Hints for Busy Housekeepers.

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

WITH CORN MEAL.

Corn Meal Dodgers.—Two cups ine white corn meal, one tablespoonful sugar, two eggs, one teaspoonful butter or lard, half teaspoonful salt, three tablespoonfuls rich milk, boiling water. Mix and sift corn meal, salt and sugar; add sufficient boiling water to wet the meal, but not to make it soft; add butter and milk; when cold add the yolks beaten very light; then cut and fold in the whites beaten stiff. The batter should drop readily from the spoon, but not thin enough to pour nor stiff enough to be scraped from the bowl. Shape in oval cakes, and lay in a hissing hot, well greased dripping pan, and bake in a very hot oven until brown and puffed; split, butter and serve with fried salt pork with cream sauce.

Rice Corn Cakes.—Three-fourths cup corn meal, one cup white flour, four teaspoonfuls baking powder, four tablespoonfuls sugar, one teaspoonful salt, one cup thin cream, two eggs, one tablespoonful melted butter. Mix and sift the dry ingredients, add cream slowly, beating continually, add melted butter and eggs beaten very light. Pour mixture into a shallow well buttered pan and bake 20 minutes in a hot oven.

Spider Corn Cake.—Three-fourths cup corn meal, fourth cup flour, two tablespoonfuls sugar, one teaspoonful salt, one teaspoonful soda, half cup sweet milk, one egg well beaten, half cup sour milk, two tablespoonfuls melted butter, half cup sweet milk. Sift together, corn meal, flour, sugar, salt and soda. Add half cup sweet milk and egg well beaten. Add sour milk and butter. Mix thoroughly and pour into well buttered hot spider. Pour half cup sweet milk carefully over the top of corn cake. Cook 10 minutes on top of range and 20 minutes in the oven.

Corn Meal Sponge Muffins.—Half cup corn meal, one cup scalded milk, one tablespoonful butter, half teaspoonful salt, four tablespoonfuls sugar, one-fourth cup flour, two tablespoonfuls baking powder, two eggs. Add corn meal to scalded milk, add butter and salt, let cook until thickened; cool; add sugar and eggs beaten very light, flour sifted with baking powder; beat 2 minutes. Pour into hot buttered iron gem cups and bake 20 minutes in hot oven.

"Pete's" Corn Meal Griddle Cakes.—Two cups corn meal, one cup flour, two eggs well beaten, one teaspoonful salt, one and a half teaspoonfuls soda, two and a half cups buttermilk or loppered milk. Mix and sift corn meal, flour and salt, add eggs, mix well. Dissolve soda in milk; add to first mixture. Beat thoroughly and fry at once. If allowed to stand too long mixture thickens; may be thinned by adding more milk. The sour milk must be rich. Buttermilk is best for this purpose.

Dainty Spoon Corn Cake.—One-fourth cup corn meal, one teaspoonful butter, two teaspoonfuls sugar, one-half teaspoonful salt, three eggs, two cups scalded milk. Stir meal into scalded milk, add salt and let cook until mixture is slightly thickened, add butter and sugar; add yolks beaten very lightly, lastly cut and fold in the whites of eggs beaten stiff. Pour into buttered pudding dish, bake thirty minutes in hot oven. Serve from baking dish with spoon.

Southern Spoon Corn Bread.—Pour two cups boiling water over one cup corn meal, cook five minutes, stirring continually. Add one tablespoonful butter, two eggs well beaten, one cup milk, one teaspoonful salt; beat thoroughly, pour into well greased baking dish and bake thirty-five minutes in hot oven. Serve from the dish in which it is baked.

CANDY.

Corn Taffy.—Take a 10 cent can of syrup, one cupful brown sugar, two tablespoonfuls vinegar, one tablespoonful butter; boil until it snaps in water. Pour on to a buttered platter and pull.

Vanilla Cream.—Break into a bowl the whites of one or more eggs, as the quantity you wish to make will require; add to it an equal quantity of cold water, then stir in powdered sugar until you have it stiff enough to mold into shape with the fingers. Flavor with vanilla to taste. After it is formed into balls, cubes, or lozenge shape, lay them upon plates or waxed paper and set them aside to dry. This cream can be worked in candies similar to the French cooked cream.

THE LAUNDRY.

To Whiten Linen.—Linen that has become yellow with age may be made beautifully white by boiling it in a lather made of one pound of white soap to one gallon of milk. After boiling rinse in two waters, add bluing to the last water.

Ironing Hint.—While ironing stand on a piece of old carpet or folded comfort and the feet will not get so tired.

Ironed Clothes.—Stretch a wire line across your clothes closets and across your kitchen; purchase a lot of coat hangers. On ironing day put the baby's freshly ironed petticoats on a coat hanger and a dress the same length over it, and hang it on the wire. In ironing grown folks' clothes do the same way, and push them along the wire out of your way. When through ironing remove and hang in your closets on the wire, which is a space saver and prevents rumpling, and you have a complete suit without hunting out the two garments. It also saves so many handlings of the clothes.

WORTH KNOWING.

Toast water is a soothing and healing drink during bronchitis.

Cheap cuts of meat can be served palatably in stews and croquettes.

After trimming, turn the wick of a lamp below the burner or the oil will ooze.

A sick room should never be made a thoroughfare or gathering place for the family.

Whenever the throat becomes irritated a gargle of salt water is most excellent.

Mud stains can be removed from black cloth by rubbing them with a raw potato.

One teaspoonful of lemon juice in a small cup of black coffee will help a bilious headache.

A boiled egg which is done and dries quickly on the shell when taken from the water is fresh.

Dried lemon peel sprinkled over coals will destroy any disagreeable odor about the house.

Paperhanger's paste is made by adding a teaspoonful of powdered alum to every pound of flour.

Matting may be cleaned with salt water, applied with a small brush. Rinse and dry thoroughly.

If the handle of the spoon used for basting meats and fowls be bent close to the bowl of the spoon it will "dip up" easily.

If you will bend the point of your paring knife you will find it much easier to remove eyes from potatoes, pineapples, etc.

If a little baking powder is sifted with the flour of which pie crust is made it will be more healthful and require less shortening.

Most efficient and serviceable dust cloths may be made from stockings that are no longer mendable by splitting and sewing together.

To remove a glass stopper which has become fixed in a bottle plunge the bottle into hot water for a short time. The glass will expand and release the stopper.

To make soup meat balls, put cooked soup meat, cold boiled potatoes and onions in the food chopper, add pepper and salt to taste, form into balls, press flat and fry brown.

Keep gelatine covered when you are soaking it for a sweet; a piece of glass makes an excellent cover, and quite prevents any dust or garms settling on this tempting surface.

In a convenient spot in the kitchen keep a box of new wood toothpicks for use in testing bread and cake when baking. The old way of using a broom straw is, to say the least, unsanitary.

When boiling something which boils over easily, place a stick of wood across the top of the vessel, and it simply can't boil over; try it and see. Exceptionally large vessels use two sticks.

If you object to the thick, hard crust on baked potatoes, put a dish of cold water in the oven when they are being baked. The moisture will do much toward keeping the skin of the potato soft.

Bathe chilblains in very hot water, as hot as can be borne, and rub well with paraffin and mustard, and they will soon disappear. This remedy has been tried with success when other remedies failed.

In making sandwiches, bear in mind that all crusts are removed with a sharp knife, and that butter just melted but not piping hot, can be spread with a fine paint brush much better than firmer butter with a knife.

Hard water is rendered soft and pure, rivaling distilled water, by merely boiling a two ounce bottle say, in a kettle of water. The carbonate of lime and many impurities will be found adhering to the bottle. The water boils much quicker at the same time.

How a man does admire people who let out a laugh at his jokes!

The proof of the auto is the bill for repairs.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, JAN. 8.

Lesson II.—Jeroboam Makes Idols for Israel to Worship, I. Kings 12. 25 to 13. 6. Golden Text, Exod. 20. 4.

Verse 25. Penuel—The name means "face of God," from Gen. 32. 30. The place is connected historically with the three names of Gideon, Jacob, and Jeroboam. Its chief feature was a strong tower (Judg. 8. 8-17), and it was this that Jeroboam rebuilt. His purpose in doing so was to strengthen himself against a possible invasion from the desert tribes on the east.

26. Now will the kingdom return—He apparently forgot, or placed little reliance in, the promises which Jehovah had made to him (I. Kings 11. 38). A fear arose in his heart that his people, attracted by the glories of the house of Jehovah at Jerusalem (27), might at last, from going three times a year to the feasts, turn again unto . . . Rehoboam, king of Judah. His fear was also personal, as well as patriotic, for he saw that, if the people turned to Rehoboam, he himself might be the victim of some treacherous assault such as was made upon Ishbosheth (2 Sam. 4. 7)).

28. Made two calves of gold—"He broke the second commandment under pretense of helping the people to keep the first." His motive, despite his plea that he wished to relieve the people of the burden of the long journeys to Jerusalem, is evident in what he said in his heart (26). Political ascendancy and personal safety were his first concern. We are compelled to detect, under all his outward activities in behalf of the religious needs of his people, the shrewd devices of worldly policy.

Behold thy gods—Doubtless he had no desire to establish an idolatrous system. He seems to have been a believer in a personal activity of Jehovah. The calves, or young bulls, would serve as symbols and reminders of the strength of their God, and were perhaps copied from the calf set up by Aaron in the wilderness. They would hardly come from Jeroboam's residence in Egypt, as some suppose, inasmuch as the bulls worshipped were alive. The two images were alike and represented, of course, only one God. They were really intended to encourage the worship of Jehovah, the sin of the king being the substitution of political expediency for faith in God.

29. Beth-el—An ancient sanctuary of the Israelites, connected with the names of Abraham and Jacob, and with the capture of Ai (Josh. 7 and 8). The importance of this shrine increased with the advance of the northern kingdom, reaching the zenith of its greatness under Jeroboam II, when it is called "a royal house and sanctuary of the kingdom" (Amos 7. 13).

Dan—As Beth-el was at one end of the kingdom, only twelve miles from Jerusalem, so Dan was at the other. It had been, from earliest times, "the seat of a chapelry and ephod served by the lineal descendants of Moses in unbroken succession." It does not reappear in the Bible after the invasion of Benhadad (1 Kings 15. 20). Its history thereafter is obscure.

30. This thing became a sin — It resulted in a lowering of the religious ideals and worship of Israel, a gradual degeneracy which at length comes in for the sternest reprobation on the part of the prophets, particularly Amos and Hosea. "The whole subsequent history is a record of the mode by which, with the best intentions, a church and nation may be corrupted."

31. Houses of high places—Both the Canaanites and early Israelites used to worship on hilltops, probably as bringing them nearer the supposed dwelling place of Jehovah. Though the law prescribed a restricted form of worship, the use of high places for burning sacrifices and other religious rites was continued till the time of Hezekiah.

Priests . . . not of the sons of Levi—According to the Deuteronomic law, the priesthood was restricted to the Levites. Jeroboam may have felt that he was acting from necessity, because of the migration, in large numbers, to the south, of Levites who preferred to abide by the worship of Jerusalem. At any rate, both David and Solomon, before this, had treated somewhat indifferently the matter of priestly rights.

32. A feast in the eighth month—This irregularity, according to the law, was an act of arbitrary willfulness, as the set time for observing the feast of the tabernacles was the seventh month. But, as the vintage was later in the north, the condemnation of Jeroboam ought not, perhaps, to be too harsh. It only goes to show, that, having adopted a wrong policy, a man becomes involved in other sins as a consequence

Chapter 13. Verse 1. Jeroboam was standing by the altar—He was himself officiating as priest.

2. He cried against the altar—He said nothing about the other forms and signs of religious degeneracy. Who he was is not recorded, perhaps because his name had been forgotten after the lapse of so many years. But he was the first stern voice of disapproval, coming from across the border, and, by denouncing the altar, showing the divine disfavor against the entire new system of worship established by Jeroboam.

Josiah—For the fulfillment of this, read 2 Kings 23. 15-20. It is unlike the regular method of Hebrew prophecy to mention a name in this way. The theory is that this name was added many years after, when the prophecy had come to fulfillment.

AN ANTISEPTIC HEIRESS.

Extreme Care Taken of Girl Who Will Have $25,000,000

Betty Tanner, daughter of John S. Tanner, artist, and grandfather of Abraham Archibald Anderson, is being reared in a thoroughly antiseptic manner in Los Angeles, Cal. It is most essential that she reach womanhood, because she will inherit a fortune of $25,000,000. At present, however, she doesn't know anything about cents or dollars. She is versed only in antiseptics. Everything she eats or drinks, touches or smells is thoroughly sterilized before it is put near her. Even the air she breathes in her bedroom is filtered. The toys she plays with are antiseptic, and if she wants to make mud pies, why, antiseptic mud is put before her. Her play books are fumigated and she has been taught to study the thermometer, to be assured that when she goes out for a walk or a ride the temperature is adapted to her condition.

BELGIUM'S DRUNKARDS.

One Drinking Place to Every Thirty-four People.

Statistics just published show that there are in Belgium 211,617 "estaminets," or places where drink is sold, averaging one such place to every thirty-four inhabitants. Every year 200,000 cases of illnesses are occasioned by excess of drink, 2,000 of which result in death. There are from 600,000 to 800,000 beggars — brought to that state by intemperance.

Fifty per cent. of the suicides and seventy-five per cent. of the cases of imprisonment can be attributed to alcohol. In twenty-five years the consumption of alcohol has increased fifty-four per cent. The record for "estaminets" is held by the small hamlet of Sivry, with 2,600 inhabitants, there being 163—all doing excellent business—or an average of one to every sixteen inhabitants.

BLOWN UP.

Meekly made up his mind that he was not going to be dictated to any longer by his wife, so when he went home at noon he called out imperiously to the servant: "Laura! Laura!"

Mrs. Meekley came out of the kitchen.

"What do you want with Laura?" she asked.

Meekly staggered, but braced up. "I want you to understand, madam"—and he tapped his breast dramatically—"that I am the engineer of this establishment, that I am——"

"Oh, you are, are you? Well, Joseph, I want you to understand that I"—and she looked dangerous—"I am the boiler that might blow up and pitch the engineer over into the next street. Do you hear the steam escaping, Joseph?" Joseph heard, and quickly got out of the way.

DREW THE LINE.

Pat had been at work for three days digging a well, and as the foreman wanted it finished within the week he had promised Pat another man to help him. It was getting on for 11 o'clock, and Towser, the foreman's bulldog, was looking over the edge of the pit, when Pat said to himself, "I'll have a smoke."

He had just filled his pipe, and was about to light it, when he glanced up and beheld Towser's handsome features.

Slowly removing the pipe from his mouth, he said, "Be-e-egorra, Oi 've wor-rked wid Germans and Hengar-r-rians, and Oi've wor-rked wid Oitalians and Niggers, but if a man wid a face like that come down here to work beside me, Oi gets up."

Returning from school the other afternoon, little Edith proudly informed her mother that she had learned to "punctuate." "Well, dear," said mamma, "and how is it done?" "You see, mamma," explained Edith, "when you write 'Hark!' you put a hatpin after it, and when you ask a question then you put a buttonhook."

LIKE TO WALK IN PUDDLES.

Man Tries to Ascribe a Reason for This Fancy of Boys.

"It may not be a matter of grave moment," said a grown up man, "but I would rather like to know why small boys like to walk in mud puddles.

"I don't refer now to the boy in rubber boots; his motives in wading in puddles and in deeper water I can understand. He is proud of his waterproof boots and he likes to surfeit himself with the delightful consciousness and proof that they are waterproof; he likes to brave and pass unscathed the perils of the deep waters of the gutters after a heavy rain; though with his first boots anyway he is likely to overdo this a little, to keep on trying to see how deep he can go till at last he steps into a place a little deeper than the rest and gets his boots filled.

"Still, I can understand the boy and his rubber boots, but I don't quite see through his fancy for walking or stepping in puddles generally when he has leather shoes on. Maybe here too it is because he likes to take risks, or perhaps it is because of his innate defiance of rule and convention.

"A bunch of small boys will one after another try jumping over a puddle to see if they can clear it, and then sooner or later one is sure to come down within the edge of the water. But that doesn't disturb him, on the contrary he rather enjoys that experience, and then you may see the bunch wind up by all running or walking through the water. Why do they do this, getting their shoes wet and muddy and getting them wet causing them to wear out the sooner, to say nothing of causing their mothers care and worry not only over shoes and stockings. But all boys like to slush through mud puddles, and for that matter so do some older people, too.

"I like myself when I have on rubbers to walk right ahead regardless of the pools of water on the sidewalk. In fact, I am likely to step in them deliberately if they are not too deep, so that I may get the water over my rubbers to wet my feet. I like to slash ahead unhampered and really in doing this simple little free action I find enjoyment. And I guess it is a sense of this sort that makes the boy find a pleasure in scampering or stamping or walking through mud puddles; he likes to take the risk and see how much water he can get into without getting his feet wet, but the thing he likes best about it is its defiant unfettered freedom."

SENTENCE SERMONS.

Pacemakers are seldom peacemakers.

It's easy making money and hard mastering it.

Shrinking from suffering may be fleeing from strength.

The coldblooded are hotheaded when you hit their pride.

Repentance as a habit would keep one turning in a circle.

There can be no bending in worship without stooping in service.

Men miss happiness because they seek goods instead of the good.

Suffering is no proof of sin, but sin is always prophetic of suffering.

It takes more than ability to create wealth to qualify you to dispense it.

This is always an ill world to those who nurse infection in the heart.

It is a bad thing to feel stirred over wrong and not sttir yourself to right it.

It's easier to talk about dying for the right than to get busy living aright.

It is no use sighing to be a sun if you are not burning the little lamp you have.

It's no use praying to be delivered from temptation unless you want to be divorced from sin.

More reforms have been prevented by friends who demanded them immediate and complete, than by foes who did not want them at all.

The humble man never believes he is worthless or he would have nothing being humble about.

AN AWFUL CALAMITY.

Willie had tried by various means to interest his father in conversation.

"Can't you see I'm trying to read?" said the exasperated parent. "Now, don't bother me."

Willie was silent for almost a minute. Then, reflectively:

"Awful accident on a street car to-day."

Father looked up with interest.

"What's that?" he asked.

"Why," replied Willie, edging towards the door. "A woman had her eye on a seat, and a man sat on it."

"There's no use trying to deny it," remarked Mrs. DeFlatt, "this is the worst cook we've had yet. There positively isn't a decent thing to eat on the table." "That's right," rejoined DeFlatt. "But," continued his wife, "there's one thing in her favor. She can't be beat when it comes to washing." "Pity we can't eat the washing," sighed the hungry husband.

KING GEORGE'S CORONATION

Some of the Ancient Customs Which Survive to This Day.

The crowning of the King of England has usually been accompanied by what was regarded as the still more solemn rite of anointing with oil, which dates from the days of the ancient Hebrews. And in England, before the Norman conquest, the term used was "hallowing," or consecration, rather than that of coronation.

But from old records it seems that the ceremony as then performed at Winchester was in all essentials the same as that which now takes place in Westminster Abbey. Few people seem to be aware, says the Queen, that the coronation ceremony was the only religious rite of the Anglican Church which escaped the pruning policy of the Reformers. Hence its impressive ritual and gorgeous pagentries.

The last coronation at which every Old World ceremony was duly performed was that of King George IV. At his crowning a coronation banquet took place, there was a procession of peers, the herb strewer scattered flowers and the challenge of the champion of England was included in the ceremony. But at the coronations of William IV., Queen Victoria and King Edward these old customs were for various reasons omitted.

However, much remains that is of deep interest and stately splendor. The dean and chapter of Westminster claim the right to instruct the sovereign in the duties of this solemn service, and on coronation day the regalia are delivered into their custody.

According to old records £100 is paid for the anointing oil supplied by the royal apothecary. The coronation chairs are of interest. That of the King is the chair of Edward the Confessor, used by every British sovereign since the time of Edward II. It is of oak, and is recovered with fresh crimson velvet on each occasion. Beneath it is placed the stone of destiny, an ancient relic which came originally from Ireland.

NO DREAMS FOR MANDARINS.

Awakening of China Has Brought Great Changes.

The reforming of the political aspect of China has brought with it some changes in social conditions and it seems as though many more were to follow. Among those who have felt these changed conditions are the mandarins, whose altered official routine is described by the North China Daily News. The old dreamy days when a mandarin spent hours in dolce far niente, "a demigod amid subservient crowds, delighting himself with the philosophy and poetry of his land," are all gone since the introduction of telegraph, telephone and railways.

The national awakening, bringing with it the reorganization of the army, the introduction of occidental sanitary systems, of modern prisons, and other reforms, has made mandarin life not what it once was. Now that official has to raise regiments of modern drilled soldiers and find the money to equip and maintain them; has to build expensive barracks and hospitals, erect model prisons and must refrain from old time punishments and find the money for all these bothersome novelties. He is bombarded with telegrams from Peking and has to withstand attacks by the reform party and the free press.

Poppy growing is forbidden, but he must compel the reluctant agriculturist to raise cotton and other products. Licensed gambling has been suppressed, but he must raise the revenue thus lost by increasing the tax on salt and other necessities. This causes riots, and he must put these down. The enraged and harried taxpayers no longer are in fear of the once revered mandarin, and they do not hesitate to attack his person when he appears on the streets. It requires the wisdom of a Confucius for a mandarin to maintain his dignity under the new order of things.

BLACK CARPET IN VOGUE.

Queen Mary May Thus Furnish Her Boudoir at Buckingham.

Rumor says that Queen Mary is going to have a black carpet in her boudoir in Buckingham Palace and if the rumor is true black drawing rooms will speedily become the fashion in England. Some fifteen years ago, there was a temporary liking for black carpets, and smart peeople fitted up rouge-et-noir salons in their houses, but the fashion quickly died out.

It was found that black as a background for certain varieties of furniture or pictures only appealed to certain tastes. Although gilt furniture goes very well with a black carpet, it is next to impossible to have any light or delicate colors in the room where the floor is dead black, and the effect in a small house is apt to be depressing especially in London.

Besides, a black carpet wears very badly, the lightest speck of dust or footmark shows It is a carpet to look at, not to walk on.