

Very Nice Indeed

For one to pride himself that he has on an overcoat for which he paid \$12.00 or \$15.00—fits well, looks nice and all that—but how much nicer and more comfortable it is to get just such a one, and even better, and have \$2.00 or \$3.00 saved!

How So?

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A PHYSICAL TEST.

How to Tell if Your Joints Are Limber and Your Muscles Firm.
Are your joints limber? Are your muscles firm and well under control? Here is a simple test which answers both the above questions for you and which is perfectly harmless:
Grasp your right ankle in your right hand and, standing on your left leg,



THE POSITION FOR THE TEST.

bend it until your right knee touches the floor. Then rise slowly to a standing position again.
You must keep your left arm extended all this time and must touch nothing with your left hand. You must not allow your right foot to touch the floor nor let go of your ankle with your right hand. If you can do this you are in pretty good condition, and if you cannot do it at first a little practice will make you supple enough to conquer it.

A DOLL'S HOUSE.

How to Make a Pretty Toy Out of a Wooden Box.

A fascinating doll house that was a wooden box a month ago is about three feet long and one and one-half feet wide. It cost a quarter of a dollar. The lid was put on hinges, and when the box is stood upon and it forms the door or side of the house that can be set wide open. Two shelves are fitted in for floors, and four holes are cut for windows on each floor. These are filled in with window glass found about the house. The outside of the house is painted a warm yellow, with white around the windows. The walls are covered with old blue cartridge paper, with a frieze of pale yellow roses and olive pattern on the second story. The wall paper was found in the house, too, but books and samples are often given away by dealers in wall paper. If paper is not to be had without an outlay, cover the walls with pale tinted alabaster or cambric, with a little frill at the top. Fasten to the wall with tacks. Then add little curtains of lace or cheesecloth and make rugs or carpets of bits of old carpet or heavy cloth. A piece of plush of olive or cardinal, with a wide border of another dark color, would make a rich looking carpet.

Birds Are Mathematicians.

The English naturalist, Morris Gibbs, devoted years of study to birds' nests, their formation and their contents, and asserts that birds lay their eggs in accordance with geometrical lines, so that every inch of space is used to the greatest possible advantage. Birds which lay many eggs arrange them in circles, the pointed ends turned toward the inside. Others whose eggs are elliptical shaped place them in longitudinal rows. If an egg is moved out of its original position by an intruder it will be found on the following morning that the bird has returned it to its first position. Among the numerous and often difficult cases which Gibbs made a matter of study not one was found that would not do credit to a mathematician.

A Curious Mexican Tree.

In Mexico there is a curious tree called the maguay which furnishes a needle and thread all ready for use. A thorn grows on the tip of each green leaf of the tree that just before using must be carefully drawn from its sheath. In getting out this slender thorn a thread slowly unwinds of a strong fiber which may be pulled out to a considerable length. Imagine how convenient it would be if a boy got a hole in his trousers or a girl tore her dress on a prickly bush growing by the roadside to reach up and find a needle and thread all ready to repair the damage!

So Simple!

Whiskers, four-year-old Birdie's little dog, had been following the older children to school, and he kept up the practice in spite of their various methods of punishment. One evening when the children came home, with the dog following them, Birdie looked up and said seriously:

"Why don't you walk backward to school, and then he can't follow you?"

Baking Day.

On Saturdays we always bake Biscuits and tarts and jelly cake, Or else a pudding rich and good, Or pies and other kinds of food.

I help mamma with right good will And make believe my stove is all With wood and paper laid just so To bake my tins all filled with dough.

It matters not how hard I try, My dough turns black, I wonder why. But when papa comes home, you see, I have my table set for tea.

He says that everything is "prime" And helps himself a second time. But, do you know, I half believe He slips the pieces up his sleeve!

THE MOUTH AND LIPS.

Disfigurements Which Every Woman May Remedy For Herself.

There are several slight disfigurements of the mouth which every woman may remedy for herself if she will. Those who use preparations to whiten the skin and who at the same time wish to prevent the growth of superfluous hair will omit to apply the preparation in the vicinity of the lips. Presently, however, they will notice that this omission makes a dark shade around the mouth. For such a mark a fresh lemon squeezed into a small quantity of glycerin and applied around the mouth will prove efficient.

Unfortunately too many women complain of a growth of hair on their mouths, which is fatal to beauty from the American standpoint. It is pleasant to know that electrolysis has been brought to such perfection and can now be performed so cheaply that it is within the reach of most women. Moles, too, in the vicinity of the mouth may be removed without pain by the electric needle.

Glycerin is very useful as a lip salve, counteracting either winter chapping or summer dryness. As a rule the lips receive too little cleansing, in so far as when washing one instinctively purses them together to exclude the entrance of soapsuds and also because they are naturally too tender to receive much friction with the towel. As a result dryness and splitting of the surface of the lips, which are so unbecoming, are really natural efforts of the lips to get rid of effete skin, even as all over the body dead skin peels away at intervals. Glycerin rubbed into the lips until its stickiness be absorbed is under such circumstances an excellent remedy.—American Queen.

COMMON BROWN SOAP.

A Few of the Many Uses to Which It May Be Put.

Do not turn up your nose at a bar of ordinary brown soap. It may not be ornamental, but to the initiated its uses are legion. Here are a few of the things it will do:

When nails are to be driven into a board or into wood or furniture where it is feared that they may split the wood first lay them in soapy water or pound them into a bar of soap and then drive them into the wood. If this is done they will never split the wood. Carpenters and makers of handmade furniture always keep a piece of yellow soap in their tool boxes for this purpose and reason.

Soap shavings or a small lump of yellow soap tucks into a mouse hole will prevent the reappearance of the mouse most effectually.

Chance stains on carpets and rugs may be removed in the easiest and best way by scrubbing with a small stiff brush which has been rubbed over a piece of soap, the spot being rinsed and wiped in clear water immediately. A little soap mixed with stove blacking will produce a better shine with less work and a luster that will last for a long time.

Plated silverware can be cleansed by allowing it to stand for a few hours—three or four—in hot water in which a handful of borax has been dissolved and one-fourth of a bar of common yellow soap has been cut up and melted. Solid silver can also be cleaned in this way, which is not laborious and does not wear off the plate like the ordinary rubbing usually given silver that is being cleaned.

THE CHILDREN.

Fresh butter, unsalted, if eaten freely will cure a child of summer complaint.

The childhood that has not known the friendship and companionship of flowers is a defrauded one.

A white silk covered dress shield under the baby's fancy bib is a sure protection not only to the dress, but the underclothing.

A sandwich dear to childhood is simply bread, butter and sugar, with a liberal sprinkling of powdered cinnamon. Try this for the school lunch basket.

The children who are properly dressed and sent out of doors to play in all weather have rosy cheeks, bright eyes and a look of genuine health. They are different from the pallid little house plants upon whom the fresh air is never allowed to blow.

Matrimonial Chances.

The suggestion of an English periodical that mothers with daughters of a marriageable age should select as places of residence those spots which are known to possess a surplus of eligible bachelors sounds humorous, but is it? Since women persist in wanting to get married, and even the suffragists allow that every woman has a right to expect to get married at some period of her life, why is it not the part of commendable prudence and nothing derogatory to a girl's character to eschew the places where social conditions are most contrary to the fulfillment of her hopes and seek those where conditions are most propitious?—New York Tribune.

The Kitchen Floor.

In furnishing a house it is no extravagance to cover the kitchen floor with the best quality of linoleum, costing about \$1.25 the square yard. There is practically no wear out to this floor covering; it is easily cleaned, offering no harbor for dust or insects. Linoleum is made of cork, ground in oil, and subjected to great pressure. Very good qualities are now made in this country, and the American designs are often very artistic. The patterns are not merely printed on the outside, as in the case of oilcloths, but go clear through the fabric. Thus they endure until the linoleum is worn through.

HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNTS.

Just One Book and a Little Care Will Be a Great Aid.

Keeping accounts is as worth while to the woman who is trying hard to get along on "next to nothing" as to the woman who, like the westerner, seems penniless.

Not accounting as business men keep them, with a wearisome amount of detail and "posting" from book to book until the matter of finding out where you actually stand financially becomes a hopeless task, but simple ways, with no secret, baffling methods of doing what no self respecting figures should do—seeming, if not actually doing it, to lie.

Have just one book—rather thick—that will do for everything. Turn the front part into a cash account. Open the book out flat. Write down your allowance or whatever money you get on the left hand page. Write down on the right hand page what you've paid the butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker—everything, even to a postage stamp.

Then, as often as you've time, once a week anyway, whether your allowance is weekly, monthly or daily, balance. And balancing is nothing harder than subtracting the total of the money you've spent from the total of the money you've received. The difference is what you should have in cash.

That is the only book you need if everything you buy is paid for as you get it. If you have accounts, keep a record in the back of your book of each man from whom you buy and make for yourself an unbreakable rule to put down everything you order from him as soon as it comes home. Then, when you compare your bills with your book, if there should be discrepancies, if it comes out a difference of dollars or cents, there's been some error on the part of the man who's sold you goods, and it is easy to straighten out. That protects you against errors and results in an actual saving of money.—Exchange.

PRETTY BOX CHAIR.

One That May Be Made at Home With but Little Outlay.

The box chair shown in the accompanying illustration can be easily made at home from a box, two square sticks for the uprights and a board back, over which leather or fabric can be drawn and nailed. The under part can be used for books or papers. The back and seat should be padded, then covered with leather or fabric. If leather is used the ornament on the back can be drawn on with a hot point or tinted and painted with thin oil paints. If the covering is of denim the wreath



USEFUL HOMEMADE CHAIR.

and ribbons may be embroidered with linen floss or cut from other fabrics of a different color, then applied.

The drapery may be of some thing goods that will hang well, and to be effective it must be gathered and tacked around the top edge of the box, over which a band of leather or gimp is stretched and nailed in place with large headed upholsterers' tacks about three-fourths of an inch in diameter. The back covering is secured with the large headed tacks also, which would look well if treated to a coat of the black preparation. Arms may be added to a chair of this design by inserting two upright sticks and arranging arms to cap them and extend back to the rear uprights, as shown in Fig. 2.—Woman's Home Companion.

Take Things Quietly.

Every one has a welcome for the person who has good sense to take things quietly. The person who can go without her dinner and not advertise the fact, who can lose her purse and keep her temper, who makes light of a heavy weight and can wear a shoe that pinches without any one being the wiser, who does not magnify the splinter in her finger into a stick of timber nor the mote in her neighbor's eye into a beam, who swallows bitter words without leaving the taste in other people's mouths, who can give up her own way without giving up the ghost, who can have a thorn in the flesh and yet not prick all her friends with it—such a one surely carries a passport into the good graces of mankind.

Betty's Jumbles.

The following recipe is quite famous in a Pennsylvania town, where an old negro cook makes what are known and delighted in as "Betty's jumbles." They are made with one pound each of butter and sugar, two pounds of flour, three eggs, nine teaspoonfuls of orange juice, three teaspoonfuls of baking powder and salt to taste. Handle lightly, roll rather thin and sprinkle with granulated sugar before baking in a quick oven. They will keep—if locked up—for several months.—Harper's Bazar.

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