

Witch Watch

by GUNDELLA



Women have cast spells for years

A local singles club recently hired me to lecture at its monthly meeting. In the course of the lecture, I discussed the casting of spells.

When I had finished, a sweet young girl came up to me and said: "I would certainly never want to cast a spell on a man. I believe it would be wrong to have him love me under false pretenses."

This same young girl, however, was wearing false eyelashes and a goody bit of makeup. Without realizing it, she was — in her own way — trying to "cast a spell."

LONG BEFORE the days of Revlon, Avon, Clairol and Max Factor, women the world over were using such plays to enchant men.

Red cheeks were acquired by pinching or slapping them. Unfortunately, this color failed to last, and a red substance was needed.

Red iron oxide barn paint in a weak solution was sometimes used. But most young ladies preferred to dilute the juice of beets with rose water to the shade desired and apply this to their cheeks. If, instead of a red, healthy color, the maiden wanted an inter-

esting palar, she would crush dried egg shells into a fine powder and apply this to her face, which she had already bleached with buttermilk.

My grandmother's grimoire suggests that "The summer sap of grape vines rubbed about the eyes will make them shine in an intriguing way."

ALL THIS REMINDS me of a story my Aunt Maudy used to tell about a bride named Mabel, who thought her husband George was not romantic enough.

So she colored her face to enchant him. When he came home, George took one look at her and quickly led her into the bedroom. He helped her undress and got into bed.

Gently he tucked her in and bade her stay there until he came back, promising to return in a few minutes.

Mabel lay there, dreaming pleasant dreams, and after awhile she heard her man returning. But George wasn't alone. He had brought a doctor, because he was sure Mabel's red cheeks indicated either a high fever or consumption.

Labor Day mail schedule

The post office will operate on a holiday mail schedule in observance of Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3, according to Detroit Postmaster Joseph H. Loukota.

There will be no regular residential or business deliveries, and normal window services will be closed.

Certain expedited mail delivery services (special delivery, express mail and express mail metro service) will continue during the holiday.

Mailers should call their local post office for information about schedules and rates of these services.

Labor Day mail pick-up from collection boxes will be on a holiday schedule as posted on the individual boxes or may be determined by calling the area post office.

Normal mail service will resume Tuesday, Sept. 4.

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