

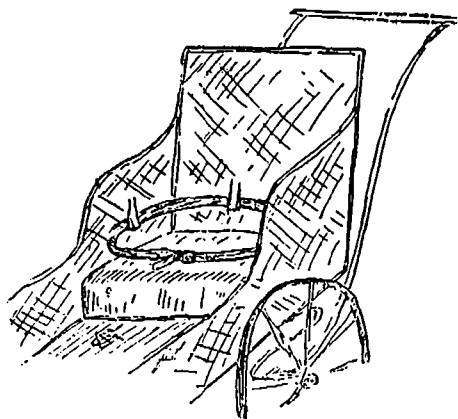


Communications intended for this Department should be addressed to AUNT TUTU, care MASSEY PRESS, Massey Street, Toronto.)

Strap the Babies In.

As mothers know, it is not an easy matter to keep a healthy, energetic baby in its carriage. The restless little hands will reach out for passing objects; the sturdy little feet doing their best by pushing to help baby get possession of whatever may have taken his fancy, and so before the nurse or mother can grasp it, and in spite of the strap carefully buckled in front, baby takes a header out of his coach and gets—not what he wanted—but bruises more or less serious.

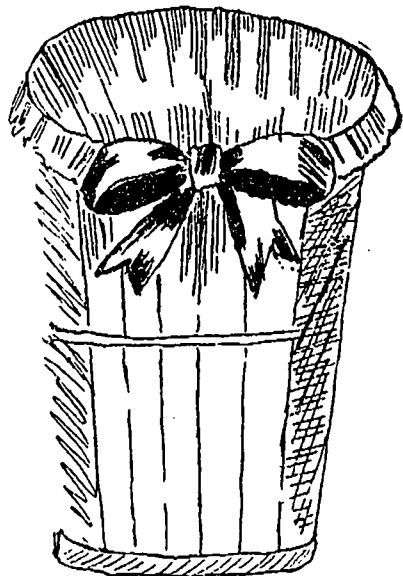
A simple little contrivance which the big boy of the family has fastened to the seat of his baby brother's carriage has proved helpful. It



consists simply of three loops and a belt to be passed through them, and fastened around baby's waist. All may be of leather or of strong linen duck; mine were fashioned from a couple of old alligator-skin belts. They are arranged as shown in the illustration.

Scrap Basket for Presents.

No room is complete without a waste basket, more or less capacious according to the business of the occupant. The woman who sews, the woman who writes or the mother with several small children to make "scraps," all need baskets, if the room is to be kept tidy. Our sketch



shows one made from an ordinary half-bushel peach basket. If it is for the parlor, enamel it white, with gilt bands; line it with silkoline with yellow ground and great tiger lilies in old pink. Make the lining half as wide again as the top of the basket and about six inches deeper. The extra depth is to be turned over at the top for a double frill; make a tuck on the wrong side wide enough to hold a narrow,

strong, tape; draw this up to form the frill; carefully distribute the fulness, and sew to the top of the basket under the frill; fasten with a bow of yellow ribbon. It would be pretty painted brown with a yellow silesia and a bow of wide golden-brown ribbon. It is a good plan to put a heavy round block of wood, a couple of inches thick, in the bottom of the basket under the lining to keep it from falling or being easily knocked over.

A Japanese Scrap Jar.

THE Japanese scrap jar, or vase, seen in Fig. 1 of the accompanying illustrations, is made of cretonne, and intended to be used for scraps. It will be found of very convenient height to stand beside the sewing-machine. To make this jar



FIG. 1.

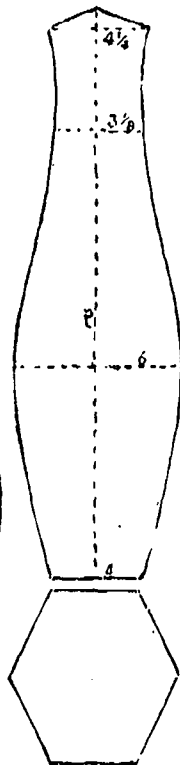


FIG. 2.

requires one and a quarter yards of cretonne, one yard of silesia, and the same quantity of heavy pasteboard. First cut a pattern according to diagram shown in Fig. 2; after which cut from the pasteboard six of the long panels, and one piece for the bottom. In selecting the cretonne for the vase, choose a pattern that resembles the designs on china vases, and has a Japanese effect. The pattern illustrated herewith, is in shades of blue on a white ground, and the vase is lined with plain blue silesia. Cover each piece of pasteboard with cretonne on one side, and silesia on the other, and overcast the edges together. Join the six parts by over-handing them together on the outside, and then over-hand the bottom piece in.

Hints to Housekeepers.

If paper has been laid under the carpet, all dust may be easily removed with it.

Copperas mixed with the whitewash put upon the cellar walls will keep vermin away.

Ceilings that have been smoked by a paraffin lamp should be washed off with soda water.

Hellebore sprinkled on the floor at night destroys cockroaches. They eat it, and are poisoned.

The warmth of floors is greatly increased by having carpet linen or layers of paper under the carpet.

Drain pipes and all places that are sour or impure may be cleansed with lime water or carbolic acid.

The juice of half a lemon in a teacup of strong black, coffee, without sugar, will often cure a sick headache.

Moth-infested articles should be saturated in naphtha or benzine. It injures nothing, and kills the destroyer.

Strong brine may be used to advantage in washing bedsteads. Hot alum water is also good for this purpose.

Thick sweet cream sweetened and flavored, and thickened with a little flour or corn starch and baked between two crusts, is excellent.

For simple hoarseness take a fresh egg, beat it and thicken with pulverised sugar. Eat freely of it and the hoarseness will soon be relieved.

The skin of a boiled egg is the best remedy for a boil. Carefully peel it, wet, apply to the boil; it draws out the matter and relieves soreness.

Mildew may be removed by rubbing common yellow soap on it, then salt and starch over that; rub all in well and lay in the bright sunshine.

Toothache can generally be cured immediately by putting a small piece of cotton, saturated with strong ammonia, into the hollow of the affected tooth.

A piece of chamois skin bound on the edges, shaped to fit the heel and kept in place by a piece of elastic rubber, worn over the stockings, will save much mending.

When the face and ears burn so terribly bathe them in very hot water—as hot as you can bear. This will be more apt to cool them than any cold application.

Castor oil may be comfortably taken in hot milk, in a half wineglassful of weak punch, in hot water sweetened and highly flavored with essence of peppermint or wintergreen.

A good remedy for damp, moist hands is four ounces of cologne water and one half-ounce of tincture of belladonna. Rub the hands with this several times a day.

Ribbons and other silks should be put away for preservation in brown paper, as the chloride of lime used in manufacturing white paper frequently produces discoloration.

Iron rust may be removed from marble by taking one part of nitric acid to twenty-five parts of water and applying it carefully to the spots. Rinse off with ammonia and water.

Meat can be kept very nicely for a week or two by covering it with sour milk or buttermilk and placing it in a cool cellar. The bone or fat need not be removed. Rinse well before using.

HOW TO WASH COLORED CALICOES.—After washing and rinsing the garments dip them in a pail of rain water in which five cents' worth of sugar of lead has been dissolved. Wring out promptly.

A goblet of hot water taken just after rising, before breakfast, has cured thousands of cases of indigestion, and no simple remedy is more widely recommended by physicians to dyspeptics.

The water tank or cooler in which the drinking water is kept should be lined with porcelain, and it should be emptied and thoroughly cleansed every morning before the fresh water and ice are put in.

Steaming the face at night over a bowl of very hot water, and then bathing it with very cold water, is a simple method of giving it a Russian bath, and will tend to make the skin whiter and smoother and the flesh firmer.

A young housekeeper asks for something that will remove indelible ink stains. Cyanide of potassium, which is a deadly poison, and must be carefully handled, will remove some stains of so-called "indelible" ink. Get directions for its use from the apothecary where you purchase the preparation.

All fruit that requires paring should be put immediately in very cold water and allowed to remain until sufficient quantity has been prepared; this prevents the fruit from becoming discolored. Where the fruit is tender and it is desired to keep its shape and color, it may be dipped quickly into strong lemon juice, and when the syrup is made in which it is to be cooked, a little lemon juice may be added. Some cooks use alum water for hardening fruit for preserving, but we do not advise it.