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Met Helen at 18th & Castro and we went down town. She had some errands to do, and I trailed around in her wake. Then went to the Owl, to show them my rubber gloves. After much time and argument they offered me another pair at half price. I said I wouldn't do it, so they gave me another pair. Then I left Helen and rushed to Hale's, where Kate was waiting for me. She had a turban she had made for me—with much pains and I wore that. Weunched at the Tivoli Cafe, then went to the Penn. Ins. where she arranged to have the policy made over to me—after her.

—Annie Haskell, August 24, 1914

IN THIS DIARY ENTRY Annie Haskell describes the rounds of errands she made on one ordinary day. The desire to exchange a pair of rubber gloves and an appointment at an insurance agency became the basis for a trip (probably on public transportation), a meal out, and visits to a number of other stores. For Annie, as for other women at the turn of the century, the most common reason to go out in public was to run errands, especially errands that involved shopping. The daily job...