



PLUCKING the eyebrows would at first glance seem to be one of the most innocent and harmless of operations—and yet there is a definite danger lying behind all this surface innocence. Blood poisoning has been known to result from it.

But eyebrow plucking, properly done, is an entirely safe procedure. When I say "properly done," I mean that a surgeon's technique should be employed, and that as much care should be taken in sterilising the plucking tweezers as a surgeon would accord one of his scalpels.

Sterilise

THE tweezers should be immersed in boiling water before use, and rubbed off with some cleansing solution—a skin freshener or astringent will serve here—after use. The tweezers should NEVER be allowed to lie carelessly about on the dressing table, open to dust and dirt, but should always be kept in a box to themselves.

The plucking operation itself should be accorded the same preparation that would be given any other minor operation on the body surface by a surgeon. The skin surrounding the eyebrow hairs should, before being plucked, be cleansed with soap and water and then further sterilised with an antiseptic solution. Skin freshener or astringent will serve the antiseptic purpose here, also.

After the eyebrows have been shaped into the desired pattern, the almost invisible wound which remains after the withdrawal of a hair should also be sterilised with one of these solutions.

Men Could Learn

WIVES who read this article might point out to their husbands that the necessity of keeping eyebrow tweezers antiseptically clean is a necessity which also extends to razors, particularly those of the safety type. Too many men carelessly forget to remove the blade and clean these instruments after use, and more yet, I think, leave the razor lying haphazardly about in the bathroom, open to any dust and grime which it may encounter. Infections through the tiny cuts in the skin which any shave is bound to leave are far from unknown.

Also, it is highly important that the skin be sterilised with any reliable after-shave lotions or one of the solutions used by women for general skin freshening purposes.

A further field of feminine beauty problems into which the technique of the doctor should extend is that presented by the appearance of blackheads and pimples.

A doctor would and should advise that these skin blemishes be allowed

gradually, painlessly and naturally to remove themselves. Keep the skin properly cleansed with soap and water, the doctors would say, and these blemishes—which are generally the result of not thoroughly cleansing the pores—will soon go away on their own accord.

All of which is absolutely correct. Blackheads should not be squeezed. But impatient womankind will do it, in spite of anything I or anyone else might say.

Compromise

I AM forced, therefore, to recommend a compromise. Squeeze if you must, but do it gently and patiently, rather than brutally and abruptly!

As I have mentioned, blackheads and pimples are generally the result of failing completely and regularly to cleanse the pores. The face should be cleansed nightly with melting cleansing cream. Then, with the fingers protected with cleansing tissues, the blackheads may be expelled very gently—if you MUST squeeze them out. The face should then be washed with soap and warm water, after which an astringent should be applied.

If the skin is normally dry, a skin and tissue cream should then be used. Astringent should be applied every morning. And then before applying make-up, a powder foundation should be used for normally dry skins, or honeysuckle cream for oily skins.



Claire Dodd, Warner Bros. player whose very expressive and beautifully patterned eyebrows are the envy of all Hollywood—and whose technique of patterning them is exactly that which is recommended by Max Factor.