

THE HOUSEHOLD.

GRANDMOTHER'S PUDDING.

(AN OLD RECIPE.)

Into one pint of purest drink,
Let one teacup of clear rice sink,
And boil till all the water's gone—
No matter where. Stir with a spoon
And deftly add of milk one quart;
Boil till it thickens as it ought,
Stirring it with the aforesaid spoon
Till it is smooth and white and done.
Then add three egg yolks beaten light,
One lemon's rind all grated right,
And white sugar well refined,
Eight spoons, by stirring thus combined.
Now pour the mixture in a dish,
Of any size that you may wish,
And let it stand while with a fork
You beat the whites as light as cork—
The whites of the three eggs, I mean,
And when they're beaten stiff and clean,
Add eight spoonfuls of sugar light,
And put the frothing nice and white,
Upon your pudding like a cover—
Be sure you spread it nicely over.
In a cool oven let it brown—
We think the pudding will go down.
—*Adelaide Preston in the Home-Maker.*

THE ECONOMICAL WOMAN.

The really economical woman doesn't buy a cheap dress. She selects something that is good, something that will not crease or catch dust easily. She remembers that black is safe, useful, and generally becoming. She selects a pattern that will look well for some time, and then allow a satisfactory making over. She puts her material in the hands of a good dressmaker and insists upon a perfect fit. She buys whatever will give the dress a finished, handsome appearance, knowing well that a dress properly made will look well while there is a piece of it.

She wears her dress with care. If it rains she leaves it in the wardrobe and puts on an old one. When she wears it she is careful to dust it and see that it is hung or folded so that no creases will mortify her when next she dons the suit. Sometimes she presses it nicely, removing spots and looking after hooks and buttons. She buys the best gloves, and is careful of the fit. When she has worn the gloves she puts them away folded, as when she bought them. When it rains or at night she wears an old pair, neatly-mended. Her shoes fit. If her feet are large so are her shoes. They are good and she keeps the buttons on. Her bonnet always looks well. She buys trimming of a kind that can be used on different shapes, and changes, in a quiet way, with the fashion, for the bonnet itself is not necessarily expensive. She never wastes money on fancy neck wear or flimsy ribbon or cheap flowers. She has a few good things and takes care of them. She spends very little money and always looks well. If she is the mother of a family of girls, she knows that it pays to dress two or three of them alike. So when she buys dresses for the children she selects a piece of flannel or some other good material, being careful to choose a color that is bright and clean, but not gay. Then when Susie outgrows her dress, and Jennie tears hers, the two can be made over for Dot.

This really economical woman knows that it never pays to buy cheap goods for the children, and she knows that great piles of underclothing and a whole closet full of dresses are not needed for a growing child. She will make three each of all undergarments, and they will always last, with a bit of mending and darning, until the child is too big for them. In winter one pretty flannel dress is sufficient for "best" and two of commoner material, or made from the dresses of some larger person, for every day. In summer everybody likes white frocks, and they are very cheap.

In "handing down" clothes, a careful mother will always change the garment in some way, so that the child will feel comfortable in it. A few fancy stitches in some bright silk will often work wonders. I know two little girls who had terracotta flannel coats. The smaller girl outgrew hers, but the other, with cuffs to lengthen the sleeves, did pretty well. The little girl was tired of it, and a bit jealous when her sister's new cloak came. A thrifty and sympathetic auntie took the full skirt of the smaller cloak and gathered it under the collar of the larger one, forming a full deep

cape. Then she bought some pale blue silk and feather-stitched the collar, cape, cuffs, and the front of the cloak. The garment was prettier than it had ever been, and the child was happy.

Don't let the little ones wear the outgrown hats and dresses just as they are. Always make them look dainty and new. The economical woman knows how to dye little garments nicely. She doesn't begin until she knows the cloth is all wool. She doesn't attempt fancy colors. She believes in a good, dark brown, or a warm bright red. She knows that it is better to buy a dark dye, even if she wants a light color. A package of cardinal red will dye a pink and scarlet, if only a little of the dye is used. She rips and washes the garment, dyes carefully and presses well. There is a great deal in pressing. A tailor told me that he depended upon it to give style and finish to the best garments he made, and that it took him longer to press a pair of pants than it did to cut and make them. A darn well pressed will disappear almost entirely, if the material be good. Nothing can ever be done with goods that is a mixture of cotton and wool.

The darning ought to be done with silk before the garment is dyed, then you can hardly find it. The economical woman knows that with a bright, clean face and tidy hair, a very plain hat will be becoming to her little girl. She doesn't buy feathers or flowers, for good ones cost too much, and cheap ones are an abomination, so she gets pretty, stylish shapes and trims them with a bow of good ribbon, or a band of nice velvet. These little hats are trim and dainty when the flowers are crushed and faded and the feathers out of curl and bristly.

This woman teaches the children to take care of their clothes. They never romp and play in their best dresses, and their garments are always brushed and folded neatly when taken off. In this way one dollar does the work of two.—*Mary Wilson in the Housekeeper.*

THOUGHTS FOR FARM MOTHERS.

I want the woman on the farm to go visiting more and have company more. I want her to set her neighbor a good example in the method of entertaining. I want her to set a simple table, one which will not so completely use up all the energies that she cannot enjoy her company. I want her to spend less time in trying to keep pace with the habits of dress of the mother in the village, who has more time to spend on such things. I want her to dress herself and her children so comfortably, so healthfully, so plainly that she need not be continually worrying over her sewing and ironing. I want her to be emancipated from bed-quilts and rag-carpets, body, mind and soul-destroying appliances that they are. I want her to accustom her children to early hours for bed, and then I want her and her husband to read together books which will broaden the minds of both. I want her to teach her children the good old adage, "Children should be seen and not heard," when the father reads aloud to her in the few spare moments he may have in the house. I want children and mother to profit by the outlook that the father enjoys. I want her to give the older children care of the younger ones, so that in a very few years she may have help from them, if she takes them away from home, or can leave them at home without fear while she goes among her neighbors for a little brightness. I want her to get out-doors, to feel such an interest in every part of the farm that she will take a walk to some part of it almost every day, or do some daily work in the garden. A carelessly kept flower garden is not out-doors exercise enough. If it be well kept, it may be enough, but the woman who emancipates herself from senseless demands of dress and food may do more than keep a flower garden; she may make herself an adept in the care of small fruits or in the growth of celery, of cabbage, of radishes or she may undertake to study the habits of our fast disappearing wild flowers, and have a little bed of ferns and orchids, of delicate hepaticas and graceful dicultras, and with every breath of fresh air she will draw in fresh strength for the in-door life, and perchance will strengthen the young life so dependent upon hers.

I have been wondering if she might not

do some missionary work, save some soul from death in the meantime. Perhaps I am proposing too much, but so many times when I taught in a large city and saw wretched homes and wretched lives—saw the forgotten, the unloved, the uncared for children of humanity—I have longed for country homes for them, and I have wondered if such homes might not save them from the certain sin and sorrow of the future. I have wondered if a true home and love and trust for these waifs of humanity might not save their bodies, minds and souls from destruction, and if the farmer's wife might not train up a loving, helpful, adopted daughter. Last, but far from least, I want all mothers, but especially these farm mothers to not only talk and read with the fathers on questions concerning the greater homes, including the less, but I want them to feel, that they, too, are responsible for the right conduct of all these forms of Government. I want the motherhood to stand equal side by side, with the fatherhood and together study and plan for best results, that the life of the woman on the farm may be a joy to herself, and to her husband, to her children, to all about her, and that it may be an inspiration to her neighbors for better living.—*Farmers' Review.*

TESTING THE PURITY OF WATER.

Those who are disposed to question the purity of the water they are using, and yet find it impossible to have it analyzed by a competent chemist, should subject it to the following tests, which are found in Hatfield's "Physiology and Hygiene," and, in a slightly altered form, are presented to the readers of *The Household*:

1. Dissolve half a teaspoon of loaf sugar in three-quarters of a pint of water, pour the solution into a pint bottle, and let it stand in a warm place for a couple of days. If, at the end of that time, it is found transparent, it may be considered fit for drinking, for if the water had contained sufficient impurities to produce fermentation of the sugar, it turns the liquid cloudily or turbid.

2. Pour one pint of water into a quart bottle, which has been well scalded, cork tightly, and stand it in a warm place for twenty-four hours; shake the water, remove the cork, and if it has any disagreeable smell, the water should be tested by a competent chemist before using for cooking or drinking purposes.

By heating water to boiling, an odor is evolved, sometimes, that does not otherwise appear.

3. Safe water for drinking ought to respond to such a color test as may be made by filling with water a large, perfectly clean bottle made of colorless glass; look through the water at some black object; the water should appear perfectly colorless and free from suspended matter. A muddy or turbid appearance may indicate the presence of soluble organic matter, or of solid matter in suspension.

"For drinking," adds Prof. Hatfield, "rain, spring, river, lake or well water is employed, and of these the last is usually the most objectionable."

If it were not for the disagreeable taste which stored rain-water acquires by standing, it would be the best water for our use, as it is the purest, if the cistern or hogshead is kept clean, and the surface upon which it descends and the pipes through which it flows, carefully attended to.

In all cases, where there is the least doubt about the purity of the water supply, or when travelling in unhealthy districts, none but water which has been efficiently filtered or briskly boiled for half an hour should be used.

Cool and put into a large pitcher covered with a wet cloth, or put into clean bottles, corked tightly and placed in an ice-chest.—*Household.*

CONVENIENT UTENSILS.

The basis of convenience in the kitchen is a good and sufficient supply of utensils, yet many people economize in kettles and spiders while indulging in the extravagance of elaborate tidies and lambrequins. A large assortment of kitchen spoons and steel knives is essential. One careful housekeeper has learned how to sharpen knives to perfection and will not permit her servants to undertake this duty. She says that she has had so many knives ruined by ignorant servants that she prefers to use

the steel herself. Among the knives sold for the kitchen are a carving knife, a scraping knife and bread knife. All dealers in cutlery say that steel knives must be kept away from the fire or their temper will be lost, and they will be of no more value than an iron knife. Besides these kitchen small tools there are needed covered saucepans, purce sieves, vegetable strainers, nutmeg graters, of the kind which does not grate the fingers as well as the nutmegs. Something particularly useful is the lemon squeezer of glass, which is much better than a metal squeezer. It is said that copper stewpans are much less used than formerly, because they require to be frequently retinned, and become a source of danger unless kept perfectly clean and bright inside.

The fascinations of white paint for interior decoration have not passed away, and white painted furniture still holds a conspicuous place in the best rooms. The economical housekeeper may easily become fashionable by covering the wood-work of dark furniture with white paint, and one sees old mirrors surrounded by a white rim, white painted rocking-chairs and white tables. Coverings of Oriental rugs are another popular feature of the fashion in furnishing.

An economical beef stew is made by Miss Daniell. Her receipt is: Cut up one and one-half pounds of cheap beef; pepper, salt and flour the beef and brown it in a saucepan with two tablespoonsful of dripping. Place the beef in a saucepan with one quart of boiling water, a small onion, one medium-sized turnip, one small carrot and three potatoes. Simmer three hours.—*Boston Journal.*

PUZZLES NO. 8.

WORD-SQUARE.

1. Idle talk. 2. A root. 3. A proverb. 4. A beast of prey. 5. To use strength.

METAGRAMS.

Complete, I am a woman—change my head, and I become not wild; again, and I have gained celebrity; again, and I am identical; again, and I am a play; once more, and I am an appellation.

PIED RIVERS.

1. Enli. 2. Wceentsecla. 3. Ispisimsps. 4. Isorusmi. 5. Hooi. 6. Knsyatiagen. 7. Goonhah. 8. Uendab. 9. Anozim. 10. Loagyv.

HOOR-GLASS.

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1. In the form of gas. 2. To despatch. 3. Duration. 4. In snail. 5. To incline. 6. A sweet substance. 7. Imprisonment. The centals, spelled downward, give a country in Europe.

BEHEADINGS.

1. Behead to let fall in drops, and leave to cut open. 2. Behead a low cart on wheels, and leave a streak of light. 3. Behead an animal, and leave a preparation. 4. Behead the American century-plant, and leave to give. 5. Behead a drinking-vessel, and leave a proposition.

DROP VOWEL BIBLE VERSE.

F—r n—t, l—ll—fl—ck; f—r—t—s y—r
F—th—r's g—d pl—s—r—t—g—v—y—
th—k—ng—m.

When sending answer, give chapter and verse.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES No. 6.

SCRIPTURE EXERCISE.—

S amson.
P haraoh.
I saac.
R amah.
I sniah.
T arshish.—Spirit.

WHO IS HE?—Time.

DROP-VOWEL VERSE.—

Let us then be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.

DIAMOND.—

F
A R E
F R A N K
E N D
K

ENIGMA.—Tomatoes. Called "love apples" when first known.

PRIZES FOR PUZZLES.

We offer this month to our readers two prizes for original charades. For the best original charade we will send any one book of the "Pansy" or "Elsie" series, in a pretty cloth binding. For the second best original charade we offer the game of "Trades" or any one book of the "Pansy" series in paper cover. We are very desirous that all our readers should take part in this competition, and we expect to receive many good puzzles to publish. All answers should be posted not later than four weeks from date of this paper. Write on one side of paper only, and give clearly in upper right-hand corner of first page name and address in full of sender.

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