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May I Present...

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white, and is therefore more easily handled than the plain green, usually selected for a boy. A solid green must be selected with care. It should be soft and subtle, yet not too gray. If too bright a green is used, it completely overpowers the child, whereas too gray a color is no longer child-like. A green, to be becoming to a child then, should be both soft and fresh in effect.

One interesting writer on this subject has gone so far as to say, "Dodge all vivid colors and surround the peach bloom complexion of a child by the soft colors that belong with peach and apple blossoms." We might suggest one exception to that advice to dodge all vivid colors. Outer play garments, rain suits, etc., might well be carried in bright colors to enable the passing motorist to see the child at play more readily.

We cannot leave our discussion of color without some consideration of blue. Far too much blue is used, especially pale blue on very young children. The skin is so thin and delicate that the tiny blue veins around the eyes show through clearly. They are very noticeable when the child is dressed in a color to match the blue veins. Put a shell pink or peach colored garment on your child one day and a pale blue one the next. Then decide for yourself when he looks healthy, happy and well, and when he seems to be pale and weak. A sturdy, healthy boy or girl of three or four may look very well in clear, crisp blue, especially when the blue is combined with some other color, for instance, a white or printed blousc, with blue shorts for a boy, or a blue and white print for a girl. It is not necessary to eliminate blue entirely from a child's wardrobe, but it is desirable to use it with discretion and careful thought.

May I Present...

By Regina Kildee

Helen, will you introduce the girls to Miss Sponsor at the picnic this afternoon?"

In almost every group there is one person who is called upon to make most of the necessary introductions. Are you, like Helen, one of those fortunate persons who can start two of your friends on an easy and enjoyable conversation by your introduction? Or do you shiver inwardly when it becomes necessary to present one acquaintance to another, knowing that you will hem and haw and murmur the names so that neither person knows nor cares to whom he is being introduced? We all really want the people we know and like to know and like each other, so introductions should be pleasant tasks.

And pleasant tasks they are if we keep in mind a few simple rules. If we wish to make a formal introduction at a dance, say, "Mrs. Chaperon, may I present Mr. Partner?" is proper. If we wish to be more informal, we may say, "Miss Bookworm, Mr. Athlete," or "Miss Bookworm, this is Mr. Athlete." In introducing two ladies, we are correct in saying, "Miss Bookworm, have you met Miss Duster?" Never must we make the mistake of asking a lady if she has met a gentleman. For that would be the height of impropriety.

In introducing two married women, two unmarried women, or two men, the younger is always presented to the older or more distinguished. If only one of the women is married, we present the unmarried woman to her unless the latter is very much older. Unless you are introducing a lady to the president of the United States, a cardinal, or a ruling sovereign, the gentleman is always presented to her, regardless of the difference in age and importance.

When someone comes into a room in which there is a large group of people, it is not necessary nor even proper to lead him around the room and introduce him to everyone present. Instead, he should be presented to those in the group nearest him, with whom he then enters into conversation. Of course, if there are only a few people in the room, the hostess should make sure that the newcomer meets all of them he does not already know.

Knowing what to do when introduced to someone is often just as difficult as knowing how to make correct introductions. Gentlemen always shake hands with one another upon being introduced. When a gentleman is presented to a lady, she may or may not offer him her hand. Although it is not correct for the man to extend his hand first, she must not ignore it if he does so. Two ladies may shake hands upon being introduced, although they do not do so as generally as do men.

After all, an introduction counts for nothing if we are not able to recall the name of our new acquaintance the next time we meet her. If the person making the introduction has pronounced the name distinctly, it is a simple matter to reply to the introduction, "How do you do, Mrs. Chaperon?" If we look at her while thus calling her by name, we will associate her name and face, so that the next time we meet her we will be able to call her by name and be well on the road to friendship.