Hints for Busy Housekeepers.

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

SELECTED RECIPES.

Fried Tamale.—Chop fine beef which has been boiled until very tender. Boil it again in the same water that was used before, stirring in corn-meal and seasoning with pepper and salt. Press the mixture into a mold. When the meat is cold, cut it into slices and fry it.

Celery and Egg; a Belgian dish.—Scrape and cut into inch pieces three or four stalks of celery; cook them in boiling salted water about twenty minutes, drain, and mix with white sauce; put in individual stone china dish, break an egg over the celery and sauce, and bake in moderate oven about ten minutes.

Sparrow Cake.—Cream one cup of butter with two cups and a half of sugar; add four eggs well beaten, one cup of milk in which one teaspoonful of soda has been dissolved, and four cups of flour in which two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar have been mixed. Add mace, cloves, cinnamon and allspice to taste, and bake in a moderate oven.

Date Pie.—Stone and wash well one pound of dates; just cover them with water, and cook until they are soft. Rub them through a sieve in the same way that squash is strained. Beat well three eggs; add a pinch of salt and three large cups of milk—about one and one-half pints—and mix with the dates. The mixture should be about the consistency of the filling for squash or pumpkin pies. The whites of the eggs may be reserved for a meringue, or whipped cream may be spread on when the pie is cold.

Squash Soup.—For a luncheon or dinner where the color is yellow this soup carries out the color scheme, and it also offers a new way of preparing a useful vegetable. Boil enough Hubbard squash to get two cups of mashed squash. Add one quart of milk and one onion, and cook one-half hour in a double boiler. Remove from the fire and strain. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Just before sending the soup to the table add a cupful of whipped cream. If the soup is served in bouillon cups place the cream in each cup.

India Rice Rings.—To two cups of water add one tablespoonful of chopped onion, one tablespoonful of anchovy paste, salt, pepper, a dash of tarragon vinegar, and finally one spoonful of butter into which has been worked one spoonful of flour. Cook until all the ingredients are well blended, stirring constantly; then add diced or finely sliced duck meat or chicken. Let this heat thoroughly, add the juice of one large orange, and take from the fire. Have in readiness small mounds of boiled rice, make a depression in each and fill with the mixture.

Spanish Spaghetti.—Rub through a strainer one pint of stewed tomatoes. Brown in the frying-pan two tablespoonfuls of butter and one tablespoonful of flour. Add the strained tomatoes, four cloves, three bay leaves, three teaspoonfuls of sugar, one-half teaspoonful of salt, a generous shake each of pepper and paprika; add one teaspoonful of Worcestershire sauce. Allow to simmer slowly, covered, on back of stove for an hour. Remove, strain, pour over boiled spaghetti which has been well drained; grate cheese over top and brown in oven for ten minutes. Serve very hot.

BREAKFAST DISHES.

Bread Sponge Cake.—Griddle cakes made from bread sponge and enriched with one egg and well beaten never lie heavily on the stomach and can be eaten by a dyspeptic.

Pancakes Without Eggs.—To make nice pancakes without eggs, with sour milk and soda or sweet milk and baking powder, also use up scraps of the day bread, soak bread in the milk or cold water to soften. Beat bread and milk together, add little salt. If you use sour milk, dissolve the soda in a little hot water, enough to sweeten the milk, and add to the bread and milk. Seive in flour to make a little thicker than if eggs are used. If sweet milk is used, put baking powder in flour and seive into the bread and milk. Use bread enough to thicken milk considerably. Beat for three minutes. These are nice, light and tender.

Coffee Cake.—Take two quarts of bread sponge, add one well beaten egg, half cup of good lard, one cup of sugar, a little salt and cinnamon; mix and let rise; now roll out in sheet, cover with melted butter, cinnamon, and sprinkle with sugar and when light press with a spoon deep holes and fill with thick sweet cream and bake at once. Delicious; and warmed over only improves it; not so good cold.

Aunt Dinah's Corn Bread.—Two aigss, buttah big as 2 persimmons, jes' a little salt, three cupfuls of rawn meal (none ob ye' yaller meal, on'y fit fo' chickens, but fine white meal made ob flint cawn, like yo' git in ole Kaintuck), one cupful ob white flowah, three heapin' teaspoonfuls ob bakin' powdah. Beat yo' aiggs up light, melt yo' buttah, an' throw it in along wid de salt. Poah in yo' milk—it must be fraish an' sweet, honey. Now, stir in de cawn meal good an' hahd, an', las' of all, de flowah wid de yeas' powdah mixed in. Poah it inter a shaller pan an' pop it inter de oven. Ef you-alls is lucky 'nuff to hab a gas stove dis yeah cawn bread will be done brown in no time, but in an ole wood stove it takes a powahful sight ob bakin'.

Jellied Apples.—Pare, quarter, and core six tart apples, take one pound sugar, one pint water, boil until like syrup. then drop apples in and cook until clear, taking care to keep their shape. When tender skim out, place on platter to cool, measure and strain syrup; there should be one-half pint. Take one package lemon jello, dissolve in two-thirds pint hot water, add to your hot syrup, pour over apples, serve cold with cream. You can serve with these small cakes.

Delicious Corn Bread.—One pint sifted corn meal, one pint sifted wheat flour, one pint sour milk, two beaten eggs, one-half cup sugar, one-half cup butter, one teaspoonful soda dissolved in a little milk. Bake in greased pan twenty minutes.

Sweet Potato Buns.—Boil and mash two potatoes, rub in as much flour as will make it like bread, add a little nutmeg and sugar to your taste with a tablespoonful of good yeast. When it has risen work in two tablespoonfuls of butter cut finely; then form it into small rolls and bake on tins a nice brown. serve hot; split open and butter. Good either for tea or breakfast.

CHEESE.

Cheese Desserts.—For the cheese lover a simple and palatable dessert is made from any good cream cheese. Work and mold the cheese into round, flat patties, putting a patty in the center of each dessert plate. Scoop out the middle, and in lieu of the bar le duc, which is expensive and not always obtainable, put in each patty a spoonful of preserved red currants. Serve with crisp salted wafers and coffee. This is deliciously satisfying and most attractive.

Cheese Pie.—Mix to one large cup of dry cottage cheese one tablespoon of flour, one egg, one half cup sugar, and a little salt. Make thinner than paste, put small lumps of butter and sugar, and bake twenty minutes.

Cheese Roulettes.—Season with salt and cayenne a cupful of dry grated cheese—Parmesian is preferred. Whip the whites of three eggs stiff and mix in the cheese. Flour the hands and mold the mixture into balls the size of walnuts. Drop into boiling fat and fry to a golden brown. Lay on crumpled paper to absorb the grease. Serve hot.

PIE HINTS.

The Pie of Five.—One large, juicy lemon, one cupful of sugar, one egg, one good sized potato, one cupful of water. Grate rind of lemon and add juice and egg. Beat well. Grate potato; if possible, through a food chopper. Stir well with other ingredients and then add water. Put in double boiler or saucepan and let thicken and bake same in two crusts.

Splendid Cranberry Pie.—Two cups of cranberries split or chopped, one cup and a half of sugar, two tablespoons cornstarch, three eggs. Line pie plate with rich paste and pour in chopped cranberries. Stir cornstarch, sugar, and beaten yolks of eggs together, and add one cup of sweet milk and pour over pies and bake. Cover with meringue and brown in oven. This recipe is enough for two pies.

CARE OF HOUSE PLANTS.

A moist soil does not mean a wet one.

Cover the plants with newspapers when sweeping or throw a dust sheet over them.

Examine all hardwooded tub of pot plants in your window garden for scale, mealy bug and spider. Do not let them get a start.

Make a blanket of newspapers to wrap around your plant stand on cold nights. Drop papers between plants and sash.

For the fern case provide good drainage, ventilation every day; avoid much heat and water judiciously.

Don't depend upon the moon; see that seed, soil and season are suitable and go ahead. The moon has business of its own.

The date palm develops slowly from seed, but it is easy to care for and some of them turn out fine. Many however, are not worth their keep.

KITCHEN HELPS.

When it is necessary to make several cakes at once, save yourself the tiresome beating of the batter by putting the required ingredients in their usual order into a small ice cream freezer. A few minutes of turning the crank results in a fine, smooth batter necessary for a successful cake. This is a great improvement over beating with a spoon after the old fashion.

To prevent the bottom of kettles from becoming smoked soap them well before putting on the fire.

To preserve brooms dip them for three minutes in a pail of boiling soap suds once a week. This makes them tough and pliable, and makes them wear much longer.

When boiling rice or beans, two things which will boil over, put in a lump of butter, size of a walnut and this will stop the trouble at once.

In separating the whites from the yolks of eggs one will sometimes break the yolk into the white, in which case the whites do not beat light. Dip a clean cloth into warm water, wring dry, touch the yolk which has been dropped into the white with the cloth, and it kill cling to the cloth.

UNCLE HIRAM TO HIS NEPHEW

Important for Him to Realize in His Relations With Men.

"Stevy, my boy," said Uncle Hiram to his hopeful young nephew, "you may not be old enough yet to fully understand or at least fully to realize what I am about to say to you, but I'd better say it now for I might forget to say it later, and some day, and perhaps to your advantage, you will recall it, the thing I would now say to you being this:

"Other people think of us what we think of them.

"Do you get that through your noddle? Other people think of us what we think of them.

"This is highly important, because it applies to our inmost unuttered thoughts. If we think ill of a man he will think ill of us. So you want to think well of men.

"Our thoughts of other people appear to form a sort of circuit returning from them to us. They go out from us to the fellow we are thinking of, who seems to relay them back to us. Whatever our feelings toward him may be, good or bad, he takes them in, re-enforces them with strength from his own batteries and sends them back to us, with a feeling of friendliness if that was our instinctive feeling toward him, while if our feeling was one of antagonism that is the feeling that he relays back to us.

"Don't think ill of men, Stephen; think well of them, as you may well do; there is more good in men than bad. Cultivate friendly relations and friendly feelings, and be sure that as you feel toward men so will they feel toward you."

TRAIN WRECKS IN ITALY.

Attributed to Poorly Paid Employees—A Strike Threatened.

Quite recently there have been no fewer than eighteen attempts at train wrecking in various parts of Italy, particularly in the southern provinces, by means of false signals and by placing explosives on the tracks. These are the first results of a campaign of obstruction and sabotage which has begun on the State railroads because of the Government's delay in satisfying the demands of the railroad men for higher wages.

Ninety thousand of the lower grade employees out of a total of 146,000 railroad men are getting from 37 to 62 cents a day. Most of these are married men who have large families, and many of them have worked on the State lines from fifteen to thirty years.

Prime Minister Luzzatti declares that the Government refuses to be coerced, and is resolved to punish severely the authors of such outrages. The railroad men's federation threatens that unless the questions in dispute are immediately debated in Parliament and settled to the satisfaction of the staff, a general strike will be declared on all the Italian railroads on the eve of the great international exposition in Rome and Turin.

SENTENCE SERMONS.

Slander soon dies if you take it out of circulation.

The best way to lift men is to meet them on a level.

Heavy words in meeting will not make up for short weight in market.

Heresy hunting is merely an obsession of omniscience.

We find the worst in all by trying to get the best of anyone.

With all our doing things for people they need most our being men to them.

Magnify your personal rights and you are sure to create some social wrongs.

A man may go up when you kick him, but you cannot claim credit for kindness.

Boasting of saying what you think is often an excuse for not thinking what you say.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MARCH 5.

Lesson X.—Elijah goes up by a whirlwind into heaven, 2 Kings 2. 1-18. Golden Text, Gen. 5. 24.

Verse 1. Jehovah would take up Elijah—Elijah bursts upon the scene at the start with none of the announcements as to birth which we find in the lives of most heroes, and his departure is as full of mystery as his origin. Of no other, except Jesus, is it recorded that he was translated in this way, although Enoch, of course, shares the distinction of not having seen death.

Gilgal—Not to be confused with the Gilgal on the eastern border of Jericho. It stood on a lofty hill, about eight miles northwest of Bethel, and is now called Jiljilia. It seems to have been the seat of a school of young men in training for the work of a prophet.

2. Tarry here—The purpose of Elijah was probably to spare his successor the anguish of witnessing the stormy scenes of his departure. Fully a dozen years had elapsed since the call had come to Elisha at the plow, and during all that time he had no doubt enjoyed the closest intimacy with this most picturesque character in the Old Testament. It may be, also, that, with his love for solitude, Elijah wished in these closing days to tear himself away from all human companionship.

Beth-el—His object in halting here and at Jericho was, in all probability, to reassure the young prophets who were being schooled in these places. Bethel was inseparably connected with the patriarchal history, and had become renowned as the abode of ancient sanctuaries (see lesson for January 8).

Went down to Beth-el—Bethel itself was higher up than Gilgal. But between them lay a deep valley into which it was necessary to descend in making the journey from Gilgal.

3. Sons of the prophets — These were some of the fruits of Elijah's strenuous loyalty to the true religion. These young men had caught his spirit and were being trained by the older prophets at Bethel and Jericho and Gilgal, and it may be other centers, to continue the war against the heathen supersititions which threatened to destroy the nation.

Knowest thou?—We have no inkling as to how the knowledge of Elijah's impending departure had reached these schools. But, however the news had come, Elisha was in no mood to discuss it, and warns the talkative youth that it is not a matter for idle gossip.

4. Jericho—A city in the valley of the Jordan, over against Nebo, made famous by the siege of Joshua, it being the first to oppose the progress of the Israelites after their crossing the Jordan.

7. Fifty . . . sons of the prophets . . . stood . . . afar off—They must have climbed the hills above Jericho and watched the two as they descended the valley toward Jordan.

9. A double portion of thy spirit—Not twice as much zeal and inspiration as was possessed by his guide, but the portion of an elder son, by the Hebrew law, received twice as much as the younger. In spiritual endowment, Elisha wished to be foremost among the disciples of Elijah.

10. Thou hast asked a hard thing—Spiritual gifts are always hard to pass on to others. "Nevertheless, he assures his follower that if he proved his fitness for prophetic gifts by remaining with his master to the end, and looking without fear upon the messengers of the invisible world, his request will not be neuied."

11. A chariot of fire and horses of fire—The whirlwind is spoken of twice (see verse 1) as the agent of Elijah's removal, and there is nothing to indicate with certainty whether the rest of the language is the picturesque description of a storm, or whether it is a literal account of what Elisha saw. There is, at any rate, a mystery here, as there was in the death of Moses, which it is useless for us to try to penetrate. Elisha's cry was a fitting expression of what he must have felt in his heart, that he had lost one who had been more to him than a father, and who had been to Israel more than her chariots and horsemen; that is, her military defenses. So it was natural that he should find a vent for his grief by tearing in twain his own clothes (12).

13. The mantle of Elijah—This was his reward for fidelity unto the end, and his taking it back with him was a symbol of his possession of the spiritual authority of his great master. He stood the test imposed upon him, and shown himself a worthy sucoessor of the old hero who had been feared by kings. He puts to proof at once this newly bestowed power, by smiting the waters of the Jordan and going over dry shod (14). This was sufficient to convince the sons of the prophets that Elisha was not lacking in the gifts of a great prophet, and they humbly make acknowledgment of their allegiance. Still, as verse 16 shows, they remain somewhat skeptical as to the departure of Elijah, and suggest a search by fifty strong men. There is a certain humor in the persistency with which they urge this upon Elisha until he shamefacedly gives in and bids them send and look. Their failure to find a trace of the old seer, after three days, left Elisha as their undisputed leader.

WONDERFUL SILVER PLATE.

In the Collection are Five Wine Coolers as Big as Footbaths.

The Spencer family has inherited the greater portion of the once world famous Spencer Churchill plate housed at Blenheim Palace during the lifetime of the great Duke of Marlborough, for whom by a grateful Queen and nation this country palace was originally built.

This plate came to Althorp through the intermarriage of an heiress of the Spencer Churchills and comprises one of five marvellous wine coolers or "foot baths" (one was actually used as such by its great original owner, the Duke of Marlborough, on his campaign in the Netherlands).

This wonderful pieces of solid silver plate, with the Churchill and ducal Marlborough arms impaled, is one of the magnificent pieces always on view in the State dining room on the occasion of any great festivity in the house.

"I have often gazed with wonder and admiration at this 'wine cooler' (capable of holding I can't remember how many dozens of champagne bottles) on the occasion of a dance in St. Patrack's Hall," says a writer in the Lady's Pictorial. This famous piece always formed the centre of the wonderful collection, which, closely set together on raised baize covered panels, reached practically from floor to ceiling of this huge hall in Dublin Castle.

"Lord Spencer's plate includes solid gold Russian cups, Old World silver water bottles of Charles II.'s time, more resembling great cans in size, with the corks, Jacobean fashion, secured with silver links and chains; then there are two gold pails, reckoned the largest of the kind in any private collection in the world, and among the comparatively modern pieces is the beautiful silver gilt jug, one of the four subscribed for by the English nation, and presented (each receiving one) to the Lords Althorp, Russell, Grey and Brougham, in recognition of their final triumph after years of struggle over the great reform bill of 1832."

BAD SPELLING.

Schools and Colleges are Blamed For It.

To spell badly is no longer considered particularly illiterate—that is to say, it does not betoken a want of education. An eminent lawyer, who is considered one of the most "brainy" men of his time, said recently that until he was married he had always spelled husband with an "i" after the "u," and a noted physician when taking his examinations at the medical college tripped up on "medicine."

Another funny case was that of a young man who, having graduated with the highest honors from his university, sent out cards, which he had written personally, saying that he had formed a "buisiness" partnership with Mr. So-and-so.

The fact of the matter is that spelling is so neglected in the curriculum of schools and colleges now-a-days that it is a hit-or-miss kind of accomplishment. Those who have accuracy and "ear" remember the various combinations, and others fail utterly to retain the impression made while reading or studying, the provision made in modern boys' schools and colleges to train the sense of sound and its expression being of little account.

SECRETS OF THE SEA.

Everybody has read of the discoveries made by dredging the sea-bottom along the shore of the antarctic continent but few have any idea how the work is done when the surface of the ocean is covered with ice five feet or more in thickness. The method employed is interestingly illustrated in the recent reports of the British Antarctic Expedition of 1907-9. Holes are made in the ice a considerable distance apart, and a cable, to which a dredge is attached, descends through one hole and emerges through the other. The dredge is so arranged that the open side is drawn ahead by pulling a cable. Ahead of the dredge a weight is attached which serves to keep the dredge on the bottom and in the right position. The cable is pulled by a man advancing from the forward hole as fast as it is paid out by another stationed at the rear hole. Thus, living creatures, as strange as the world as they inhabit, are brought up from beneath the eternal ice-sheet.

DAMMING OF THE EUPHHATES

MESOPOTAMIA TO AGAIN BE A FERTILE REGION.

Three Million Acres to be Irrigated Under the Proposed Scheme.

After the Nile the Euphrates. Both are to be dammed, and both by Englishmen.

Sir John Jackson, the engineer and contractor, has just signed a contract with the Turkish Governor-General of Bagdad for the construction of a great dam at the Hindia section of the Euphrates, with the expected result that Mesopotamia will again become one of the most fertile regions of the world.

This new Turkish irrigation plan is based upon the recommendation of Sir William Willcocks. This involved the irrigation of over 3,000,000 acres, at an estimated

COST OF $37,000,000

Since the submission of that scheme in 1908 a large staff of engineers has been at work surveying the ground and studying the conditions with the result that new plans of a more limited scope were prepared and approved by the Turkish Government.

The damming of the head of the Hindia Canal forms part of the new scheme. The canal is an ancient cutting which the Euphrates in recent years has followed, in preference to its own bed, with disastrous consequences.

The original Euphrates, passing through Babylon, is now quite dry in Summer, all the water flowing down the canal except in flood time. Cultivation on the Euphrates banks has, therefore, been almost abandoned, the population having migrated across country to the Hindia Canal. The canal, however, never having been meant to contain the whole of the Euphrates, has become badly water-logged, and much good land has become swamp.

The Turks have been trying for years to construct a barrage which would force part of the water back into the bed of the Euphrates and permit regulation of the flow in the canal.

BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS.

Sir William Willcocks' engineers succeeded in filling up the space between the two arms of the barrage, only to find the structure breached at another point when the water came down in flood. Completion of this scheme will have the important result of restoring prosperity to the banks of the Euphrates proper, and of greatly improving the conditions along the length of the canal.

The principal crops in order of importance that would be planted are wheat, barley, rice, sesame and cotton. It is estimated that about 800,000 acres of land will be placed under wheat, and on the basis of a ton from every acre the Mesopotamian wheat would amount to about 30,000,000 bushels.

MURDER ALMOST DAILY.

Eminent Frenchman Exposes Shameless Practices.

Dr. Doyen, the celebrated Paris surgeon, is quoted in a cable despatch to the New York Times to the effect that civilization is plagued by hordes of physicians who are worse than the charlatans of the middle ages. He says:—

"Operations by incompetent surgeons are being performed continually and actual murder is committed in this way almost daily. Other physicians form a ring to exploit a patient, passing him from one to the other, saying 'Go to Dr. Jones for the eyes, to Dr. Brown for the ears, and to Dr. Smith for the stomach,' etc.

"One of the commonest of witticisms of doctors is 'a millionaire always has a little pie e of cartilage in his nose which can be removed for a large sum of money.' Only last week I overheard one surgeon ask another, 'Why did you operate on so-and-so for cataract before it was ripe?' 'If I had done otherwise my patient would have gone to another doctor,' was the reply.

"I also know of several cases of alleged operations in laparotomy when the surgeon merely cut the skin and renewed it.

"Other charlatans when they hear the name of a man who is about to undergo an operation search for the name of the surgeon in the case and sometimes they come three and four at a time demanding commissions, pretending that they are the family physicians of the patient."

"Do you believe that a doctor should charge in proportion to the wealth of the patient?" was asked.

"Yes," was the reply, "because physicians make no charge to the poor. Also I believe that a family physician should have a commission when he is forced to advise a patient to go to a specialist. However, instead of the specialist giving the commission secretly the patient should pay each openly."