

Long Distance Marketing

The housewife in a large city has everything at hand, but her rural cousin is none the worse off if she will attend to her marketing in a scientific manner. In every large city there is a reliable grocery store which sells at both wholesale and retail prices and most of these stores issue catalogues. To the rural or suburban trader these are most courteous, always willing to answer any and every question by letter, and boxes are sent within reasonable distance free of charge.

This method of buying is really better for the inexperienced housekeeper, as in a fascinating shop, full of delicious canned goods, fresh fruits, and condiments of all kinds, she is apt to lose her head and buy unwisely; but with a catalogue in hand and a pencil and paper, in the seclusion of her own room she can do some reckoning on quantities and prices that will make the allowance stretch a little into some coveted treasure, for of such little plans and schemings are the luxuries of home brought forth.

For what you have saved on coffee you can buy a new centerpiece for the table, or you can buy a new book for the little library. Is it not a delightful game, worth a little study, a little planning, a little arithmetic? I think it is, and I think you will agree with me when you have once tried it.

ARTICLES BOUGHT IN QUANTITIES

Soap is one of the articles that should always be bought in quantities. When soap is new it wastes in the water, so a real saving may be made by having it well seasoned. Articles like flavoring extracts should not be kept on hand as they deteriorate and a single bottle lasts so long that this commodity can be considered as the "exception to prove the rule."

Whole meals like corn-meal and Graham flour do not keep well either, and more than ten pounds should be bought at a time, as they are apt to be attacked by insects. They should not be left in paper bags but transferred to glass or tin receptacles.

With the carefully sealed packages that all reliable cereals come in to-day, there is not much danger of getting poor goods; and by buying a dozen packages of any one kind it is wise to invest, according to the family's likes in regard to breakfast dishes. Beware, however, the advertisements of "cheap grocery stores" which offer staple articles under price by the package. As the old man said, "Grocery bargains are suspicious." Buy your groceries of a reliable grocer who deals in wholesale and retail quantities, and by so doing you are sure of your quality as you are of your prices. Teas and coffees lose their flavor if unprotected and sub-

jected to the air, but if kept in a dark place in a close receptacle they may be safely bought in large quantities at a great saving. I quote from a reliable grocer's catalogue: "Above and below prices are subject to a discount of five per cent. on five-pound lots and ten per cent. on ten-pound lots and upwards." In the same way coffee at thirty cents a pound is eighty-five cents in three-pound lots and one dollar and forty cents in five-pound lots. "Special prices on twenty-five pound lots."

THE HOME STORE ROOM

The store-room should be a light room, well ventilated, with ample shelf space and with dark drawers where tea and coffee, etc., may be kept. Large tin boxes placed in these, for holding all sorts of stage groceries, for they are proof against mice and rats, and the boxes or cartons can be easily stored away until wanted. The flour barrel should stand on a low platform if there is any danger of the floor becoming damp. Tin canisters may be bought to hold all sorts of staple articles, and while these are plainly marked I do not care for them as I do for glass jars. Even when these are used in the main store-room I would advocate the use of glass quart jars in the kitchen or "at hand" closet. Those with the screw-top are air-tight, they are perfectly clean and their contents can be seen at a glance without labeling, while the amount left in the jar is equally discernible. It is not advisable to buy sugar by the barrel for the average family, for the danger of its being attacked by ants would offset any slight saving in its expense.

Laundry Work

SOME PRACTICAL ADVICE WANTED

There are all sorts of ways of doing laundry work. What's your way? Will you answer as many of the following questions as you can, and then add as many more hints as you please? A prize for the best set of replies received by March 15.

WHAT IS YOUR WAY?

- 1-What is the best day of the week for wash day?
- 2-Where is the best place to do the washing?
- 3-What kinds of tubs, boards, boilers, wringers, machines, or other fixtures, do you use?
- 4-Where do you get water, and who carries it and how far?
- 5-If the water is not clear, how do you clarify it? If hard, how do you soften it?
- 6-Do you soak the clothes over night? Do you boil the clothes?
- 7-How should the clothes be sorted for washing?
- 8-What kind of soap, washing powders

or liquids, and what kind of bluing do you use?

9-How should woollens be treated to prevent shrinkage, and colored prints to prevent fading?

10-Have you any good starching "wrinkles" to pass on?

11-Can you tell how to remove all sorts of stains from white or colored goods?

12-Can you give recipes and directions for making hard and soft soaps and other washing compounds?

13-How can you give helpful hints to pass on about clothe-lines, pins and needles, and about hanging and drying clothes?

14-How about the sprinkling and raw starching?

15-What kinds of irons are best, and do you know of any time and labor saving schemes in connection with the ironing?

16-What will help to make the ironing of starched wash easier?

17-Can you tell how to starch and iron men's bosom shirts, collars and cuffs?

18-How about the ironing board or table covered? Do you sit while ironing?

19-How should black or any other dark cotton clothes be washed, starched or stiffened and ironed?

20-How should silks and woollen goods be washed and pressed?

21-How should lace curtains be washed, bleached, starched, dried and stretched or ironed?

22-How should wool blankets and bed spreads and quilts be treated in the wash?

23-What is the best and easiest way of washing or cleaning rag carpets?

24-What is the proper way to care for all the various washing and ironing utensils and machines?

25-Would you advocate the use of a washing machine and why?

I have asked you 25 questions, and yet I dare say I have forgotten to ask about some important matters in connection with laundry work. But I cannot run of any more just now, and I'm going to rely on you to answer such questions that I should have asked, but didn't. I'd like to hear from every province in Canada. If you will kindly number your answers the same as I have numbered them, I'll take it as a favor, and for the rest, if you have more information to give, you can simply continue the numbers—26, 27, etc. you may not want to answer all my questions—suit yourself.

Please don't put anything else in the same envelope with your laundry contributions, write plainly on one side of paper only, use your name and full address, and send direct to Household Editor, Farm and Dairy, Peterboro, Ont.

A Quebec Woman's Success

I keep usually from 30 to 40 purebred White Wyandotte pullets for laying purposes, and from these last year, I set a 220 egg capacity incubator, twice, from which I hatched 302

chicks, every one of which I raised. Until they were four weeks old I made corn-meal into cakes for food, as I consider cooking the meal keeps the young chicks in a more healthy condition. I also gave them mixed seeds, and very fine oyster shells, as well as all the sweet milk they would drink. After the four weeks, I gave them mash mixed with milk, three times per day, all they would eat.

My first hatch came the first week in April and the first of August my pullets were laying. I kept 40 and up to October 15 they laid 730 eggs, or an average of 18 eggs per pullet, and they have kept right on laying since that date to the present time.

In my opinion there is no one thing on the farm which pays as well as poultry, if it is well managed; of course, like everything else they require care and attention, if you expect them to respond fully financially.—Mrs. M. H. Shepard, Bondville, Que.

It is very difficult in working with certain kinds of cloth to keep it from raveling and a dressmaker gave me this hint. Run a line with a sewing machine about an quarter of an inch from where the seam comes. This is more easily done than overcasting.

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