

and the day for wiping it up either with an oiled cloth or with water, is put off indefinitely, much to the housewife's time and strength.

USES OF THE COVERED BROOM

When rugs show traces of lint, yet are not sufficiently soiled to be taken out of doors and given a thorough cleaning, or if ill-health or any other of the many causes which break into the cleaning time of the housewife, happen to come when the rugs need cleaning, they may be made to pass muster until another day brings more time or strength by treating them gently with the covered broom; it takes up dust and lint and snips, so the rugs look clean and bright, without raising dust as ordinary sweeping would do.

The piazza floor may be made very clean without injury to paint or finish, and without raising dust, by using the covered broom, so that it is quite possible to perform the task after one's dress is changed for the day, housework being finished for the time being. There is no need of setting floating in the air, or may dispense with the sweeping cap, or head towel, while cleaning the piazza floor.

Uncovered stairs, and even covered ones, may be quickly made presentable with the covered broom, and the thorough sweeping with the stair-brush put off till a more convenient time. At the same time, as one proceeds, most of the dust may be taken from the rails of the banisters with the same covered broom used in sweeping the stairs, and then the top rail only remains to be dusted with a cloth. Only by trying this can one appreciate the time and labor saved.

A point is made in each instance of the fact that no dust is raised when the covered broom is used, for only the housewife who must do all the work of her home with her own hands, can appreciate what it means to be able to sweep without having to dust thoroughly afterwards; the dust which gathers from day to day is quickly and easily removed, but to this is added the thin layer of dust which usually settles on everything after an ordinary sweeping, dusting a room becomes a task, indeed, and a most unpleasant one. Moreover, the covered broom, aside from saving dusting, may also be made to assist in it, for while sweeping the rugs and the bare polished floor which surround them, it is easy, comparatively, to pass the covered broom along the rockers and rungs of chairs, the legs of tables, and the under parts of furniture generally; there then remain to be dusted by hand with a cloth and lamb's wool brush only the parts of the room and furniture which may be done standing up, thus doing away with all lifting and turning of heavy furniture while dusting.

Five or six of these broom covers make a supply which will not give out at a critical moment, and they are easily washed in warm, soapy, borax water, if left to soak for a while, and then rubbed

out, rinsed, and dried in the sun and air. They seem to last indefinitely, and it takes but a few seconds to adjust one over the broom, if the bag is first almost turned inside out and then drawn up over broom, and tied securely around the handle with the tapes. The cover should be put on in the same manner one puts on a tight stocking, turning it inside out until the corners at the bottom are in place; otherwise it may prove a real task to get the cover on, as it is woven and contracts easily.

With the clean covered broom first dust the lower parts of the furniture, then sweep the rugs.

REDUCING THE DUST

A clean cover will remove dust from walls and ceilings, and with this very useful article one is not tempted to neglect these until they are so soiled as to become discolored or hard to clean.

So long has sweeping with a broom of its consequent raising of clouds of dust been most objectionable, especially in small rooms, that the writer has made special effort to solve the problem.

Now, cleaning days have no further terrors, and the carpet sweeper is used only for the most superficial cleaning. It is useful for turning up crumbs after each meal, when these would otherwise be trodden into the dining room rug, making a stain difficult to remove. It is useful for taking up snips when sewing is the order of the day, and for keeping the rugs free from the tiny bits that fall from time to time and soon make the room look untidy.

Four Chums

On old Maud's back are the three sons of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Thompson, of Clinton, Ont. The boy's names are Charlie, aged seven, in front; Willie, aged four in the middle and Clayton, six years old, behind. Maud is 25 years old, of Royal George blood, and raised by the boy's grandfather, the late Nathaniel Thompson. The father



Four Good Friends

and son always lived together, so the old pet has never changed her hab. About all she does now is to drive to the village, a distance of three miles, after mail, when the other horses have been working. Also the boys ride on her back in turn and sometimes the three at once as seen in the photo. The oldest boy rides after the cows. He mounts by leading her beside a fence and climbs on. She has never done an ungentle act while the boys were handling her.—E. A. Thompson, Clinton Co., Ont.

Doing without the things that you cannot buy is not economy; it is necessity.

Jelly Making

In no department of preserving does the housekeeper feel less sure of the result than in jelly making. The rule that works perfectly one time, fails another time. Why this is so, the average housekeeper does not know; so there is nearly always an element of uncertainty as to the result of the work. These two questions are being constantly asked: "Why does not my jelly harden?" "What causes my jelly to candy?" It is an easy matter to say that there is something in the condition of the fruit, or that the fruit juice and sugar were cooked too short or too long a time. These explanations are often true; but they do not help the inquirer, since at other times that proportion of sugar and time of cooking have given perfect jelly.

HOW TO PREPARE

When preparing to make jelly have ready the cheesecloth strainer, enameled colander, wooden spoons, vegetable masher, measures, tumblers, preserving kettles, etc.

If currant jelly is to be made, free the fruit from leaves and large stems. If jelly is to be made from any of the other small fruits, the stems and hulls must be removed.

When jelly is to be made from any of the large fruits the important part of the preparation is to have the fruit well cleaned, then to remove the stem and the blossom end. Nearly all the large fruits are better for having the skin left on. Apples and pears need not be cored. There is so much gummy substance in the cores of quinces that it is best not to use this portion in making fine jelly.

Late Fruits

If practical, pare fruit with a silver knife, so as not to stain or darken the product. The quickest and easiest way to peel peaches is to drop them into boiling water for a few minutes. Have a deep kettle a little more than half full of boiling water; fill a wire basket with peaches; put a long handled spoon under the handle of the basket and lower into the boiling water. At the end of three minutes lift the basket out by slipping the spoon under the handle. Plunge the basket for a moment into a pan of cold water. Let the peaches drain a minute, then peel. Plums and tomatoes may be peeled in the same manner.

If peaches are to be canned in syrup, put them at once into the sterilized jars. They may be canned whole or in halves. If in halves, remove nearly all the stones or pits. For the sake of the flavor, a few stones should be put in each jar.

When preparing cherries, plums, or crab apples for canning or preserving the stem or a part of it may be left on the fruit.

PEACHES

Eight qts. of peaches, 1 qt. of sugar, 3 qts. of water.

Put the sugar and water together and stir over the fire until the sugar is dissolved. When the syrup boils skim it. Draw the kettle back where the syrup will keep hot, but not boil.

Pare the peaches, cut them in halves, and remove the stones, unless you prefer to can the fruit whole.

Put a layer of the prepared fruit into the preserving kettle and cover with some of the hot syrup. When the fruit begins to boil, skim carefully. Boil gently for 10 minutes, then put in the jars and seal. If the fruit is not fully ripe it may require a little longer time to cook. It should be so tender that it may be pierced easily with a silver fork. It is best to put only one layer of fruit in the preserving kettle. If this is cooking the fruit for the next batch may be pared.

QUINCES

Four qts. of pared, cored, and quartered quinces, 1½ qts. of sugar, 2 qts. of water.

Rub the fruit hard with a coarse, crash towel, then wash and drain. Pare, quarter and core; drop the pieces into cold water. Put the fruit in the preserving kettle with cold water to cover it generously. Heat slowly and simmer gently until tender. The pieces will not all require the same time to cook. Take each piece up as soon as it is so tender that a silver fork will pierce it readily. Drain on a platter. Strain the water in which the fruit was cooked through cheese cloth. Put 2 qts. of the strained liquid and the sugar into the preserving kettle, stir over the fire until the sugar is dissolved. When it boils skim well and put in the cooked fruit. Boil gently for about 20 minutes.

CRAB APPLES

Six qts. of apples, 1½ qts. of sugar, 2 qts. of water.

Put the sugar and water into the preserving kettle. Stir over the fire until the sugar is dissolved. When the syrup boils, skim it. Wash the fruit, rubbing the skins as well. Put it in the boiling syrup, and cook gently until tender. It will take from 20 to 50 minutes.

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