Hints for Busy Housekeepers.

Recipes and Other Valuable Information of Particular Interest to Women Folks.

CAKE.

Crumb Cake.—Two and one-half cupfuls of flour, one and one-half cupfuls of sugar, one-half cupful of butter and lard (mixed), one-fourth teaspoonful of salt, cloves, nutmeg, and cinnamon. Use hand and mix the same as pie crust. When well mixed take out scant half cupful of the crumbs, then add two well beaten eggs, one cupful of sour milk, one scant teaspoonful of soda Beat well. Put in deep, square pan and sprinkle crumbs on top. Bake slowly.

Hickory Nut Cake.—One pound of butter, one and one-half pounds of "A" sugar, ten eggs (whole, added one at a time), one pound of sifted flour, one and one-half pounds of seeded raisins, one-fourth pound of citron, one pound of shelled hickory nuts, one grated nutmeg, one-half glass of good whisky.

Prune Cake.—Cream one tablespoonful of butter with four tablespoonfuls of sugar; add grated rind of lemon, one egg beaten lightly, mix all together. Add a cupful of sifted flour, a teaspoonful of baking powder (not full), sift again. Add one-quarter cupful of milk, just to thin. Place dough in pan and on top place lightly prunes which have been pitted and cooked. It usually takes one pound of prunes for one large layer. Whipped cream on top of same makes it delicious. But it can be eaten without.

Nut Cake.—Cream one cupful of granulated sugar with one-half cupful of butter, then stir in the well beaten yolks of three eggs and one-fourth cupful of milk. Have sifted together one and one-half cupfuls of flour with one-half teaspoonful of baking soda and two level teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, and add to the other ingredients, then flavor with one teaspoonful of lemon extract or the grated rind of one lemon, then stir in one cup of cocoanut and one-half cupful of sliced citron; last stir in the beaten whites of two eggs. Bake in moderate oven. Icing—Boil one cupful of sugar and one-half cupful of water till it forms a soft ball when dropped in cold water; while hot gradually pour over the beaten white of an egg, add one-half teaspoonful of vanilla and one cupful of cocoanut. Spread on cake.

German Cherry Cake.—As prepared by a German chef: Three cupfuls of red sour cherries (canned), one cupful of flour, six tablespoonfuls of sugar, the yolks of two eggs, one-quarter of a cupful of milk, one tablespoonful of butter, one-half teaspoonful of baking powder and one-quarter of a teapsoonful of salt (all level measures are used). Sift the flour, salt, and baking powder and two teaspoonfuls of the sugar into a bowl, then rub in the butter. Beat the yolks of the eggs, add to them the milk and quickly mix the liquid through the flour. Shape with the hand, into a greased pan, one-eighth of an inch thick. Drain cherries, spread them over the dough and sprinkle over them the remaining sugar. Bake twenty minutes, in a brisk oven. Sauce: To the strained cherry juice, add one cupful of sugar, two level tablespoonfuls of flour, a pinch of salt, one level teaspoonful of butter. Cook eight minutes and serve.

CHICKEN RECIPES.

Chicken Biscuit—There is more taste in a yearling hen than in a chicken, but many people prefer the latter. In any case, only a fat hen or chicken should be used, as a thin chicken is almost tasteless. If a rich gravy is not liked a part of the fat may be removed before cooking. The chicken should be cleaned, unjointed, and placed over the fire with water to cover. It should be skimmed. Add more water from time to time, cook until tender, season with salt and pepper while it is cooking. One hour before the chicken is to be served make a rich biscuit dough as follows: Take one quart sifted flour, three teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one-half teaspoonful of salt, and sift again. Work in one heaping tablespoonful of lard. Moisten with sweet milk. Roll out into a sheet one inch thick and cut with a biscuit cutter. Bake in a moderately hot oven until a golden brown. Thicken the chicken gravy, break the hot biscuits into halves, and drop them in to remain for two minutes, and serve with the chicken in a large tureen.

Chicken Mousse.—One tablespoonful of gelatine, one-quarter cupful cold chicken stock, three-quarters cupful hot chicken stock, highly seasoned, one cupful of heavy cream, one cupful of cold cooked chicken, cut in small pieces, salt and pepper. Soak gelatine in cold stock, dissolve in hot stock and strain. When mixture begins to thicken beat, using an egg-beater, until frothy, then add cream, beaten stiff, and chicken. Add more salt and pepper if necessary. Turn into baking powder or cocoa cans, first dipped in cold water, then chill. When ready to serve, turn mousse from molds, cut in one inch slices and arrange on lettuce leaves. Serve with mayonnaise dressing. If a more elaborate dish is liked, surround with chopped celery and salted nuts, mixed with a mayonnaise dressing. This is particularly fine.

THE SEWIN GROOM.

Old Ticking.—If you have a discarded mattress ticking rip it apart, cut and sew as for carpet rags, and have woven with white warp. Have a border at each end of plain rags to match.

To Darn Matting.—If matting is worn in the center it may be darned to look as good as new by threading a darning needle with raffia and darning it as you would a stocking. If the worn part is on the edge buttonhole stitch the last row as a border and it will not fray. If raffia is not fine enough split it to suit. Raffia comes in about three colors—natural, red, and blue. Natural colored raffia is about the same color as matting and is cheap.

Pressing Form.—A good form for pressing waists, coats, and hips of skirts—Get a sawdust ham from meat market, cover with outing flannel. It gives the round curve required.

Curtain Help.—When making a curtain to hang up to a cupboard or wardrobe stitch a piece of tape or goods of same across the wrong side of the gathers and let end of tape extend out at each end of curtain and run through a small brass ring and sew. Your curtain is always ready to hang up when laundered and saves time and bother of stopping to insert a string or wire.

Skirt Braid.—An easy way to put on a new skirt braid is to insert a piece of thin cardboard (an old calling card is best to use) in the hem of the skirt and run it along as you sew on the braid. This will help you to work quickly and prevent the stitches from showing on the outside of the hem.

Wall Pockets.—Take a large piece of strong material to fit a suitable space on the wall near the sewing machine or elsewhere and there on sew a series of gathered pockets of large and small sizes to suit different needs such as for darning materials, patterns, darning to be done and odd materials for mending Tack this against the wall and it will always be handy and things be in place and out of the way. Use gathered pockets because they hold more and will not tear as a straight pocket would.

Darning.—Before wearing, carefully weave heels and toes of new stockings as if a hole were there and reinforce any weak places. You will be surprised at the amount of wear you get out of those hose. Boys' stockings will wear again as long if you will sew a tuck at ankle before wearing. When knee shows signs of wear, rip out the tuck and worn part is raised high enough to come under trousers. Wash new stockings before wearing and they will last longer. You can easily darn a large hole if you baste a piece of netting over it, weaving back and forth through the meshes, then up and down. When finished draw out threads of netting. Work will not pucker.

FOR HUSBANDS AND WIVES.

If you want to have a happy home you must act according to these rules:—

Learn to govern yourself.

Do not expect angelic qualities in your helpmate.

Beware of the first disagreement.

Also of meddlers and tale bearers.

Never retort in anger. It is the answer which usually begins the quarrel.

Avoid moods and pets and fits of sulkiness.

Never conceive a bad motive if a good one be possible.

When the opportunity occurs for kind speeches, make them.

Do not neglect duties which affect the comfort of others.

Speech is excellent, but silence is sometimes more valuable.

Be gentle but firm with children. Do not furnish them with too much pocket money; make them understand the value of a quarter. Do not say anything in their presence which you do not wish repeated. Beware of correcting them in an angry petulant manner. Never allow them to stay away from home over-night without knowing where they are.

CLEANING.

Rugs.—Take a stiff scrubbing brush and brush rugs as you would a piece of cloth. This can be done on the floor and will take out practically all the dirt and will make much less dust than the broom. It will also save the rug many a hard beating, thus lengthening its usefulness.

Gloves.—To clean white kid gloves, take two bowls of gasoline and in a small portion in one put in enough flour to make a thin paste, then put gloves on the hands and wash, of course rubbing the badly soiled places most. When they are clean, put in the bowl of clear gasoline and wash out and dry. All flour that might remain can be brushed off when dry. Try this, do not use where there is gas or a fire.

Fine Lace.—Make a soft, wet paste of gasoline and flour. Rub the lace in this paste gently until dry. Shake and it will be like new. Press after exposure to the air. Also fine for kid gloves, silk and net waists in light colors. If spotted, use little borax in paste. They will keep clean much longer than when gasoline alone is used.

COCKATOO 112 YEARS OLD.

Was Owned for Eighty Years by One Master.

Cockatoos are well known to live to patriarchal age, and probably the oldest bird in the world whose age can be traced with certainty flourishes in a well known hostelry at Tom Ugly's Point, near Sydney, New South Wales.

When he had feathers enough to distinguish his species he was recognizable as a lemon crested cockatoo, but as he has been "under bare poles" for half a century, a few living people can remember when he had more covering than he shows at present.

He was owned for eighty years by Capt. George Ellis, a well known master mariner of Sydney, who died at the Solomon Islands in 1887, aged 89. The bird was presented to the captain, when the latter was 9 years of age, and he was then informed that Cocky was just the same age.

The bird was left as a legacy to Mrs. Bennett of Sidney, but she did not get him until 1891. Since that period, says the Wide World Magazine, the bird has lived at George's River, within sight of where Capt. Cook landed, and where "the first fleet" anchored about the year of his birth.

He has never been in better feather for the last twenty years than at present, and the few tattered fluffs that he wears are white as snow. None of his faculties is weakened, and he is as loquacious as youngsters of his tribe who may be a hundred years younger. In hilarious moments he will flap his stumps—you could not call them wings—and yell, "I'll fly, I'll fly! By gee, I'll fly!" a palpably mendacious statement.

His beak is fully four inches long, but he can pick up and crack his favorite maize as easily as ever. Mrs. Bennett has besides three pieces of beak—cut off when it grew too long—each about two inches in length. Cocky is known to thousands of Australians and globe trotters, and at his levees will chat freely with anybody. Among his recent visitors were Lord and Lady Northcote, Sir Harry Rewson and Miss Rawson, who were delighted with the ancient bird.

WORTHY OF NOTE.

Boldly ventured is half won.

To be happy, you must forget yourself.

Whatever else you do with a worry, don't pass it on.

Benevolence is the only cure for a morbid temper.

Don't hold your head so high that you can't see where your feet are going.

No quarrelsome man ever made a success of any important or worthy undertaking.

SYMPATHY.

"I feel sorry for Squinchley."

"What's the matter with him?"

"Chronic insomnia."

"So do I feel sorry for him, if he's as disagreeable company for himself at night as he is for other people in the daytime."

WILL IT BE A LAP BEHIND?

We're hopeful that
'Tween now and coming spring
The ancient gap
Will not be filled
By winter's lingering
in that old lap.

MAY YET WIN OUT.

The United States America Naval Affairs Committee may give Peary a chance to beat Cook to the Ananias Club.

HIS RANGE.

"At what is Piker working now?"

"At anybody he can do."

"But what does he do?"

"Anybody he can work."

"I notice, Edward," said a lady to her husband, "that whenever your employers advertise for clerks or salesmen they stipulate 'must be married.'" "Yes, the old tyrants," asserted Edward, "they want men who are accustomed to being ordered about!"

HOW BIRDS FLY.

Rapidity of Wing Movement—Putting on the Brakes.

Birds have different modes of flight, just as men have different gaits in walking or running. Rapid wing movement does not always imply speed in flight any more than rapid leg movement implies speed in walking or running. With us it is the length of the stride that tells ultimately. What, apart from wing movement, tells in the flight of the bird is not known, says the Scotsman.

Speaking broadly, long winged birds are strong and swift fliers; short winged birds are feeble in flight. When we consider that a cumbrous, slow moving bird like the heron moves its wings twice per second when in flight it is evident that many birds have a very rapid wing movement. Most small birds have this rapid wing movement with feeble powers of flight; the common wren and the dipper for instance, have a flight like that of a young bird.

Many of our smaller migrants seem but to flit from bush to bush or from tree to tree. Members of the thrush family are low fliers, the blackbird in particular, with its hasty, hurried flight often just avoiding fences and no more. Wagtails have a beautiful undulating flight with little apparent use of their wings. They look like greyhounds bounding through the air. Nearly all birds sail or float occasionally without the slightest movement of their wings. Even a large bird like a pheasant will glide in this way for more than two hundred yards.

Grouse have a rapid wing motion without any great speed, but when they sail, coming down with the wind, as they prefer to do, they go very fast. Before alighting they flap their wings several times very rapidly, like the clapping of hands. Most birds after gliding do this. Does it correspond to putting on the brakes or reversing the engine in the case of mechanical locomotion? With little apparent use of its wings the wood pigeon flies very strongly and rapidly. It never seems to "bring up" much before alighting, but crashes into a tree at full speed. When it rises its wings crack like pistol shots.

Ducks are strong on the wing and often fly in single file. Geese will fly wedge or arrowhead shape, generally at a considerable height. So do many gulls and other sea birds, in a stately, measured fashion, their calls occasionally sounding like "Left, right, left, right."

Kestrels have a beautiful, clean cut, clipping motion of their wings and look like yachts sailing through the air, while their hovering in the air is one of the mysteries of bird life. Peesweeps, which are so graceful in their motion on the ground, look like enormous bats when in flight. Swallows, and in a very marked degree swifts, have rapid wing movement with great speed and extraordinary power of flight.

FARM NOTES.

It has been shown by experiments that the careful preparation of the seedbed by early plowing and sufficient surface cultivation so as to pulverize and settle the soil results in largely increased yields. It behooves every dairyman this spring to do better by his herd of cows than he has ever done before. He should look forward as though he saw before him a season of low prices, for one can never depend very far ahead upon the market value of milk and butter. He should remember that by his own energy he can successfully combat the effects of a low dairy market by increasing his production.

Where we find the largest use of agricultural implements we find the greatest prosperity among farmers, and the least discontent and dissatisfaction among farm laborers. And in the districts where they are least used there are debt and destitution, and unprogressive conditions generally—the lowest wages, the lowest scale of living, discomfort and unthrift. It is certainly an advantage to laborer as to landowner, and whether either likes it or not, it is inevitable, and those who will not use it must go to the wall.

The Illinois experiment station has made a number of experiments to determine the amount of dirt that falls from a cow's udder and flanks in the process of milking. It was found that 4½ minutes is the average time consumed in milking a cow. A glazed dish, equal in size to a pail, was held under a cow's udder 4½ minutes, while motions similar to those in milking were made. The dirt caught in the dish was brushed into a tube and weighed. Similar experiments were made with cows whose udder and flanks had been washed, when it was found that 3½ times as much dirt fell from unwashed, but apparently clean udder, as from those that had been washed, while from soiled and muddy udders the product ran from 22 to 24 times as much as from clean ones.

A smooth man generally makes his rough for the other fellow.

OUR RELIGIOUS OBLIGATIONS

This Is a Season for Meditation and Appraisement.

This is a season widely regarded as an appropriate time for exercising the spirit of self-denial, devotion, meditation and prayer.

What is the message such a season brings to us? What is the voice to which we should give heed? I think it is not so much the call of the public weal as the call of the individual life, the voice of our better angel in the soul.

This should be a sifting time, a time when we should thoughtfully consider our own religious obligations, our own personal relation to God, the infinite source of wisdom, strength and power.

THERE IS A DANGER.

No man is living up to the best there is in him who does not welcome the thought of self-examination and appraisement. To many this season means the acceptable time for this purpose. In these days of feverish excitement there is certainly danger of neglecting the development of our inner, spiritual life and fostering a mistaken idea of the true relationship between man and his Maker. We should try to live in such a state of intense desire and longing toward the Infinite Father as to readily respond to His will, making ourselves available to Him as mediums for carrying out His purpose in the world. This we can do to the extent of and in proportion to our spiritual development. Meditation is essential to this spiritual progress.

This is not a time for discouragement because of the fact that so many people are led away from the higher purpose of their life by the allurements which beset their path. It is more especially a time for personal scrutiny; a time for considering where we personally stand rather than the wants and necessities of the multitude. And, in any case, the way to uplift the body politic is to

UPLIFT THE INDIVIDUAL.

The call, then, is to a higher standard of individual living. There are reminders on every hand that every one of us should live a greater life, greater at least in devotion to every force of human service.

The air is filled with voices saying: "This man is not doing what he ought to do." "The church is failing to fulfil its mission."

So loud and vibrant are these voices demanding investigation into the lives and methods of others that the still, small voice within us can scarcely be heard.

It then becomes almost a duty and most assuredly a privilege to secure by meditation and prayer the benefits of this season, because in the resultant quietude we hear the voice of the Great Teacher and feel that we have responded to his personal appeal, "What is that to thee? Follow thou Me."

REV. J. W. ROBERTS.

THE S. S. LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MAR. 27.

Easter Lesson. The Empty Tomb, Mark 16. 1.8. Golden Text, Rev. 1. 18.

Three months ago we heard the beautiful story of the first Christmas, when God sent his Son Jesus to our old earth to help others and to make them see the power and beauty of a good life marred by no stain of evil. We thought that was a wonderful story. Now for several weeks we have been studying some of the words Jesus spoke and the things he did during his ministry in Galilee. To-day, because it is Easter, we are to think of the gladness which followed the closing days of that helpful life.

Every junior boy and girl has heard over and over the sad, sad story of Cavalry. After Jesus had been crucified on that lonely hill a rich man called Joseph of Arimathaea asked Pilate to let him have the body, that he might give it burial in his own garden. He did this because he loved Jesus and wanted to do something to show his love and honor for his dear friend. Pilate consented, and after the body had been wrapped in fair white linen, perfumed with fragrant spices, it was laid to rest in the quiet garden. A stone and seal were placed against the door, and at the request of some of the Jews a guard of Roman soldiers was set to watch the tomb the next night.

Later in the year we shall study many of the comforting words Jesus had spoken to his friends, telling them he would rise from the dead. They did not understand at all how that could be, so with heavy hearts they went about their work after his death, talking of the things he had said and done, and thinking how the light had gone from the sunshine and the music from the birds' songs, because their friend had gone away and they could see him no more.

That night, while the Roman soldiers were on guard, a shining angel came from heaven and rolled the great stone from the door of the tomb.

Very early the next morning, just as the gray dawn was breaking, some women came to the garden bringing spices to put about the body of Jesus. It was blossom time in Palestine, and I suppose the garden was full of flowers and fragrance, but the women did not notice either. Their hearts were full of sorrow, for Jesus had been very dear to them, and they grieved to think he had vanished from their lives. As they walked they wondered how they could ever roll the heavy stone from the rocky tomb.

When they came to the place of burial they looked at one another in amazement. "The stone is rolled away!" they said.

But a more wonderful thing than that had happened, for as they stooped down and looked into the tomb they saw it was empty. When they went into the little room, or cave, cut out of the rock, they found an angel sitting at the place where the body had been. The angel told them not to be afraid.

"You seek Jesus, who was crucified," he said. "He is not here. He is risen. You will find him in Galilee, where he will meet you and talk with you just as he used to do."

As the women went away from the tomb they met Jesus himself, and he gave them a message to take to his disciples.

What a wonderful Easter it was! what a wonderful Easter message it is! None of us can realize all it really means. Whenever we see a funeral procession passing along our streets, as we so often do, we should remember the Easter tidings. When one of our friends goes home to God's other world of infinite beauty we should remember that same message of hope and comfort. Jesus said, "Because I live, ye shall live also," and "He that liveth and believeth on me, shall never die."

While Christmas is a happy day, Easter is even sweeter and dearer, because it tells us of the life to come. But we should not keep the Easter gladness to ourselves. There are old people, sad people, tired people all around us longing for the cheer of that message. Perhaps there is some little child, too, who has never heard of the risen Savious. Shall we not try in some way to give them a glimpse of the Easter joy? Then our own Easter will be brighter and more joyful.

We have read of Christ's power to heal sickness, to calm the waves on the troubled sea, and to quiet the storms of passion in human hearts. The most marvelous power he possessed, however, was shown in his resurrection, in the conquest of death itself. John, the beloved disciple, repeating some of the words of Jesus, says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

"What's that about the cat family?"—Life.

We haven't the life of a dog these days, thank you.

Man—"Well, it's just this way. If I buy you a new coat, I'll have to wear my old one another season." Wife—"You sweet, generous thing, you."

A man should always bear in mind that at least six other men have their eyes on his opportunity.

Too many people gaze through the back window of discontent, while the front door of promise stands open.