1931

Dame Fashion to the Front...

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Recommended Citation

Penrose, Helen (1931) "Dame Fashion to the Front...," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 11 : No. 1 , Article 5.
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol11/iss1/5

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If Today Is Wash Day . . .

By Thelma Carlson

"Kee'Ping up with the Jones'" was as necessary in primitive times as it is today, but it was even better in those days to keep a little ahead, especially on Monday morning, when everybody rushed down to the river to get the best place for her washing.

Wash day for our ancestors was quite a different thing from that which it is for us, yet the principle was the same. Clothes have always and probably will always be cleaned by forcing water through them.

The very simplest method used by our primitive fathers was that of dipping the clothes into the water and then rubbing or squeezing them through the hands. Later they began to beat the clothes on the surface of the water, or to lay them on a flat rock or block of wood and pound them with stones, clubs or flat wooden sticks. This last method was known as the paddle-washing method. Though slow and hard on the clothes, it was still an improvement over the old method, and actually did quite a good job cleaning the clothes by forcing the water through the cloth by strength of the blow.

A variation of this method followed. Now the people dipped their clothes in water and beat them against a smooth stone or log. This was a little easier on the clothes, provided the operator used good judgment in striking the blow.

Then people began to learn that those fortunate enough to find a hole or depression in a stone bed near the creek could put their clothes in this hole or basin and put water over them. By stamping on them or pounding them with the blunt end of an ax, the clothes soon became clean, the water being again forced through by the blow and carrying the dirt away.

One day by a mere accident it was discovered that by adding crude lye and animal fat, less stamping and effort was required to get the clothes clean. Upon this discovery they found that it was really necessary to have a container in order to save their soap. Such contrivances as hollowed out log ends and hollowed out stones came into use. This made it possible to wash wherever water was available and was a very important step.

From the method of dipping the cloth into water and squeezing or rubbing it clean grew the idea of the washboard. At first the boards had little grooves cut across them, forming ridges. Later, cloths were fastened across the board, and finally metal ones of zinc or tin were made. By rubbing the clothes across these ridges a friction was set up which loosened the dirt.

Somewhere in the progress of these discoveries it was found that if the water were heated, dirt would dissolve more easily and more quickly. Before the time of basins which should be put over a fire, primitive man learned to drop hot stones into the water he was going to use.

Though men in all their discoveries were concerned only with the fact that they got the clothes clean, they had used all the fundamentals that have made the washing machine possible.

With these principles discovered and used since primitive times, we have made and improved the washing machine until we have the convenient electrical washing machine as we know it today. While there are many different kinds of machines on the market, most of them fall into four groups or at least a combination of them. These types are the dolly, the cylinder, the oscillating machine and the vacuum cup.

The dolly machine has a dolly or milk stool which travels first in one direction and then turns and travels in the other. The projections of the dolly extend down into the clothes and carry them around with them, thus forcing the water through the clothes. The number of turns made before reversing varies in the different machines.

The cylinder machine which throws the water and clothes from one side to the other as it rocks back and forth, or reverses in direction, is known as the oscillating type.

The vacuum cup type machine is equipped with two or three inverted cups that move up and down in the water and clothes, churning and sucking the dirt loose.

The cylinder type machine consists of a perforated cylinder which revolves in a tub partially filled with soapy water. The clothes rest on projections on the cylinder and as they are carried out of the water to the top, and then dropped back into the water. To prevent tangling, the cylinder revolves first in one direction and then in the other, the number of revolutions before reversing varying in the different machines.

The lure of spring is in the air. A young man's fancy may turn to love, but a woman's turns to clothes.

We find most all material in a variety of colors this spring. However, there are a favored few which are seen often in the new costumes. Orange reds, all blues, opaline green, yellow, and scarlet are featured by French designers. Of course, the black and white combinations are as popular as ever.

Materials in solid colors are used for many of the costumes, but prints with huge floral designs, plaids, Roman stripes and lace designs hold their place in Dame Fashion's revues. Combinations of plain and printed silk are important, too. The printed silk appears in the blouse, scarf and finely finished accessories, with the solid color forming the basically plain costume. The "twin" idea in prints is here again so that each color takes its turn as the background, while the pattern in each case is composed of the other.

Chiffons and sheer cotton goods, in both plain and floral prints, are used for afternoon and formal gowns. Eyelash embroidery in lawn and batiste have placed these materials in line for more formal occasions.

Woolens are usually considered an early spring fabric, but this year they will be used in lightweight, sheer materials for frocks. The rough, spiky weaves found in eponges, tweeds and crepes are made into charming suits and frocks for sport and street wear.

Sport frocks are jaunty with jackets and intricate lines of cutting for pleats and odd novelties. At present, the length of the skirt for sports is remaining about the same, since golf and tennis take up the leisure time of most girls.

Afternoon gowns are long in length, with ruffles and lingers to continue the feminine mode. The up-in-back movements are discerned in pephons, frouces or tiers. According to the style experts, the pephoms may be pleated or have flaring lines.

Although there have been jackets, there are jackets and more jackets, one to match every dress, in the shops. For evening wear, contrasting ones are featured and many of these have flared tiers.

Dresses are a new note, and this year, most of them will be worn not only for the beach, but for morning wear and for formal occasions, by those desiring the extreme costume.

Decorative angles in collars, tucked sleeves and metal side seaming distinguish spring coats. The lines are slim (Continued on page 16).

Dame Fashion to the Front . . .

By Helen Penrose
Lorado Taft Speaks . . .

(Continued from page 2)

Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman writes of the possibilities of moving pictures in the instruction of children in astronomy, geology, zoology and the development of man: but the appreciation of beauty in nature and art was strangely omitted.

"In every community there appears from time to time an unusual talent; every school reveals an occasional child with an enthusiastic 'vocation,' " Mr. Taft said, "but as a rule these talents, which might be capitalized for the common good, are carelessly wasted.

"There is inspiration in the thought that in learning to enjoy good art, we are actually making ourselves better citizens and contributing to the welfare and advancement of the land we love," concluded Mr. Taft.

Dame Fashions Forecasts

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and semi-fitted with a scarcely noticeable flare at the hemline. Belted models continue their popularity with slender girls and women. Navy blue and black lead in colors for coats; however, beige and gray are shown in the shops, too, and are gaining favor. Undoubtedly, white will be featured later in the season.

Hats are in a variety of types, with new shapes in brims and crowns. The brim which extends away from the face, halo types and detachable wide brims, and a variety of odd shaped turban affairs are featured. It will not be hard for anyone to find the hat which suits her type, since so many different styles are being shown.

In a Milan Church

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of his use of oil instead of fresco on the plastered wall. The quality of the original can best be judged by contemporary copies, one in Milan, near the original; another in the Royal Academy in London; and a third, an engraving by Raphael Morghess.

A few facts about the artist may be of interest. Leonardo, born in the village of Vinci, Italy, near Florence, lived and worked at the time of the discovery of America. His work in art represents only one phase of his activity. He was not only a sculptor and painter, but made scientific studies in geometry, physics, chemistry and the laws of perspective. He is said to have made an airplane that he believed would fly.

Leonardo da Vinci's paintings are few, yet his "Last Supper" and "Mona Lisa" rank among the greatest of all times.