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Make Your Own Bias Tape

Helen M. Green
Iowa State College

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and cotton the other or it may be a combination of silk and artificial silk.

Sometimes we prefer half silk materials for linings, etc., because it is cheaper and still wears well enough for the purpose. We may really want artificial silk for it does have a very high sheen and is made into very beautiful novelty materials. What the woman who is buying her spring or summer silk wants to know is: "Am I paying a pure silk price for pure silk; am I paying a pure silk price for adulterated silk which will not wear as long or for squares which are not worth the money?"

Spotting of silk causes a great deal of trouble also. Do you remember the time you washed your first pongee dress, sprinkled it as any other garment and tried to iron it? It came out with an exclusive design all of its own, much to your dismay. The spots stared at you from every part of the dress. What did you do? Take it to your cleaner or re-launder it yourself? Such spots can easily be removed by washing the dress again and ironing dry. These spots were formed by the hot iron unevenly melting the sericin which is not removed from the yarns in the process.

Then we have a different kind of spotting in the crepes and messalines, this is water spotting. It is not from excess sericin, but from the dressings which the manufacturers put into their materials. A drop of water or perspiration shows up very clearly and unless we test for water spotting before purchasing, we will be faced with the problem of what to do with our perfectly new gown which is all spotty. Can we take care of it ourselves or shall we send it to the cleaner? The safest plan is to test our sample before buying and refusing to buy a silk which spots. If we buy a ready-to-wear why can't we test the seams by applying a few drops of water. If the sales woman does not permit this, then go to a more reliable place where the buyers know their merchandise and are not afraid to permit any investigation.

These are simple tests which any woman can make and in so doing assure herself of a better wearing quality of silk, one which is not adulterated, one which will not spot and which will give and wear as serviceable a bungalow apron and the children's school uniforms.

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