

penetrating, has a small built-in cabinet between her kitchen and dining-room. She keeps only the dishes she uses at each meal in this cabinet and says she doesn't see how she ever did without it.

I have never possessed a zinc top for my kitchen table, but long for one. I know it would be sanitary and scrubbed with hot water would make the finest of kneading or rolling boards on baking days.

Don't think it lazy to study the easiest way to properly accomplish any task.

No one should expend all her energy in preparing food. She must remember that the kitchen work, the house cleaning and even the sewing are but the mechanical work of the household and make or mar the home-life that is built upon this foundation.

Perfect house-keeping means order and not confusion. Home should be a quiet place where the tired ones may rest and where all may enjoy themselves and forget the day's trials.

Your family should be trained to each contribute his "share of effort" toward the smooth running of the household machinery which should ever run quietly, efficiently and unobtrusively.

There are many phases of house-keeping that are like washing your face. No one remarks if the duty is performed, but all loudly protest if it be omitted.

A "LABOR-SAVING" WAY OF WASHING.

(Two-Dollar Prize Letter.)

A QUICKER and easier method of washing clothes than the common back-breaking, time-wasting way of rub, rub, rubbing till dirt is out, before putting clothes in the pot to boil, could be practiced in every family where some of the members have that ever-recurring drudgery to perform.

I don't like to wash and have tried all kinds of ways and receipts. The most satisfactory, least expensive, and only thing, in my opinion, that does the work and makes clothes last longer instead of being injured by the use thereof, is simply the proper combination of kerosene oil, turpentine and a good reliable laundry soap. If a few rules are observed, and the ingredients measured carefully, instead of merely "guessed" at, there will never be a failure of this compound to cleanse the clothes and leave them with a fresh, "clean" smell.

One cake of any good soap, four ounces of kerosene and two ounces of turpentine will be found sufficient for any ordinary washing. A bottle for measuring with marks made in the glass can be had at any drug store.

The soap must be cut or shaved up, put in the wash pot and thoroughly dissolved and water boiling hard, before adding kerosene and turpentine; then all must boil a few minutes before putting in clothes or there may be a disagreeable, greasy scum on the rinsing water. Now instead of that everlasting rubbing, just wet the clothes thoroughly (or better still, put in soap the night before) and throw them in pot. I have had washerwomen look at me with horror and dismay and tell me that I would boil the dirt "in" so that it could never be gotten out. But in 20 minutes of hard boiling the clothes will be ready to rinse and blue.

I had a clothes wire stretched from one tree to another and I had the washpot placed directly under this wire, so when clothes have boiled long enough, I lift and sling them across the wire, where they cool sufficiently to handle, and compound water drains back in pot

"THERE'S NO LOVE LIKE THE OLD LOVE."



THERE'S no friend like the old friend,
Who has shared our morning days;
No greeting like his welcome,
No homage like his praise!
Fame is the scentless sunflower,
With gaudy crown of gold;
But friendship is the breathing rose,
With sweets in every fold.

There's no love like the old love,
That we courted in our pride;
Though our leaves are falling, falling,
And we're fading side by side.
There are blossoms all around us,
With the colors of our dawn,
And we live in borrowed sunshine
When the light of day is gone!
—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

while the next batch of clothes is being wet ready to throw in pot. With the use of a clothes-wringer, no woman need dread even the washing of overalls and hickory shirts any longer. Care must be taken not to pack too many clothes in pot at once, as compound must have room to get to all parts alike.

I know a family of 10 children where the washing was done regularly by two of the boys—aged eight and 12 years—the mother only measuring the compound, sorting the clothes and seeing to it that the pot boiled as it should, while those boys rinsed the clothes in a washing machine and took turns about turning the wringer. MRS. M. L. F. Seneca, S. C.

Don't Neglect the Flowers.

THERE should be a flower garden on every farm if it is to really look like a home. Not necessarily those varieties that require great care. I particularly admire those that once installed continue to improve by age even if entirely neglected, though, of course, some attention brings an additional reward of blooms and growth. An example of a let-alone garden came to my attention last summer when after an absence of some years I drove past a house where I had visited when a child, and I recalled the dear old lady's flower garden in the rear. She had passed to the life beyond long ago and for fully 10 years the house had stood vacant. I went into the back yard and there was a bed of bleeding-heart fully 20 feet square and loaded with blossoms, one of the prettiest sights that I ever saw. Sweet Williams will bloom all summer and spread rapidly; a bunch of golden-glow is always a delightful bit of color, and the improved double hollyhocks will screen any unsightly object.

Not only for their beauty should the house-mother attempt flower-raising, but as a matter of education for her children. It is really surprising how many people recognize not more than half a dozen annuals by name. We make it a custom to plant one or two kinds of the less well-known varieties each spring, just to get acquainted.

My childhood was spent on a farm, and on our two city lots we have a garden that any farmer might envy. My four children know the habits and methods of using all of the common vegetables and one of them thought she never heard anything so funny as when a schoolmate wrote in her "composition" at school and read from the platform: "And over the back fence was a beautiful vine on which grew large round cabbages."

Growing up on intimate terms with all fruits and vegetables and flowers is an unconscious acquiring

of knowledge that will often be useful in the years to come, no matter what place in the world one may be called upon to fill.

MRS. CHARLES A. SMITH.
Denver, Colo.

How to Root Cuttings.

THERE is no reason why every farm home should not have a beautiful rose garden, as cuttings are so easily rooted and any one who has rose bushes is glad to give away cuttings. Dig up a bed of earth in a partially shaded part of the yard, mix a quantity of coarse sand with the loosened earth and set the cuttings about three inches in the ground. Pour in enough water to make mud and draw dry dirt well around the slips, pressing it down firmly. In case of a very dry spell of weather, water the bed occasionally, and nearly all of the cuttings will take root. The plants can be removed the following spring to where they are intended to grow.

There are some varieties that are difficult to root from cuttings, such as Marechal Niel and American Beauty. These, too, can be grown from cuttings if a glass fruit jar or a wide-mouthed bottle is turned over the slips when planted.

Other shrubs, as the famous southern flower, the cape jessamine, and hydrangeas can be rooted the same way. Cape jessamines will root from slips any time of the year provided they are given shade and moisture. The pink hydrangea, on account of its elaborate showiness when in bloom, is a most desirable shrub, and one can root as many as 50 plants in a season from one large bush. During winter and spring is the best time to root cuttings, but some can be rooted in summer. MRS. C. H. RUST. Pelican, La.

Be Careful What the Children Eat.

I just want to say to Mrs. Gathin she expresses my theories so exactly in regard to treating a cold I would like to shake hands with her.

I was brought up on the theory, "stuff a cold and starve a fever," and am living in the house now with parties who still stick to it. They laugh at me when I say eating—or over-eating—causes a cold. But when these same parties have colds several times during the winter, and I rarely ever have one, and when I do, can cure it without physic if I will only practice a little self-denial in the eating line, why I am thoroughly convinced that my theory must be right.

We have one little girl four years old, who is very healthy and hardly ever has a cold, but I am ridiculed because I insist on her eating a plain diet.

(Continued on page 34.)

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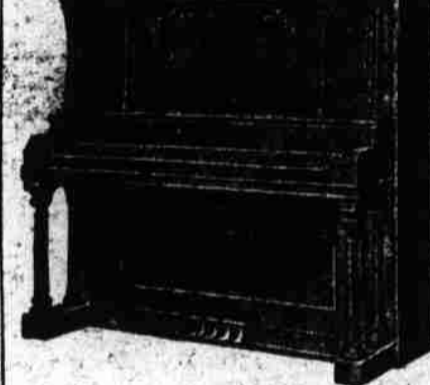


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