

HOUSEHOLD.

The Welcome Summer Guest

(By Annie M. Toohy.)

The usually welcome summer guest is not such a numerous personality as may be imagined. The chief requisites for becoming a desirable summer guest are a bona fide invitation, necessary changes of both useful and ornamental clothing—as every hostess likes her guests to appear well—requisite toilet articles, stationery, and sufficient spending money to defray incidental car fare, laundry, or other needs for money. The would-be welcome guest must also remember that no matter what his or her idle mode of living at home, or command of servants, they are not justified in expecting any unreasonable attention or service in another's household. A guest should be especially careful to preserve good temper and patience, and to always reasonably submit to the wishes of the hostess. Promptness at meals and avoidance of creating litter about sleeping apartments, sitting-rooms, and piazzas are additional requirements in a guest. But, perhaps, of all things is a general obliviousness of self in consideration of the feelings and comfort of those upon whom devolve the duty of entertainment.—'Christian Work.'

Savory Economy.

Frances B. Merrill, in an article entitled 'Housekeeping near Paris,' makes special note of the admirable economy of the French housewife, who never fails to set forth a savory repast. She writes: 'Absolutely nothing is wasted. Nothing is allowed to look 'messy,' or become spoiled. Scraps are made into a strong, rich beef-tea or bouillon, always on hand and for sale at six cents a quart. Ragged, or left-over pieces of meat are boiled in strongly seasoned water, and many a frugal meal is helped out by a pound of this beef at eight cents and a cent's worth of grated horse-radish, pickles or mustard.

Over the fire or on the side next its heart, there is always the never-failing scup kettle; a wholesome custom; an economical one, and one which every American woman who discovers it clings to faithfully. A bowl of soup to a hungry child, or to a beggar, a cupful when the mother herself is tired and has a hysterical lump in her throat, that is good sense. When a French housekeeper makes her clear bouillon, it is a matter of rule, but into the everyday soup kettle goes every scrap of food in perfect condition and unsweetened. A crust of bread, a slice of apple, a bit of cauliflower, a shred of cabbage, a piece of bacon, a couple of chicken wings, one follows the other; day in and day out, until by some unlucky chance it runs dry, or discretion suggests a new start.—N. Y. 'Observer.'

Selected Recipes.

Onions as a nerve tonic. — A well-known medical authority on nervous diseases says: 'Onions make a nerve tonic not to be despised. No other vegetable will so quickly relieve and tone up a worn-out system, and they should be eaten freely, particularly by brain workers, and those suffering from blood and nervous diseases.' The strong flavor of onions that is so objectionable to many, is removed, if they are soaked for a short time in warm salt water, before being cooked. It is claimed that if, after eating uncooked onions, one eats a sprig of parsley dipped in strong vinegar, no unpleasant tell-tale odor will annoy.

A fish pie.—For an emergency hot dish for breakfast or luncheon, mince the fish, either fresh or salt, into a soft paste with white gravy, and fill a deep plate with it. White gravy is made by a slightly thickened combination of two-thirds water, one-third milk, well boiled together, then seasoned with salt, pepper and celery. The cornstarch or flour is first mixed smoothly in cold water before being added to the boiling liquid, otherwise it will be lumpy. The crust is of mashed potatoes, mixed with milk, seasoned with salt and butter. Dent prettily with the point of a table spoon all over its surface, set in the oven until colored a pretty brown.—N. Y. 'Observer.'

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