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The American Beauty of 1906



THE titled American beauty, having cried her eyes out because she lost the famous London beauty prize, has wiped her weeping orbs and is now prepared to win the prize back again. She relied upon her coiffure, which failed her; and this beautiful structure, which she has hitherto built in prices of Wales fashion, is to be built down and erected again upon an entirely different line. Hitherto she has curled her hair something like Queen Alexandra and has sought to imitate her foster sovereign. But from now on she will originate one of her own.

The American beauty, after consultation with the famous hairdressers of Paris, has decided that she will bring out the following features: She will wear ear puffs, the parted pompadour, the neck curl, and the bun. In addition to this she will spring upon the waiting world certain features of her own, and with these she hopes to reconquer the universe.

Hair the Feature of 1906.

The American beauty of 1906 will be like the beauty of last year, but she will differ in certain of her peculiarities and in all of her eccentricities. Her most pronounced difference will be seen in the new way in which she will wear her hair.

She will revive the net, and she will put it on over the wide bun which stretches across the back of her head. She will wear a bang net, just such a net as they wore thirty years ago, and she will draw it over her front waves to keep them in place. She will build her pompadour sky high and, when it is all constructed, she will take a comb and rake a part in the front of it, plastering the part down with her fingers until she has a really and truly parted pompadour. But the most essential difference will be seen in the tucks and in the hair decoration, for the beauty of 1906 has torn off her crown and has erected in place of it a tall comb, or she has set on top of her head a flowering plant. She will wear a wreath of roses, a little button wreath which, woven together and laid around her head, will make a charming ornament. Sometimes she will cast aside this wreath, and, taking two big silk roses, she will wire them together and plant them back of her ear.

Ears to Be Dressed.

Not content with all this, the American beauty will dress her ears. She will decorate them until they are literally out of sight. In real life a woman always shows her ears. She has a way of pulling her hair back of her ears until those members stand out in all their native ugliness. There is no such thing as a pretty ear in all the world. Even if there were such a thing as a perfect ear it is doubtful if it would be pretty. Ears are not pretty, as all artists know.

The beauty will cover up her ears. In the artistic olden days, the days of grandmother and great-grandmother, when a woman thought of nothing but her looks and did not dream of woman's sphere, then the women dressed their ears.

In the pictures of the beauties of 100 years ago the ears are covered. The hair was drawn down over them and they were hidden. Frequently it was plastered down until not a trace of the ears showed. In other pictures the ears were covered with little curling wisps of hair.

The beauty of 1906 will wear ear rolls or ear puffs. A small pompadour roll will be put right back of each ear and over this the hair will be drawn. Thus it makes a lovely ear puff and, if it be sufficiently large, it will conceal the ears and tend to make them look small.

Ear Curls to Hide Ugly Ears.

And she will wear ear curls. Take all the loose hair that grows around your neck and ears and curl it. Do this before you build your coiffure. Comb the hair lightly back, and then curl it with the curling tongs, and when you have finished you will find that your head looks like a lovely picture with a frame of curling hair. Artists almost always cover the ears with these little curling wisps, and they make little finger curls which fall down over the ears and hide them. No artist ever paints an ideal head with a pair of bare ears on each side of the head.

The ear, in spite of the poet's frequent references to pink tips and shell like beauty, is one of the ugliest organs of the body, unless it is flawless, thin, and regularly convoluted, with delicate, soft tinted lobes. Indeed, the lobe of the ear often is beautiful, while the upper part seldom if ever is.

though this is a secret, she will rub just the tiniest bit of rouge upon the tip of the ear.

Neck-Curl Adds to Beauty.

The beauty will wear a neck curl. This will be in the shape of a big loose curl about twice as long as your longest finger. She will do it up at night over a piece of paper and in the morning she will shake it out and attach it to her coiffure.

Girls with long necks will do well to dress the hair low in the back of the neck. And they should wear a bun if possible, as this fills up the neck and makes it look short. With a curl attached the neck will look less skinny and the head will sit more gracefully upon the shoulders.

The woman who aims to set the pace will adopt certain hair features all her own. She will make her hair glossy, and for this she uses sometimes the old-fashioned mixture which was made with quince seed and hot water. The seed is steeped in hot water until it makes a tea, and this when cold is just about as thick as cream. A little of this, brushed lightly over the hair, will keep it in place and will make it shiny.

The beauty will keep her hair exceedingly clean.



The Countess of Essex Coiffure



Classic pompadour trimmed with little flowers



A Coiffure worn by Lady Curzon



A profile

The big round high coiffure of 1906

She will shampoo it as often as once in three weeks, and she will dry it by tossing it with her hands, giving it a sort of natural gloss. She will wave her hair, and for this purpose she will use a large waver of the sort which lifts the hair and dries it.

Five New Titled Coiffures.

There are to be five new coiffures, and each is to be named after a titled American woman. There is the duchess of Marlborough's coiffure, which is a bun securely planted at the back of the neck. The bun has three puffs and it is built low and sometimes there is a curl hanging from it and other times her grace wears it without a curl.

There is the duchess of Manchester's coiffure, and this is parted on the side. It has a pompadour roll on the top and there are waves which fall over each ear; a curl graces the neck. This pompadour is sometimes worn with two flowers catching the curl.

A coiffure which will attract much attention is the duchess of Roxburgh's. This is built almost wholly on top of the head. There is a pompadour and the hair is thrown over it. At the front can be discerned a tiny part.

The duchess is short, and this tends to make her look a little taller. Sometimes she builds it up on top of her head until it is extremely high and then she sets a tuck on top of it until the effect is imposing.

There is a new coiffure called the Lady Curzon. This is extremely classic. The hair is parted in a side style and is turned back over a roll just as they rolled it back from the temples in war time. The countess of Suffolk is wearing her hair exceedingly low. It is almost in a girlish twist in the back of the neck, and she fastens it with three long pins, which makes it look still more girlish. The countess of Essex has abandoned the severe style which she wore for years and is now wearing her hair pompadour with an ornament at the ear. She chooses a natural flower or one made of chiffon, with a tiny jewel in the center. This jewel gleams and gives the effect of the earring though it is much more becoming to the face than earrings would be.

Hair Must Be Arranged Perfectly.

Altogether the transformation of the hair, the taking advantage of her natural beauty, cultivating and improving upon its arrangement, the bringing forward of the strong beauty points and the hiding of the less beautiful portions is the aim of the American beauty of 1906. The defeat of the American beauty in the great English beauty contest has warned her that she must, to a degree at least, follow the footsteps of her less beautiful but more skillful English rival, who used her lesser charms to such great advantage that she was awarded the crown—or at least a place next to the crown.

Titled American girls are improving—or perhaps heightening is better—their beauty for the campaign of 1906.

Yet while she is determined to imitate the English and French styles as far as pompadours go, and in general effect of hair arrangements, the American beauty is in no danger of losing her individuality, for she is choosing the best from both sides of the Atlantic. The styles she is adopting are dangerous for those who are not real beauties to attempt, and those who plan to copy the big round, high coiffure especially are warned that they need must have beautiful hair and beautiful face as well as a good figure to carry it without appearing to be overweighted.

The hair, then, is the keynote to beauty for 1906, and to have beautiful hair requires time and attention, and the American beauty who can spare the time from her complexion should devote all that time to her hair, and its arrangement.