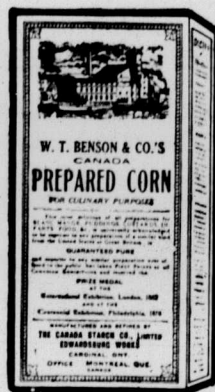




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About the House

Brass Cleaning.—For an easy method of cleaning brass, wet a flannel with warm water, rub kitchen soap on it, dip it into powdered borax, then rub it on the brass article. Give it a generous coat of this mixture, then rub vigorously with a fresh, dry piece of flannel.

Ice Cream in a Fireless Cooker.—Many people do not know that delicious ice cream may be made in a most inexpensive fireless cooker with very little work by observing the following rules: Whip the cream before adding to a prepared custard. Then beat the custard well with a Dover egg beater, after which mix the two and again beat them. This gives the extra smoothness which is otherwise lost by the freezer not being turned. Pack the cream in a small tin (the inner tin receptacle of an ice cream freezer if at hand is a splendid thing), then place the tin inside of the pail of the fireless cooker and pack salt and ice around the outside of the pail. Fasten down the cooker for several hours, and when taken out the cream is much harder than when frozen in a regular freezer, and has been prepared with much less labor.

How to Renovate Furniture.—To renovate old furniture mix five cents worth of pulverized rotten-stone with five cents worth of sweet oil. Rub this in thoroughly with a piece of soft felt. This is especially good for black walnut and similar woods. The furniture can then be varnished if desired, but most persons now prefer a dull finish.

An Outing Flannel Suggestion.—Do not iron garments made of outing flannel, but instead brush them thoroughly. This renews the softness and removes all lint.

A Useful Rubbish Heap.—It will pay, if you raise your own vegetables, to fatten your garden. Plan a rubbish heap in the back of the garden lot. Put on it all the weeds hoed up, all the grass clippings from the lawn, turnip tops, vegetable peelings, etc., from the kitchen; in fact, all the perishable rubbish you have need to dispose of. Scatter the ashes from the kitchen range or furnace over the rubbish, add once or twice a little slacked lime, and if convenient pour the suds on wash day over the rubbish pile and this will kill insect eggs, and any insects themselves that have lodged there. By the following summer you will have a rich and thoroughly decomposed mound of fertilizer, better than any you can buy, and at no cost; unless, indeed, it be for the lime.

Something About Fruit Peelings.—When you are tempted to drop strawberry hulls or fruit peelings directly in the kitchen sink, do not do it. The acid about the hulls, or in the peelings, will eat into the enamel of the sink, making it rough. It will thereafter be very hard to clean, and probably will always be of a brownish color.

How to Wash Furniture.—Boil one-half cake of Castile soap in one gallon of water. When cold add one ounce of oil—linseed or olive. Wash the wood with this cold mixture. Leather couches can be washed with it and when dry the leather can be oiled. These two recipes are used by experienced furniture men.

For a Tight Ring.—If a ring sticks to the finger on which it has been placed, dip your hand in ice water for a moment or two.

To Remove Fruit Stains from a linen napkin hold it over fumes from a small piece of burning sulphur. Sulphur will also remove ink stains if used at once. Dampen the cloth before igniting the sulphur.

Baby's New Shoes.—Always sand-paper the soles of baby's new shoes before they have been worn. This keeps the little one from slipping on the bare or polished floors and may prevent many a bad fall.

An Accessory for Baby's Outfit.—If you are getting baby's first outfit don't fail to get one of these ordinary sanitary aprons (used by women as skirt protectors). Use it as a shield to keep baby's flannel skirt dry and clean. It will save much washing. I know because I use one.

Treatment of Screens.—If you live so near the public pavement that passers-by can look into your house, try painting the screen doors with a very thin coat of white paint. You can look out, but people passing cannot see into your living rooms. If you rub the screen doors with kerosene the flies will not come near the doors as long as the odor lasts.

A Dust Preventive.—After using your carpet sweeper, remove lint and threads from the brush, then go over the brush thoroughly with a cloth wet with kerosene oil. You will be pleased when you use it again at the way it will remove the dirt from your rug or carpet without any dust arising.

Shampoo for White Hair.—The best shampoo is the white of an egg beaten into a pint of soft, cool water. Wet the head and hair first with cold water. Rub in the egg, which will make a soft lather, and finish exactly as for any other shampoo, except in the last rinsing water, which should be cold, put a few drops of best indigo, not the ordinary 'washing bluing', but indigo that can only be had at the druggists should be added; barely enough to tinge the water slightly. This acts exactly as does bluing on white goods—leaves the hair a pure white, not in the least tinged with yellow.

A Pressing Hint.—The first time I press a pair of new trousers I look at the inside of the hem to see if there is a little notch where the crease comes. If not, I clip a tiny bit from the raw edge of the hem where it is, then I know just where to fold for a crease, if the trousers get wet and it does not show plainly. For the top end of the crease I catch a few stitches inside with contrasting thread, and tie the thread firmly.

While pressing I get this mark, fold and pin, until I have it plain to be seen, then take out the pin and press to remove the marks it made.

In this way the garment is always creased where the tailor designed it to be, and both legs are always just alike.

This is very much easier than to try to see a crease which has almost disappeared.

Turning the Baby While Sleeping.—The following very simple thought seems never to have suggested itself to so many mothers of my acquaintance that it may be of use to write a few words about it. I learned it at the Maternity Hospital, or possibly I never would have thought of it either.

After baby sleeps for an hour or so, sometimes less, sometimes more, she squirms and fusses. Then I know she wants to turn over. And what more natural? During my own night's sleep I require to turn over several times, so why should not a wee mite whose muscles and bones are tender? Therefore, when I see her stir I simply go and turn her over. She takes full advantage of the opportunity too, and while being moved stretches like a cat. Then she settles down in perfect contentment on the other side to sleep the rest of the night, or until her next feeding as the case may be.

I know several babies in a very small circle who never are thus turned, and I do believe a great deal of baby-fussiness at night is caused simply by that neglect.

There is another point about this that should not be overlooked. That is the development of the baby. If a baby is permitted to lie too long at a time on the one side it seems to me it will not develop as symmetrically as if it is allowed to repose an equal length of time on each side.

Certainly if this simple act works such wonders in all cases as it does in mine, it will be done diligently by all mothers who hear about it, for I consider it as important as the baby's bath.

THE FIRST PATIENT

Young Doctor's Wife—'Mary, go and tell the doctor there's a patient waiting to see him.'

Maid—'I wish you'd go, ma'am. He maybe wouldn't believe me.'

Next time a suffragette delegation calls at the White House it may be informed that grandpa is too busy playing with the baby to receive it.

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