

The Family Washing.

One of the things that surprise foreign housekeepers, notably Frenchwomen, when they come over here is our enormous domestic machinery. Particularly are they amazed that it should be such an almost universal custom to have the family washing done at home. It is bad enough in the dwellings that shelter only one family to have their roofs, but laundry work going on in the little sets of rooms in the apartment houses fairly startles the Parisian chateaux. That this custom must be changed sooner or later seems inevitable. So much of co-operative housekeeping would be adopted with profit to him or them who would undertake it and with enormous addition to the comfort and convenience of living. The nearest approach to this millennium at the moment is the scheme of some of the landladies to take the family washing by the pound. Five cents per pound on all bundles of five pounds or over is charged, a price which includes the ironing of certain flat pieces like towels and bed linen. The starched pieces are returned starched and dried and ready to dampen and iron, and the pieces rough dried. If such a system will pay in isolated establishments with necessarily limited patronage, it deserves a trial on a wholesale plan. —New York Post.

The Hungarian Housekeeper.

The mistress of a large household in Hungary has need to be a very capable housewife, for she is surrounded with many cares. You must boil your own soap, mold your own candles, dry your own prunes, prepare your own candied fruits, smoke your own sausages, cure your own hams, bottle your own compotes, make your own vinegar, store your own fruits and vegetables, butter and cheese for winter use, grind your own maize for culinary purposes, grow your own wine, act as your own butcher and poultryer, laundress and seamstress. The eyes of the mistress must be everywhere, even though she invariably has a housekeeper under her. Servants get much smaller her wages, work harder and live less comfortably, but they are very independent, and there is absolutely no standard of personal morality among them. —H. Ellen Browning in "Wanderings in Hungary."

A Leg of Mutton.

An ordinary leg of mutton, says a famous chef, can be transformed beyond recognition by the following treatment: Remove the bone and season the meat with a teaspoonful each of ground ginger and cinnamon and a quarter of a teaspoonful of pepper, cloves and mace, mixed with a pint of hot vinegar in which a bouquet of herbs has been placed. Rub the mutton with this preparation and set it in a cold, dry place for a day and a half. Then stuff it with a head of celery, chopped fine, cooked till tender, mixed with a pint of white sauce and seasoned when cold with a can of chopped mushrooms and a pound of chopped almonds. Set aside for a day and then roast in a hot oven, basting constantly with a mixture made of equal quantities of strained tomato and rice stock.

A Hall Seat.

A hall seat seems to be what is needed in many halls, but every housekeeper cannot afford an old oak or mahogany settee, or even have one built of pine and stained to match the woodwork in the room. A plain wooden bench, such as is to be found in every house furnishing store, stained to imitate cherry or oak, makes a nice looking settee. Make a box cushion for the seat, covering it with a brightly colored, cretonne, corduroy or some inexpensive material, tufting it by tacking down with covered buttons. Put a 12 inch founce over the cushion, box plating it on, and you will have a very comfortable and pretty hall seat. —New York Sun.

The Decorative Ironing Table.

The combination ironing table that can be turned into a seat has been put to other than kitchen use by some clever women. One has been stained a deep olive green and had the seat upholstered with olive corduroy fastened with white nails. Another seat, stained an oak color, had a pattern on the back picked out with fancy headed wrought iron nails. The one was covered with figured burlap in oak color, fastened in place with the same kind of nails used on the back. A seat of the kind in a bedroom is painted with white enamel and has the seat covered with velvet.

How to Clean Neckties.

Take 16 grains of powdered white castile soap, 5 fluid drams of strong aqua ammonia, 14 grains of granulated saltpeter. First dissolve the soap in a pint of warm, soft water; then add the saltpeter, and after it has dissolved add the ammonia. Set aside overnight, or the equivalent of ten hours, and then it is ready to use. Take a cloth or small sponge and after wringing it out of this mixture gently rub the tie until all dirt disappears. Use this on white or dark ties and fine silk and wool goods. It can be made for about 10 cents per pint.

To Polish Steel Goods.

The most unresponsive metal for a housekeeper to attend to is steel. Rub and polish as one will, unless a certain secret be known there is still the dull look, and the hardware dealer will only advise the expensive expedient of sending the article to be ground at the factory. The old fashioned knife-brick, however, will work wonders here, by simply buying it powdered, mixing with water and rubbing on freely. Allow this to dry; then polish briskly and finish off with emery powder.

Dressing Room Tables.

Small, round tables, that look at first glance like those intended for smokers' use, serve a valuable purpose in a lady's dressing room. They have attached to their polished tops all paraphernalia needed to crimp the hair, including safety matches, alcohol lamp, with long standard, hairpin tray and handmirror jar. The tables are in oak or mahogany finish and the attachments in various metals, brass, nickel or silver.

Admirable Flower Holders.

A woman who likes to have uncommon things in her home has discovered that the clear glass jars such as are used for electric batteries make admirable flower holders. She gets them in an electrical supply house, and at one visit found an old jar 3 feet high and not more than 3 inches across, into which a trio of American Beauty roses grew with rare effect.

Gauchoes.

Miss Juliet Carson in the New York Press says: "Never say a gaucho is for heating or cooking in which the flame does not burn all blue. The yellow flame is brilliant, but expensive as it requires at least three times the amount of necessary gas. Try the stove before buying, and let it burn having one which will emit the blue flame."

A RED HOT SEASON.

During the hot summer season the blood gets overheated, the drains on the system are severe and the appetite is often lost. Burdock Blood Bitters purifies and invigorates the blood, tones up the system, and restores lost appetite.

Millard's Liniment is used by Physicians.

Study Your Children.

It is an evidence of the advance of knowledge that the wise parent today studies his child and measures his physical development by the physical standard that science has established. He keeps himself in touch with the best knowledge. Foods are no longer considered merely the natural provision to meet the demands of hunger, but as the remedies, the protection, the substitutes provided to meet the physical needs of each body. This is one of the results of child study. Precociousness and stupidity are regarded as symptoms, and no longer as the cause of pride or shame. The physical causes are studied. If the child is stupid, his sight, his hearing may be at fault. If he does not spell, an effort is made to discover whether he is stone deaf. If he grows tired quickly, common sense seeks to discover whether his chair and his desk are suited to his height. If he is irritable, it becomes a question of food. If he does not develop physically, it becomes a question of exercise and nutrition. The temple of the Holy Ghost is considered as worthy of the best care and intelligence that time and education have developed. —Outlook.

The Housemaid.

A comely, tidy maid, groomed in blue and white in the morning and black and white at night, if imbued with your cordial warmth and consideration for others, will learn to be a sort of expression of the spirit of the house. The way in which she widely opens the door, as if hoping the guest will enter, will be a vicarious welcome. A door barely opened, threatening to close, as if there was a suspicion that the overcast were unsafe, is not an uncommon piece of bad manners, and a servant with discretion enough to show you the respect to allow you to enter if you desire, or if an old friend, or a "cousin from the country," to make you comfortable, to take your wraps, stir the fire and offer you a cup of tea, is a jewel only to be found where the atmosphere is full of cordial friendliness. Such a one at dinner absolutely appeals to you to partake by her gift handling of the dishes and gives by her bright watchfulness of your likes and dislikes a sense of personal care which is comically gratifying. —Philadelphia Ledger.

The Teapot.

A terrible mistake of housekeepers is to leave the coffee pot and teapot on the back of the stove to steep all day. It is a fruitful source of dyspepsia and indigestion. Never set tea aside unless in a glass jar or pitcher for lead tea. Steated over, it is simply vile. Coffee, if you must economize that way, should be poured off into a bowl or pitcher and covered closely. Over the grounds pour a cupful of boiling water, shake and let simmer three minutes, then pour into the bowl and throw the grounds away and wash and dry the coffee pot. This will insure you sweet coffee. To make the coffee, grind fine the necessary amount, pour the liquid saved carefully into the pot, so as not to stir up the grounds. In a teaspoon mix a tablespoonful of coffee to each person, "and one for the pot," with half the white of an egg. When the liquid is boiling, dash the coffee in, stirring briskly for a moment. Fill the pot with boiling water—measure, mix, you, one cup for each—and set to steep gently for five minutes. —Washington Star.

What to Do With a Tough Hen.

Sometimes a "green" housekeeper buys a tough hen unaware, and then she tears her hair because it is not fit to eat when baked. Dress fowl and hang it up over a night to freeze. Put to boil in hot water as soon as the fire is made and keep it boiling for three hours. If in hard water, put a pinch of soda as large as a butter bean in the water. Do not salt. Two hours before dinner lift from the water; dress and stuff as though it had not been cooked at all; lard it with nice sweet lard or fat pork, and bake in a medium oven, basting often. The hen will be tender as spring chicken. The water in which it was boiled will make delicious soup, with bits of chicken shredded in it, for the second day, and make delicious stock for hashed chicken or toast.

The Foot Box.

The fashionable woman now cares for her feet as carefully as for her hands, and a foot box is as necessary to her as a manicure set. The box is a good sized one, and contains everything required for the well being of both shoes and feet. For the former there are various kinds of dressing fluids for taking stains out of satin, brocade for removing dust, spots of ink and water shoe thread, a cobbler's needle, thimble and scissors, quantities of laces of all colors and assorted buttons, while for the latter the box contains everything there are provided instruments for amateur surgical treatment, soaps, salves and bandages, the last being intended principally for the correction of disfigurement caused by long use of shoes that do not fit.

Bags in Household Use.

Bags are a hobby with some women. They delight in all kinds for many different purposes. One of this class had a bag hung near her desk for receipted bills, which she looks over in December and puts away, the bag being large enough to hold a year's bills. She claims the most linen bag is preferable to box or drawer in desk. Putting away summer stockings is an art in this woman's case. "It is such a comfort," she says, "to find them ready for use in the spring," so instead of being thrown in a pile into some drawer or trunk, they are mended, rolled up in pairs and put away in china bags, each member of the family having one of these bags hung up in the dark corner of his chamber cupboard.

English Nursery Breakfast.

The bacon which is one of the most popular nursery dishes in English households is quite different from that usually eaten here. It is not smoked and is home cured, sweet and delicious. It is sliced very thin, cooked very quickly to be just done through, and is eaten hot, but not dried up, on slices of bread. English physicians consider this the best of food for growing children and as valuable as cod liver oil in tissue building. A typical nursery breakfast in a well-to-do English household is oatmeal porridge, with rashers of bacon, marmalade and cambric tea and coffee made with much rich milk and very little sugar.

A Woman's Purse.

Mrs. Levi P. Morton says: "A woman's purse is a woman's pride. She does not like, and insists that it shall always be absolutely correct. When the fashion changes, her purse must change. A woman's purse is indicative of a woman's taste. She who is dainty, carries a dainty purse, but she who is powerful and strong and a leader carries a big purse that is, like her brain, a masterpiece for many things. The pocket does not trouble her now and then. But the cases are really rare. And a disturbance is only aroused when the woman loses her head as well as her purse."

Only about one in a thousand married couples live to celebrate their golden wedding. A couple living to celebrate such an event may well enjoy distinction and honor in large measure.

The Washington woman doctor who would that her body should be dissected by a feminine medical student understood how dearly one woman always loves to pick another woman to pick.

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"Hiram Frey,
Wheel Maker,
Newwood, Ont."

A MESSAGE TO MEN.

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Philanthropy still exist.

If any man, who is weak, nervous and debilitated, or who is suffering from any of the various diseases resulting from youthful folly, excesses or overwork, will take heart and write to me, I will send him confidentially and free of charge the plan pursued by which I was completely restored to perfect health and manhood; after years of suffering from Nervous Debility, Loss of Vigor and Organic Weakness.

I have nothing to sell and therefore want no money, but as I know through my own experience how to sympathize with such sufferers, I am glad to be able to assist any fellow-sufferer to cure. I am well aware of the prevalence of quackery, for I myself was deceived and imposed upon until I nearly lost faith in mankind, but I rejoice to say that I am now perfectly well and happy once more, and am desirous therefore to make this certain means of cure known to all. If you will write to me you can rely upon being cured and the proud satisfaction of having been of service to one in need will be sufficient reward for any trouble. Absolute secrecy assured. Send 5c. silver to cover postage and address: Mr. Geo. G. Strong, North Rockwood, Mich.

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