals along like the tawny lion in the tawny desert, while his dusty-hued prey slips off, concealed against the background of sand.

These things may have a determining influence in disgusting mankind with war. Mars in the guise of a chameleon loses all his romantic attraction, and shows himself up as a hideous monster, whose doing becomes the more repulsive in proportion as they are more brutally practical.

Probable Cause.

A minister was invited one afternoon to go for a ride with a minister's wife. The minister, who enjoyed all outdoor sports, was very enthusiastic over motorcycling, and he was driving the car. While speeding along, however, he was stopped by a policeman, and later received a summons to the police court to answer a charge of driving at excessive speed. "Well," said the magistrate, after listening to the evidence, "you say you were going at only fifteen miles an hour; but the officer declares you were traveling at forty. Now, I don't like to doubt the word of either of you. Can you think why he insists you were traveling at that rate of speed? Is there any grudge he owes you?" "No," said the cleric. "No, I can't think of anything—unless it is that I married him four years ago!"

Baby of Future is Considered



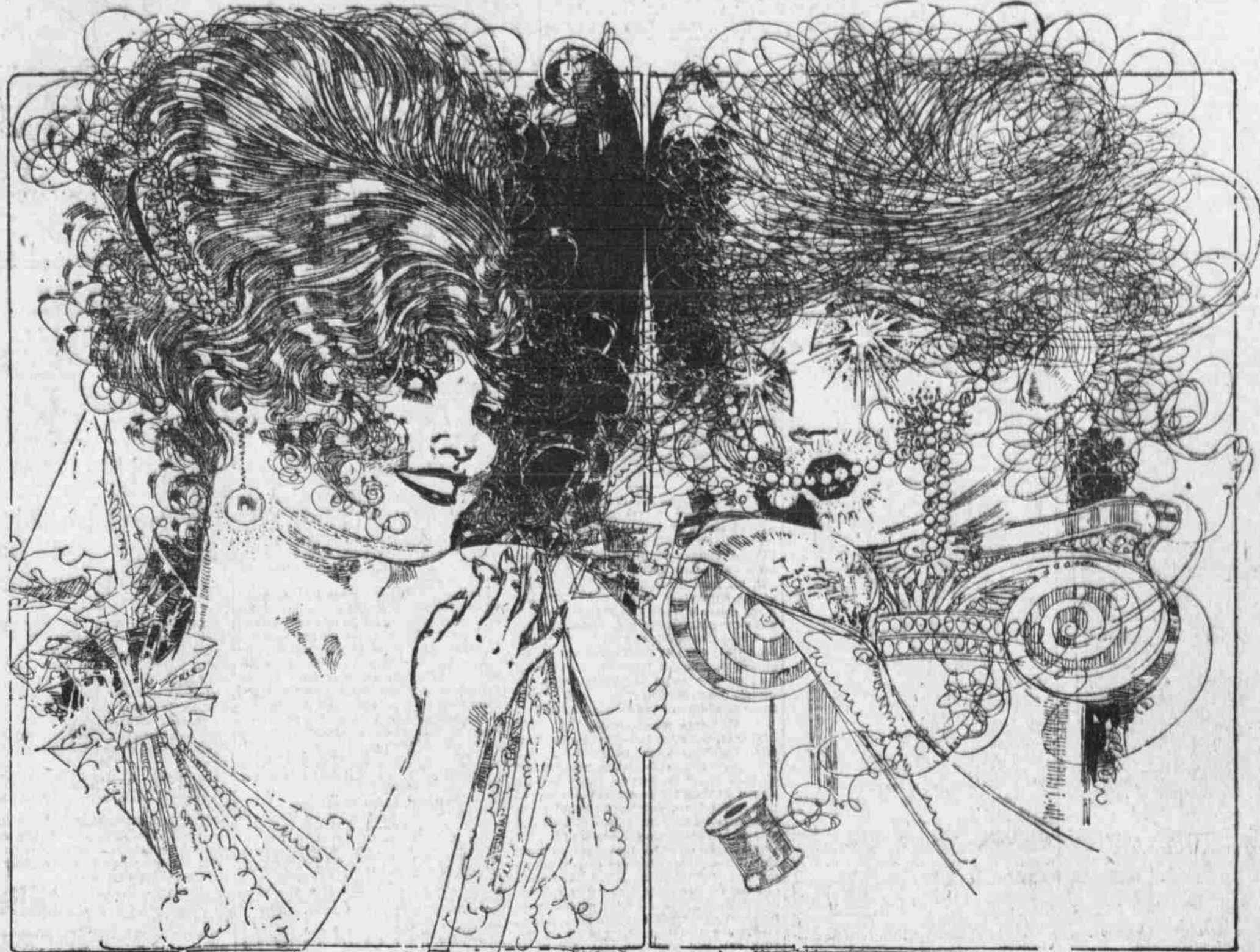
Much thought has been given in late years to the subject of maternity. In the cities there are maternity hospitals equipped with modern methods. But most women prefer their own homes and to the towns and villages must travel to them. And since this is true we know from the great many splendid letters written on the subject that our "Mother's Friend" is a great help to expectant mothers. They write of the wonderful relief, how it seemed to allow the muscles to expand without undue strain and what a splendid influence it was on the nervous system. Such helps as "Mother's Friend" and the broader knowledge of them should have a helpful influence upon babies of the future. Science says that an infant derives its sense and builds its character from cutaneous impressions. And a tranquil mother certainly will transmit a more healthful influence than if she is extremely nervous from undue pain. This is what a host of women believe who used "Mother's Friend."

These points are more thoroughly explained in a little book mailed free. "Mother's Friend" is sold in all drug stores. Write for book, Broadfield Regulator Co., 411 Lamar Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.

If Lover's Praise Were True

His Sweetheart—This According to His Poetry Would Look Like the Vision to the Right.

By NELL BRINKLEY
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Ever since Aucassin, love sick, sang tiny tender rhymes to Nicolette and likened her feet in the grass to white daisies growing there, and long before, since Adam perhaps told Eve that the glimmer of her eyes was the light in a forest pool, lovers have searched frantically for the gems and the colors and the fabrics and the flowers of the earth to be humbly likened to the wonders that go to make up the women they have loved.

Dan and I don't often make fun of Love, Because,

you see, that's our business, and our desk, if you please, is a solemn place where we thrash things out; but an old song of Robert Herrick's, wherein he sang thus: "Her lips are roses over-washed with dew: Or like the purple of Narcissus' flower. Her cheeks are ripened lilies steeped in wine, Eyes that lighten and do shine, Cherry lips which did bespeak Words that made all hearts to break." made us giggle with the vision of what a maid would

really be if she had "lily hands," her hair was truly "a tangled skein of silk," her eyes "twin stars," her lips "a ruby red," her teeth "a string of pearls," her ears "pink shells," her neck "a column white holding the wonder of her primrose cheeks aloft," her brows "two crescent moons."

Don't you reckon in the last small cranny of your heart that a lover would fly like a home-bound bird from the image of his sweetheart if she wore all this? Here's where he's snap his fingers at a dream and clutch the plain reality!

NELL BRINKLEY.

Who Shall Do the Courting?

By BEATRICE FAIRFAX.

Ever since the world began men have been going out on the warpath to the chase and bringing home the fruits of their strength. Ever since the world began women have been sitting at home doing the weaving and the baking and the sewing and pinning and making themselves desirable so that men might want to lay the gifts of the chase and the spoils of war at their feet.

Has our country changed any of that? Decidedly yes in practice of living, decidedly no in practice of loving. We women go to the offices and the factories and the stores and work side by side with men. We go to the polls and vote with men in some states and countries and shall do so in more and more.

But because human nature has developed and human beings express themselves in new ways does not mean that human nature has changed. Human nature has grown along natural lines. Women have freedom in work and freedom in play. But men are still the hunters and conquerors, and they do not fancy seeing a woman come out in the open as a husband-seeker and mark down the victim she chooses to hunt.

Every day I receive dozens of letters from girls who want to know if they shall "insist" on their men friends calling a certain number of times a week. Every day some girl tells me she wrote three times to "John" and he did not answer, and then asks me what she shall do. Probably she should never have written the first letter.

Here is a sad little example that is quite typical of one of the greatest mistakes girls make:

L. M. L. writes: "I am 19 years of age and am keeping company with a boy two years my senior. We have been together on Wednesday evenings since December and I think if he loves me as he says he should come Saturdays and Sundays, too. He objects. Should I insist?"

My dear girl—and all my dear girls in like cases—don't insist. Don't dream of insisting on anything a man does not choose freely and of his own will to do.

No man likes to be forced to give the attention and consideration that he receives in offering to the right woman—a free gift. If you are not the proper respect, and he thinks that she has not the natural charm that will cause men to seek her freely. He does not enjoy being sought by a girl so falling in at

tractiveness that other men have not sought her.

But the main reason why women fall when they try to force the issue is that all men have a natural stubbornness that makes them enjoy a struggle for what they get instead of having it handed to them. A man actually enjoys a certain amount of conflict in attaining his heart's desire. He likes lingering along the pleasant path of courtship. So when a girl struts out into the open and demands either in a businesslike way as her right, or in a sentimental and clinging way as her supreme wish that she have more of his society that he has seen fit to give her, she antagonizes all his natural instincts.

If instead of insisting that her friend call three evenings a week when he has shown a desire to come but once, L. M. L. were to suggest sweetly and pleasantly that perhaps next Wednesday evening she would be engaged and another evening later in the week would do just as well, she would be the more likely to take on value in the man's eyes. Then perhaps he would be the one to insist on spending more evenings together.

The minute a girl insists on anything as her right it ceases becoming a free gift. The minute a girl talks of "rights" and insists on them a man feels chains. And chains gall men. They like the feeling of freedom; they like to be generous bestowers of gifts and not captives chained to chariot wheels.

Never demand a man's society. Make yourself so sweet and desirable that he will demand yours.

Difficult you say? Perhaps. But in my next article I will give you a few suggestions as to how to make yourself desirable.

Advice to Lovelorn

By BEATRICE FAIRFAX.

To Add to Your Culture. Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a girl of 17 and am very ambitious about becoming a well informed person. I have often wondered how certain people I have known, often with no more education than myself, could converse intelligently on a wide variety of topics.

I have not had the advantage of a higher academic education, but am desirous of adding, generally, to my store of knowledge in my leisure hours at home.

I would be very grateful to you if you would advise me along what lines I should set out to accomplish this. C. B. C.

Go to the public library and ask for help in a course of reading along the lines of history and literature. You might begin with Greek and Roman history and come up through the Medieval and Renaissance to the history of modern times. Then read good poetry, biography and the drama—as well as a few of the standard novels. The editorial pages of the papers and the better weeklies and monthlies will help you in your knowledge of current events.

Jealousy Among Girls.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I have a certain girl friend whom I have known for the last four years, and for the last year or so I have gone to business with her. The other morning I met a friend (a girl) whom I knew only a short time and went to business with her. I met my first friend in the train and she wouldn't notice me. I tried to draw her attention so that I could introduce my friend, but she wouldn't pay any attention to me. Do you think I was wrong in going to business with the new friend? Alas, should I apologize?

If you are quite sure that you have not

given the impression of wishing to desert an old friend for a new one, you have nothing for which to apologize. It seems as if your friend had taken a ridiculous attitude of jealousy. However, perhaps she is particularly sensitive and you may have given some offense, so I should go to her and talk the matter over.

Let Him Go. Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a girl 17 years of age and care for the friendship and company of a boy one year my junior. We have been close friends for three years, until recently a girl has come to our neighborhood whom he seems to admire very much. His attention is being given to her instead of me, and it hurts my feelings. Of course, I know I have no strings on him, but think he would be true to his promise as we have promised each other our company when we are old enough to keep company. Do you not think this girl is doing me an injustice, as she knows how I feel toward him? What shall I do to win his friendship and attention from this certain girl? Seeking your advice as I am anxious to know what you think about me winning him back. BLUE EYES.

Mix one pint of water and one pint of alcohol, but the mixture will not measure two pints. Same fact with the sugar and tea. But if the top of the cup is absolutely dry the liquid may be piled up above the surface of the cup's edge.

Molecules of liquids cohere to each other with a certain specific force for each kind. But if a surface is wetted by a liquid, the molecules of the liquid adhere to those of the solid with greater tenacity than to each other.

And this is the explanation of some kinds of liquids being heaped up slightly above the thin top of a cup or glass. Water will hold large volumes of gas without increasing in bulk, as in the case of that classic liquid, soda pop, and a certain noted liquor—champagne wine. The entire series of phenomena are based on spaces in between molecules.

Arranging a Demonstration. "I suppose," said the candidate, "that I can depend on your support?" "I dunno," replied Farmer Cornloose, in a low tone. "Mirandy an' the two girls are hangin' out o' the window, over the porch, tryin' to hear what we're talkin' about. I want to support you, but you'll make it easier for me if you'll sort o' get agitated as we walk toward the gate an' holler 'Votes for women!' a few times."

Washington Star

Lifting Dead Weight

By EDGAR LUCIEN LARKIN.

Q.—"Can you explain why it seems easier to lift up a living body and carry it some distance than to carry a small, compact 'dead' weight, such as iron dumbbells? A person weighing 150 pounds appears lighter than a pair of dumbbells or sadirons weighing fifty or seventy-five pounds."—Lily B. Fingstein, Sparrow's Nest, Mount Vernon.

A.—Somebody several thousands of years before-our art of writing was invented imagined this thing, and told it to his next door man. He told it and so all among the ages and centuries. Pure hallucination, along with hundreds of others now injuring this modern scientific age.

If a person weighing 150 pounds appears lighter than anything weighing fifty or seventy-five pounds, it is simply because a distorted mind of some weak man imagined it, maybe 100,000 years ago. Same origin for all current myths.

Q.—(1) "If a certain amount of alcohol is added to a given quantity of water, the volume of the liquid decreases."

(2) "If a spoonful of sugar be added to a cup of tea, filled to the brim, the tea does not overflow."—Charles T. Cawley, 28 East Seventeenth street, New York.

A.—All liquids are porous. Fill a box with shot and there are spaces between. A box "full" of shot may be also filled to the top with water. The word liquid in the question should have been plural—liquids.

Mix one pint of water and one pint of alcohol, but the mixture will not measure two pints. Same fact with the sugar and tea. But if the top of the cup is absolutely dry the liquid may be piled up above the surface of the cup's edge.

Molecules of liquids cohere to each other with a certain specific force for each kind. But if a surface is wetted by a liquid, the molecules of the liquid adhere to those of the solid with greater tenacity than to each other.

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Washington Star

Things That Count

By ANN LISLE.

Most of us have a sad way of emphasizing the wrong things in life. We think that wealth, position, success, popularity and high dignities are the only things that count. They are the things that count if they are honestly gained. They are the things that count if they are attained without shameful bargainings and sacrifices of love and honor and truth. They are the things that count if they can be won without losing peace of mind.

The things that count most of all of life is to be at peace with yourself.

If you win whatever measures of success you can attain without resorting to understand and dishonest methods you will get happiness with your success.

Dishonest dealing may be concealed from all the world, but the heart knows its own wrong-doing has no permanent peace.

A very wise Englishman has said that what makes life worth while is the measure of its "durable satisfactions."

And the durable satisfactions—the joys and happinesses and successses that wear well are the things that count.

First of all, never do anything for which you will have to pay some day in terms of regret and remorse.

Have you ever bought a pair of flimsy, shabby slippers "on credit," and had the bill for them come in just about the time they were worn out? The flimsy, tinseled joys of life are like that—they are not worse; they won't wear well, and you will have to pay just as you are ready to pass it to something more worth while.

The "durable satisfactions" of life—the things that are unworthy of your own best self. So you will be at peace with yourself, and will never shrink from looking your own self in the face in the mirror of glass and in the mirror of life and living.

To do nothing that will shame the people who love you. So you will have the glowing satisfaction of making your dear ones proud of you.

To do nothing that fair-minded people can scorn you for. So you will win a respect of regard from your neighbors in life.

To grow a little each day in strength and wisdom. So you will measure up to your own possibilities and will make a place for yourself in life.

To give honest regard to the people who care for you. So you will come to be loyal and capable of deep affection, and even if now and then you are disappointed in your own self and will be worthy of the best when it comes to you.

To give to your work and to your play an honest attention that will make you labor well after recreation, and frolic like a good comrade when your daily toil is done.



Madame Isbell's Beauty Lesson

Her Problems of Middle Age — Part II.

There are many reasons, social, personal and business, why a woman may object to gray hair. No matter how young the face, gray hair to a woman always suggests age. This should not be so, and in time the world may be educated out of this idea, but common opinion today judges a woman's age by the gray in her hair much as it judges that of a horse by its teeth.

I see no reason why a woman should be blamed if she puts off this evil day by the skillful use of a proper hair dye applied by careful, experienced hands. In the previous lesson I dwelt on the difficulties of bleaching and dyeing blond hair and the unpleasant effects of doing this, but to treat brown or dark hair that is turning gray is a much simpler matter. It is not always an easy matter, nor is it an expensive operation, but hair can be dyed without injury to the health and without betraying the fact to the world at large.

Hair dyes or "restorers," as they are often called, put up by reliable firms are composed largely of vegetable substances and are quite harmless. They are not difficult to apply, if the person using them has some experience and the hair has not been treated to any chemical beforehand. The hair should be thoroughly shampooed and dried so that it is free from oil and will take the dye evenly. The dyeing process will have to be repeated as often as the dye wears off or the hair grows out at the roots.

The question usually asked is, "Can I dye my hair exactly its natural color?" No, my friend, you cannot. Suppose you have a piece of green cloth with white lines in it and you wish to dye it so it will still be green, but the white lines will not show. You would be forced to dye it a darker or brighter shade of green in order to cover up the white, would you not? So it is with hair. To cover up the white hair it must be dyed a shade deeper or brighter than is the hair that has not turned gray. The change, however, is not noticeable if the hair is treated when the gray or faded streaks first begin to show.

The first change in brown or chestnut hair is a loss of the pretty red or light tints that make such hair attractive. At this period treating the hair to a wash of henna or henna with a little peroxide will restore this gleam and, if the hair does not turn gray rapidly, for a few years it will look very pretty under this treatment. I have never known any dermatologist to claim henna to be the least harmful and the amount of peroxide used in this way is inconsiderable. However, if the hair turns gray rapidly a stronger preparation must be applied to cover up the white locks; if more henna is used the hair becomes more and more red and, if walnut or some other stain is added to this, the hair will eventually become darker. So, as time goes on, the hair will either be darker or redder than its natural color.

Hair dyeing is so common in Europe that few gray haired women are seen until real old age is reached. The European hair dressers are experienced at this work and there are few complaints that it is not well done. Here, however, there seems to be so much uncertainty regarding the action of dyes on different heads of hair that many beauty parlors refuse to guarantee results. A part of this trouble comes from the fact that the hair has been experimented with by the use of home-made preparations or a woman has fitted from one hair dresser to another without knowing what the last one has applied to the hair. The proper way is to choose a good hair dresser who will keep a record of the case and what is used and go to no other.

There are the uncertainties of hair dyeing. I might also add this warning. There are few women who wish to dye the hair forever. The times come when we are not only willing but anxious for the softening effect of gray locks. Dye work and the use of hair dyes, therefore, is not well done. Here, however, there seems to be so much uncertainty regarding the action of dyes on different heads of hair that many beauty parlors refuse to guarantee results. A part of this trouble comes from the fact that the hair has been experimented with by the use of home-made preparations or a woman has fitted from one hair dresser to another without knowing what the last one has applied to the hair. The proper way is to choose a good hair dresser who will keep a record of the case and what is used and go to no other.

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