Oregon Agricultural College
Extension Service

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BOYS' AND GIRLS' INDUSTRIAL CLUBS
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SEWING CLUB LESSON NO. 3--Div. 2

Circular No. 6.

GLOVE MENDING AND OVER-HAND PATCH.

Glove Mending. Many times a girl is judged by her personal appearance. Not, however, by the cost of her clothes, but by the way she cares for them. No well-groomed girl will ever think of wearing shoes that are run down at the heel and muddy, or soiled collars and cuffs, or gloves that are ripped. These are all little things, yet they mean so much that they should not be overlooked.

Among the several methods for mending gloves, the one described below is the most satisfactory.

Blanket stitch both edges of the rip and then overhand the edges together, taking up only the loops formed in blanket stitching. Use a cotton thread as near the color of the glove as you can procure. In cities and large towns it is possible to get braids of various colored threads, especially intended for glove mending. Use the finest needle that will carry the thread without tearing the kid and take small stitches.

Take one finger from an old kid glove, mend it according to the directions given above and fasten to the enclosed blank, taking care to fill in all the spaces at the top of the sheet.

Overhand Patch. Last year you learned how to make the hemmed patch, which is a very useful kind of a patch because it is easily put on, wears well, and is neat. It will show, however, no matter how carefully it is made, so for places where the repairing should be very inconspicuous, the overhand patch is preferable. For directions for making this patch, see Sewing Bulletin, page 15, paragraph 1.

Patch one garment, then make a sample patch on a 4″ square of material, having the set-in piece 2″ square when finished. Mount this sample on the back of the blank on which you have mounted the glove finger. Put this paper in

the envelope sent you for that purpose and mail it to the State Club Leader, to be scored. It will be returned to you later.

When these samples are returned to you, mount the hemmed patch on the piece of cardboard on which you mounted the stocking darn so that there will be a 2″ space between the patch and darn and a 2″ space on either side and at the bottom.

When you have completed this lesson, fill in the report card and mail it to the State Club Leader, then begin working on lesson No. 4 while instructions for lessons No. 5 and 6 are being sent to you.

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NEED OF TEXTILE STUDY.

Long years ago when all spinning and weaving was done in the home by the good housewife, her daughters and her servants, she knew textiles from personal experience with the process of the manufacture of fabrics.

With the invention of machinery for the production of all kinds of cloth, spinning and weaving have passed out of the home into the factory, and the housewife has forgotten what she used to know about fabrics. Today she has need to make a special study of the principal kinds of material which she can purchase.

Since the responsibility of buying rests largely on her, woman should learn to buy intelligently. It is not enough for her to go into a store and say that she wants a certain piece of material and that she will pay so much for it. She should know what kind of material is best suited to her needs and whether or not she had better spend a little more for this material even though she must postpone the purchase of something else she needs.

In order to determine this she should know a few of the standard kinds of cotton, linen, wool and silk materials, their cost, use, wearing qualities and how to detect adulteration. In other words, she should be familiar with standard fabrics so that she will be able to decide on the value of the material which is being shown to her. Many times the new, very attractive fabric which is high priced wears out quickly and is really less satisfactory after the newness wears off than the old standby whose place it has taken.

Surely if merchants are conducting schools for their clerks in order to teach them about textiles, women and girls who buy so much of the material used in the home should also have a knowledge of the subject so that they may purchase intelligently.

Comparison of the Four Principal Textile Fibers, Methods of Adulterating, and Tests for the Detection of Adulteration.

Characteristics.

Cylindrical
Two to four inches long
Strong and elastic
Inexpensive
Easily dyed
Not easily wrinkled

Adulterations.

Since it is the cheapest fiber, no other fiber is added as an adulterant, but sleazy, poorly woven material is often filled with starch, chalk or even glue to give body.

Tests.

When torn it curls up along the torn edge.
The ends of the torn fibers are more even than linen.
Burns with a flash
Is completely dissolved in a concentrated solution of sulphuric acid.
Perhaps if you have an older brother or sister who is studying chemistry, they can make this test for you or when you study chemistry you can make it yourself.

Linen. A vegetable fiber.

Characteristics.

Cylindrical
From 20 to 40 inches long
Smooth and glossy when laundered
Bleaches snowy white
Wrinkles easily
Not as easily dyed as cotton
Absorbs moisture readily
Strong and durable

Adulterations.

Often mixed with cotton
Mercerized cotton sometimes sold as "pure" linen.

Tests.

Soak in glycerine. Transparent if linen — cotton opaque.
Linen not as readily affected by sulphuric acid as cotton; therefore if the mixture of cotton and linen treated by sulphuric acid the cotton will be dissolved, leaving the linen fibers.

Wool. An animal fiber.

Characteristics.

Cylindrical
Curly and covered with scales
These scales when wet stand up and when dry lay down. This property is what make it possible to felt woolen fabrics.
Difficult to launder
Very elastic
Is dissolved in strong alkali (common lye is an alkali)

Adulterations.

Mixture of cotton and wool before spinning of yarn
Using a cotton warp
Using old wool called shoddy or
Another kind of shoddy is the clipping from the mills. These are very short fibers and cloth in which it is used wears thin very rapidly. You will often find these pieces in the bottom of coat pockets or in the lining of a garment.

Tests.

Pure wool will dissolve in a solution of lye
Detect wool from shoddy by means of the microscope

Silk. An animal fiber.

Characteristics.

The finest and strongest fiber
1000 to 4000 ft. in length
Easily dyed
Absorbs metallic salts readily

Adulterations.

Weighting with salts of metals
Mixed with cotton

Tests for weighting.

Silk will burn readily
If weighted with tin, it will retain its shape
Silk will dissolve in strong solution of lye

Summary.

Various methods used to adulterate cloth.

Mixing a cheaper fiber with a more expensive one and selling the fabric for the latter.
Calling a fabric by a wrong name (mercerized cotton for linen)
Mixing an inferior grade of fiber with the good, selling for high quality.
Giving a finish which is deceptive.