

LET us meet our critics in advance. This is not history. Certainly it is not serious history. Some of our "facts" are popular legends. They are true as far as we know, but we are not prepared to say that they would survive exhaustive research.

(continued from previous page)

she came to the throne of Egypt. At the age of 21 she had Caesar at her feet. Then she turned to Mark Antony.

Boadicea, the ancient British Queen, was a red-head.

Everybody knows how Lady Godiva made history, and there seems to be justification for concluding that the hair with which she made it was a beautiful gold, as was Joan of Arc's. But the Maid's hair had very little to do with her amazing story. On the other hand, it is possible that Queen Elizabeth's hair did.

A Change in Fashion

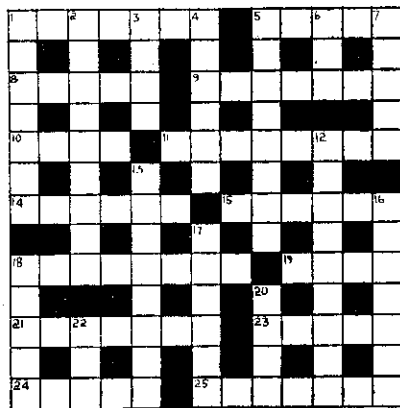
The fashion for colouring has changed often through the ages. Perhaps the biggest swing over was in 18th century France. Louis XV. favoured brunettes with brown eyes, and in spite of what Nature may have intended, a vast preponderance of these dark beauties sprang up overnight. Unfortunately, when he died, and Louis XVI. came to the throne, it was decided that blondes with blue eyes were the criterion for beauty, and so all the brunettes became blondes. To obtain the much admired pale complexion, women had themselves bled. Their dresses corresponded to their complexion—light materials and pure white being much favoured. In this period two women stand out. First, the Marquise de Pompadour, the natural daughter of a butcher. One description of her reads thus: "She had a complexion of the most striking whiteness, lips somewhat pale, eyes which blended and compounded the seduction of black eyes with the seduction of blue eyes. She had magnificent chestnut hair, ravishing teeth, and dimples when she smiled." No wonder that she eventually wielded almost more power than Louis XV. himself. It is said that economy and domestic morality came to an end with her accession, and that she was responsible for the Seven Years' War. But in spite of her power, she was finally ousted by a blonde. She died in 1764, at the age of 42, and the day of her burial being wet, Louis XV. callously remarked, "The Marquise is having bad weather for her departure!"

The blonde who was next favourite was Mme. du Barry. Her hair was long, silky, ashen blonde in colour, her brows and lashes brown, her nose small. A contemporary compared her complexion to "a roseleaf fallen into milk." Du Barry became the favourite of artists and musicians, and all over Europe people began to talk and write about her. Her life was a constant whirl of pleasure and extravagance, but in spite of her charms, she died on the scaffold. Nell Gwynn's chief glory—apart from her wickedly witty mind—was her red-brown hair. Lady Hamilton, on the other hand, was a brunette.

It would certainly appear that history has been kindest to blondes, then brunettes, with red-heads coming last, but before you draw any conclusions from this, remember the power of modern science. It will probably be possible soon to decide just what you want to be from birth, which will be all right so long as you don't change your mind half-way, and so become a half-and-half beauty like the one in our illustration.

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

(No. 169: Constructed by R.W.C.)



Clues Across

- With the help of an industrious insect, the first man becomes impenetrably hard.
- Quotes for support.
- "If this be —, and upon me proved," as Shakespeare wrote in one of his sonnets.
- Get mine in a duel?
- This revel may be gory.
- Nineteen across ones make 19 across 18 down.
- Look out for this if you see red.
- Peerless.
- Broken heart in bed?
- See 11 across.
- Withdraws with a tree, sir.
- Of course I love her.
- It may be quiet, but do you find it sad?
- He who laughs last, laughs —.

Clues Down

- Aid Nero to make one.
- In anger Cora displays this.
- Ray and I are flippant.
- Meddle with a pet ram.
- Change it (anag.).
- Bird found in 12 down.
- Expressions of sadness.
- Coxcomb.
- This is cruel, Ted!
- Er— Steve! This is a bit steep!
- As one of the Crazy Gang remarks: "A —'s so easily recognised, but a stoat's totally different!"
- See 11 across.
- No! No! This is no time for 22 down.
- See 20 down.

(Answer to No. 168)



SMART ONES PLAY

If you want a new Berlei; and your usual store just hasn't your particular fitting in stock; are you going to grab the nearest fitting the store can find? Not you.

You're just going to make your present Berlei do until the store gets your exact size in. And if that's not possible and your need is really urgent, you're going round the other shops until you find it. There's bound to be one store which has your fitting, for Berlei are making enough garments for everyone.

So don't be a silly-billy and choose a Berlei that nearly fits. These days, with the restrictions on elastic, it's more important than ever that you get your exact fitting. Perfection is well worth waiting for.



A WAITING GAME



Look to these things when you buy your wartime Berlei.

- Try your Berlei sitting, for in that position you're a little larger round the hips than you are standing.
- Allow room for freedom. Wartime Berleis haven't the capacity to stretch to your each and every action.
- Remember your waist is very food conscious... bigger after meals than before. Allow accordingly.



You will, if you use Pedax, the Foot Powder that gives magical relief from tired, sore feet. Ask for Pedax Foot Powder in sprinkler tins or Pedax Ointment in handy pocket tins—1/7 of chemists and stores.



Approved by the Better Housekeeping Assoc. of Australia.

N.Z. Distributors: Belle Jeane Laboratories, Anzac Avenue, Auckland



PACKET 10s, 1/1 — TIN 50s, 5/4
Obtainable from all Tobacconists and Chemists, or mailed direct from
N.Z. AGENTS: A. C. NORDEN
47 Customs St. E. (P.O. Box 133) Auckland