FRENCH WOMEN USE HEROIC MEASURES TO BECOME BEAUTIFUL

Anna Perrey, who had her contours rounded by paraffin.

Madame Sorel, rounded out by paraffin.

Painful Surgery to Obtain That Wonderful Long Look of the Eyes Possessed by Mme. Jane Hading—Operations to Secure the Curled Upper Lip and the Perfect Nose

MANY accounts of heroic measures resorted to by French women for increasing their beauty have been brought out in an article printed recently about how Mme. Jane Hading obtained that wonderful long look to her eyes by having the lids slit with a lancet at the corners.

Turkish women have been in the habit for centuries of having the eyes of their children cut at the corners, but the operation is trifling if done when the child is only 2 or 3 years of age. Mme. Hading had her eyes operated on when she had reached maturity and the process was both painful and dangerous.

Each day for weeks after the lids are cut and the wound is healing the lids are drawn outward. Even after the wound is healed the lids are still subjected daily to the drawing process for several weeks. The result is that the eyes acquire that wonderful look, and to see what success there is in such an operation one has only to look at Mme. Hading's eyes.

The curling of the upper lip by means of surgery is another trick of the beauty worshipping French woman. This is resorted to when the lip is too straight and long. A slit is cut across the lip and every precaution is taken in sterilizing everything, even to the very air in the operating room, so that the wound may heal without the faintest trace of a scar, as that would be fatal to beauty.

Not only is the lip slashed across, but a minute strip of flesh is cut away and then the edges of the incision are brought together and very carefully healed with the lip pressed upward. A number of French women have had this operation performed, among them the late Mme. Lautelme, who was one of the most famous beauties of Paris. The effect of the artificially curled and shortened upper lip is exquisite.

The straightening of the line of the nose is another fancy among French women. This is a very painful operation, as the bone sometimes has to be broken and then reset. Although it is of course done under the influence of an anæsthetic, the pain afterward is intense, as the nerves of the nose are especially sensitive. Mlle. Yane has had this done and so has Mlle. Daussemond.

The injecting of hot paraffin under the cuticle to fill out hollows and make perfectly rounded contours has long been a favored device of French women and it has been resorted to by New York women as well. Perhaps the greatest publicity was given to the fact that Miss Gladys Deacon had the upper part of her nose treated with paraffin to make it perfect. This was discussed all over the world and after that the beauty artists kept their patrons' names very closely guarded.

There are two French women on the stage of Paris to-day that have wonderfully soft oval contours of face and throat, Mme. Sorel and Anna Perrey. Both have had hot paraffin injected to round out their lines. Mme. de Vogue resorted to the same plan.

Mlle. Dirys has had her forehead lanced across and a strip of flesh removed to make her eyebrows properly elevated. Before the operation her brows had a lowering expression; now they have an elevation that gives a fascinating, calm, saintlike expression.

Besides heroic measures to keep their beauty French women have also a long list of milder things that they practise for beauty's sake.

When hats are worn that almost hide the face, only the mouth and chin showing, women spend a good deal of thought on how to make the chin beautiful, and they especially do a great [illegible] massaging. The patient is [illegible] feet in hot water for fifteen minutes each night; this draws the blood down from a reddened nose and chin. Then she is made to massage her chin with sour milk.

In France women keep the chin in good condition by rubbing it night and morning with fruit juice. Often a little wine is used, occasionally a bit of lemon or lime or a cucumber or a piece of bruised lettuce. In England they follow Queen Alexandra's example and bathe the chin with heavy sweet cream.

In Russia, where women have chins as white as alabaster in spite of a tendency to down on the upper lip, they rub the chin with a split potato, using it as one would use soap; a quarter of an apple is sometimes substituted.

In Germany you see the prudent housewife, even of the wealthier class, taking bread crumbs and moistening them with water to a paste, which is then spread upon her chin and left to dry as a sort of plaster cast. This is taken off with very hot water and the chin is massaged with the finger tips.

In the Viennese beauty parlors the chin is treated in the same manner with bread crumbs and hot water or milk. And after the chin is soft and bleached fully some cold cream is massaged in to make it whiter, afterward being followed by a cloud of good face powder.

But the Irish peasant girl has the most thorough method of skin whitening. She has no money for lotions, but she takes a handful of oatmeal and powders it to a dust. This she puts in warm water and lets it come to a boil; when partly cool she uses it as a face wash. Potato water is sometimes substituted, but the oatmeal lotion is the best whitener. Her chin is never the rough chin of the woman of more luxurious habits who neglects her complexion.

Mlle. Daussemond, who had her nose straightened.

Madame Edward de Vogue, who had her neck filled out with paraffin.

Old Cord Bedstead

"I CAME across a bed wrench at a second hand curiosity shop uptown the other day," said an old timer, "and it took me back to the boyhood days at one jump.

"Don't know what a bed wrench is? Of course you don't. Nobody born of this generation does. That's because they never had to put up a cord bedstead; had the privilege of sleeping in the bed it held.

"The cord bedstead was a joy. Next to putting up the stove pipe or putting down the carpet with the base of a flat iron for a hammer to pound the leather headed tacks in with, the assembling of the cord bedstead of our daddies was the job that called for the most peremptory giving of all the Christian virtues a vacation until the job was done.

"The cord bedstead was the favorite bedstead of commerce in those days. Briefly described, there were four posts, of any height or girth to suit the person or his pocket. Anywhere from three to four feet from the floor a hole was bored in two sides of each post, facing each other when the footboard and headboard posts were stood up to be connected. The holes were bored with a thread to take the screw out on the ends of the connecting pieces at the sides and ends of the bedstead.

"These connecting pieces were round, and on what was to be the top of them when the bedstead was set up was a row of pegs, shaped like so many mushrooms. A hole about an inch in diameter ran through each of the four connecting pieces. When the bedstead was assembled by the fitting of the connecting pieces into the holes in the posts and screwed up tight and in place by means of a stout stick thrust through the holes in the round pieces the bed was ready to be corded up and then the wrench came into play.

"The bed wrench was something like a stout wooden hand vise. The cord, a rope like a clothes line, but of better quality, was run around the mushroom like pegs, which were a few inches apart, and lengthwise and crosswise from connecting piece to connecting piece, like a big meshed net.

"But the cord couldn't be drawn taut enough with the hands, and so daddy, or big brother Bill, or perhaps the hired man, grabbed the wrench, tangled it up somewhere in a part of the cord where the tautening up process was to begin, and by persistent leverage around and about the bedstead at last wrenched the cord to a condition of satisfactory tautness, and the tumult and the shouting died.

"For don't go away with the idea that the work of setting up that cord bedstead was accomplished with the ease and in the brief time that it takes to tell about it. It generally required two or three capable persons to tackle the job with any hope of succeeding with it, for in the way of refractory disposition and demoniacal perversity the cord bedstead of the daddies had the breechy cow in the garden skinned a mile. I have known the good wife to take the children and go down in the cellar while the old man and his aids were dallying with the cord bedstead in efforts to set it up and giving it their opinion of it as it wabbled and slid and careened and skidded at tense and critical stages of the getting of it together.

"Then when it was all up good and solid and the smell of sulphur got out of the room mother used to come in and put the straw tick on the web of bed cord—the tick with the big slit in it where we filled it with fresh rye straw until it looked like a balloon all ready to go up. Then she tumbled onto the tick the feather bed, two or three feet high, with its swelling fluff of live geese feathers and almost burying you out of sight when you stowed yourself away on it after surmounting the bed with a stepladder. Then with the sheets and the blanket and the quilt and the comforter and the big, bulbous pillows the bed was ready to sleep in.

"That's what a bed wrench is, and that's the cord bedstead it wrenched. And when I hear some reminiscent old boy harking back to the days of the bed wrench and the cord bedstead and declare that when it comes to going to bed at night sure of a sleep in ease and comfort and of getting up next morning never so refreshed give him every time, b'gosh, the old cord bedstead with nothing between the ropes and him but the straw tick and the feather bed instead of the new fangled springs and hair mattresses, I greet him with joy, grasp his hand warmly and gently but firmly tell him he's a liar."

New Orleans Way of Serving Coffee

A YOUNG hostess recently pleased her dinner guests with a new way of serving after dinner coffee, which she said was learned at a famous New Orleans cafe.

The entire rind of an orange is used as a cup. It is cut with a sharp knife and the lower half is turned back to form a standard for the upper half, which is the cup. The orange remains between the two and unites them.

The cups are filled with boiling hot black coffee and sweetened by a lump of sugar dipped in cognac. A match, applied to each cup before serving, ignites the brandy and the flame produced is aided by the oil of the orange rind, so that a charming effect is produced by a tray of these brightly burning cups. Each orange is placed on a small plate or saucer.

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