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THE PRINCIPAL COSMETIC FUNCTIONS.

Beauty treatments, in their areas of action, have to carry out some precise aims and precisely: - **Hygienic** , - **Aesthetical** , - **Eutrophic**.

THE HYGIENIC FUNCTION. Hygiene preserves the individual's health, essential factor for beauty maintenance. The human organism contracts from the environment surrounding it the polluting factors such as: dust, smog, greasiness, sweat, etc. etc., that deposit themselves on the external area of the body and they constitute a proper ground for the installation and the development of micro-organisms (bacteria), that can cause different diseases and alterations of the skin.

Also when one doesn't present a real pathology, this pollution hinders the accomplishment of the normal cutaneous functions and the formation and maintenance of other tissues; all this, apart from being anti-aesthetic, makes the individual's participation in the normal civil life very difficult.

Cleansing constantly maintains hygiene, however we have to notice that we have a perfect cleansing action only when this does not alter the natural characteristics of the skin, when it does not stress it or damages its equilibrium. The use of soap and the water rich in limestone is not recommended, since some deposits could be formed on the skin; besides soaps or water too much rich in limestone alter the normal acidity and remove for many hours the epitaneous coat (the natural cream secreted by our skin).

THE EUTROPHIC FUNCTION. It is the property cosmetics have in maintaining the state of tissues on which they are applied in the best anatomical and functional functions. Not only a cosmetic should not do any harm, but it shouldn't even alter the natural conditions of the skin on which it is applied; phenomena of accumulation and habit (phenomena occurring when one uses cosmetics formulated with superficiality).

THE AESTHETICAL FUNCTION. The cosmetic products can positively affect the senses of the sight and the sense of smell and, in applying them one reaches the harmony (Aesthetic) proper of every individual. The Aesthetical Function is very complex and is made up of many components, one of these, perhaps among the most important ones, it is related to the way the cosmetic is applied on the skin.

Yet it is essential to remind that the Aesthetical Function has a purely ornamental value, surely secondary, in comparison with both the Hygienic Function and to the Eutrophic Function, since, these, taking care to maintain the skin in the best conditions, are the main, fundamental and rational foundations of the Functional Cosmetic.