Hints for Busy Housekeepers.

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

VEGETABLES.

Peas in Cream.—One can of peas, rinse well, cover with boiling water, salt, and cook five or ten minutes. In another saucepan melt two ounces of butter, thicken evenly with a little flour. Shake over fire, but do not brown; add one-half cupful of cream, one tablespoonful of sugar, and bring to a boil. Drain the peas well and pour into this mixture stirring them well in. Keep moving over fire for a few minutes until well heated. Serve at once.

Baked Peppers.—Take green peppers and cut off the top and remove the inside. Chop up cold boiled beef, cold boiled potatoes, and onion. Season with salt and pepper and add enough gravy to moisten. Use butter if you have no gravy. Fill the pepper with this and put the top back on with toothpicks. Bake in oven about ten or fifteen minutes.

Tomato Spaghetti.—One can tomatoes, three small onions, four bay leaves, one stick celery, one cup chicken broth and minced breast cooked to a mush and strained. Season to taste with salt and add one saltspoonful curry powder, one-half saltspoonful ground cinnamon and allspice, a dash of cloves and red pepper; also the minced chicken. Add enough water to the remaining chicken broth to make about three pints; boil and add one pound of Italian spaghetti (this should be no larger than the lead in a pencil. Cook twenty minutes. Remove from the fire and cover closely to steam while you grate one-quarter pound dry cheese. Serve the spaghetti on a large platter, each guest using the sauce and cheese to taste.

Hot Slaw.—Take a solid head of cabbage, cut fine same as you would for cold slaw. To this add one pint water, teaspoon salt, and tablespoon of lard; stew slowly for one hour, after which add a dressing made of one egg beaten with three tablespoons of sugar, one of flour, pinch of salt, and half cup of vinegar. Should the vinegar be strong use some water. Try this.

Potato Doughnuts.—Three large potatoes, boil and mash with a lump of butter size of an egg, beat until smooth three eggs beaten separately, one and one-half cupfuls sugar, pinch of salt, nutmeg to taste, two teaspoonfuls baking powder, three cupfuls flour; stir in, then add enough more to roll out. Fry in deep lard; smoking hot, drain on paper; then roll in sugar. These doughnuts are exceptionally light, do not absorb the grease, and are easily digested.

Rice Potato Cakes.—One cupful of boiled rice, stiff and cold; one cupful of cold mashed potatoes; one egg; one-third cupful of flour; one level teaspoonful baking powder; salt to taste. Drop from spoon on griddle as and treat like pancakes. If batter is stiff as possible the cakes will be delicious.

CAKE.

Silver Loaf Cake.—One and one-fourth cups granulated sugar, one-half cup butter, four egg whites, one cup milk, two and one-half cup flour, one-half teaspoonful of soda, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar. Method—Cream butter and sugar until it as smooth and white as ice cream, sift flour ten times and after siftening seven times measure two and one-half cupfuls, add soda and sift. Beat whites to a stiff froth, add cream of tartar before beating, add milk and flour, alternating and stirring well each time, and lastly add whites of eggs. Cut and fold them well. Put in loaf or layer tins buttered well and before putting in oven take and pound well to burst in bubbles and put in cool oven and heat up your oven gradually and you will have a fine cake and may use any filling you like. Out of the four yolks make another cake, using the same ingredients and same method, and you will have two fine, good tasting cakes.

Cream Cake.—Three eggs to be beaten separately. Add one scant cup of sugar, one cup of flour, one heaping teaspoonful of baking powder, and one tablespoonful of water. Cream filling—Two cupfuls of milk, one tablespoonful of cornstarch, one egg with a little speck of salt, one-half cupful of sugar. Boil in double boiler until thick. Each layer to be split and filling put in between while hot.

Walnut Loaf Cake.—Cream together one cupful granulated sugar, one-half cupful butter, and yolks of two eggs, one-half cupful milk, one and one-half cupfuls flour, two level teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Mix above and add one cupful of chopped walnuts and last add the two whites stiffly beaten. Frost with any white frosting and sprinkle chopped nuts over top.

FISH.

Salt in Fish.—A glass of vinegar put into the water in which salt fish is soaking will draw out most of the salt.

Filled Fish.—This is the original "gifilty fish" that is so popular to all that have ever tasted it. A combination of two or three kinds of fish is always best, as pike and trout, of buffalo and trout, or white fish. For about four pounds of fish take two good size onions, half teaspoon white pepper, level teaspoon salt, two eggs, tablespoonful of breaed crumbs and a pinch of sugar. Clean and wash the fish, cut slices 1 1-2 inches thick, salt over night, or an hour or two before chopping, put on ice. Cut out all the meat, put in chopping bowl, add onions, salt, pepper, add about half glassful of water a few drops at a time while chopping. When nearly done add the eggs and bread crumbs. Have pan ready (a real heavy bottom pan is best) cut up two onions and put the heads and other bones or skins of the fish that you may have left over at the bottom of pan, fill up the empty skins with the chopped fish, and put it carefully in the pan. If there is any chopped fish left make balls; it will be just as good as the filled skins. Now pour in very carefully so as not to break the balls, enough water to cover the fish, put cover on and boil for three hours, adding more water as it boils down. Great care must be taken that it does not burn. More salt and pepper may be added, for it takes lots of salt and pepper to make it good. Remove the cover about fifteen minutes before removing from the fire, let it boil done to one pint of soup. Serve hot or cold with horseradish.

CARE OF RUGS.

In selecting rugs from a sanitary standpoint the best rugs are those which are closely woven, as the dust is then retained on the surface and can easily be brushed off. It is much better for a rug to be cleaned often, not alone for sanitary reasons but because with frequent cleanings the rug becomes richer and more glossy.

Small rugs are better cleaned at home than sent to the professional carpet cleaner, who does not understand the different treatment required by an oriental rug from a domestic and follows his usual custom of taking one end of the rug to a revolving wheel, which tears and whips it to pieces. Take small rugs to the roof or grass plot and beat with a light whip or rug beater on the surface, but never on the back, which tends to break the warp and woof, thus destroying the fabric. After beating the face, which brings the dust to the surface, brush off with a broom or snow, sweeping with the nap, not against it. If a rug becomes badly soiled wash it. Do not allow large rugs to be cleaned on the floor. While the widely advertised process of cleaning without the necessity of taking rugs up gives the surface of the rug a fresh, bright look, it is sure to rot the fabric. The dirty water, soaking through the carpet, has no way of escaping, and leaves a strata of mud between the warp, which soon or late weakens the threads. If beaten at home it may afterward be spread upon the floor and spoiled spots washed out with a solution of soap bark or borax and water, allowing an ounce of the bark to a gallon of water. If this is done carefully and then the surface wiped off dry with a cloth wrung out of fresh water, the rugs will emerge clean, lustrous, and in no wise injured. Some, in summer, think it a saving of their rugs to turn them upside down, walking on the back. This is a great mistake. Wear on the surface of a rug makes it all the more silky, but on the reverse tends to break and injure it.

If there should be any signs of moths in the winter, hang them in the frosty air for a few nights. In the summer use constantly. It is better for them than packing them away. Many going to their summer homes take their rugs with them for use in the house or lawn. In packing for shipment simply bale and wrap in burlaps. If leaving home for some time, beat well, then roll in tar paper or newspapers, leaving no opening for the entrance of moths.

LITTLE HELPS.

Easy to clean wallpaper. Saturate a Turkish towel or piece of canton flannel with gasoline and rub lightly over the paper. Cleans more evenly than stale bread and is not half the trouble and removes all the dust and dirt.

Humane Hint.—After using canned fish of any kind be sure to bend the cover into place again before throwing away. Cats have often been badly hurt by forcing their heads into empty cans in search of a morsel of fish.

Laundry Hint.—Readers who want their collars, collarettes, cream lace, etc., to keep the delicate cream they have when purchased will be glad to learn how it is done. After careful washing and rinsing have ready the following. Beat an egg to a froth, add one quart or less of cold water, according to tint required. Place all laces, etc., in this and move gently through the egg water several times. Then squeeze gently and hang in the shade to dry. When about half dry put them between two cloths and iron. No starching is needed. If above directions are followed you will be pleased with the result. Laces will have that soft creamy tint they had when first bought. This was the secret of doing lace given by an old pillow lace worker who used it for doing creamy tinted pillow lace.

MAN'S KINSHIP WITH APES

SHOWN BY THE MOST DELICATE KNOWN BLOOD TEST.

Based on the Chemical Character of the Albumen Dissolved in Blood Serum.

Dr. Willcox, official analyst to the British Home Office, at a magisterial inquiry into a charge of murder a few days ago gave a piece of evidence that had never before been given in England. He testified that certain blood stains on the collar of the accused man were caused by human blood and that this fact had been proved by the serological test.

This serological test is the last word of science on the subject of discriminating between different kinds of blood stains. Its wonderful delicacy will be understood when it is stated that the flesh of Egyptian mummies responds readily to it. A special serological laboratory has been fitted up recently in the buildings of the Royal Society of Public Health in London, and here special demonstration was given by Dr. Rajchman of the way in which this test is carried out.

Hitherto all the methods of discriminating between different kinds of blood have been based on color or on the appearance of the blood corpuscles under the microscope. The new test is based on the chemical character of the albumen dissolved in

THE BLOOD SERUM.

Dr. Rajchman took a sample of linen which was marked with a dark red stain. He placed it in a watch glass and covered it with dilute salt solution, which he explained would slowly dissolve out any albumen which the stain might contain and at the same time would remove any blood corpuscles which might be present. A momentary examination by the microscope revealed the presence of the corpuscles, which proved to be blood of some kind.

While the clot was dissolving in the salt solution he showed six test tubes, each of which contained what he called antiserum. Each had been prepared by injecting the blood of some animal into a rabbit. The different kinds of blood with which different sets of rabbits had been treated were those of a man, a horse, a pig and an ox.

After a certain number of injections the rabbit's blood was found to contain a substance known as precipitin. A drop of blood taken from the ear of a rabbit containing the precipitin caused by human blood has a curious effect on the albumen dissolved out by the salt from

A HUMAN BLOOD CLOT.

The test was shown by placing a few drops, one-tenth of a cubic centimeter, of the saline solution in a very small test tube and allowing a drop of the anti-serum to fall into it. Being rather heavy, the drop settled at the bottom of the tube, and at the point of contact between the two liquids a ring of filmy opalescence was formed when the human antiserum was used. When any of the others was dropped in the liquid remained perfectly clear and transparent.

In another experiment some horseflesh was treated with the salt water and the solution so made tested in the same way. Here the horse antiserum gave the telltale ring of opalescence and all the others remained clear, showing definitely to what kind of animal the original flesh belonged.

Although this reaction has been known for about five years, it has only been brought to its present perfection lately. There is only one case known in which the test fails. There is no difference in the result of the test between the blood of a man and the blood of a high class ape.

MEXICAN EAR BEANS.

Queer-shaped Bean is Sent to France for Tanning Purposes.

In the forests of Michoacan, one of the most picturesque of the Mexican states, may be seen groups of native women and children engaged in picking up and placing in baskets what at first sight look like nuts. Those are the Mexican ear-beans, and they are gathered and sold by the natives for shipment to France, where they are used to tan leather for shoes. The bean is so named by reason of its resemblance to the human ear. It grows wild on a small tree that reaches the height of twenty or thirty feet, with wide branching limbs. As many as ten bushels often grow on a single tree. When ripe they fall to the ground, and over many extensive tracts, not only in Michoacan, but in Colima and Guerro, untold thousands of bushels remain ungathered in the forests. It is not difficult to hire natives to pick them up at one cent a pound. To be used for tanning, the beans have only to be dried and ground; and so rich are they in astringent qualities, that a very small quantity of the bean-meal is sufficient to tan a hide.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF A FAMILY MAN.—Life.

THE MODERN CHURCH BELL

USED IN BRITAIN SINCE THE FIFTH CENTURY.

Bells Have Been Used Since Bible Times for Secular and Religious Purposes.

In the 28th chapter of Exodus, verses 34 and 35, occurs the first mention of bells, and their use is practically the same as that to which modern church bells are put, namely, to give notice of the time for public worship. The uses of bells as summons to prayer are not derived directly from this source, as they have been used in all ages for secular as well as religious purposes. In the Grecian army the officer of the guard visited the sentries at night with a bell as a signal of watchfulness, and the Romans used small ones in their baths and places of business. The honor of inventing the large church bells, however, is ascribed to Paulinus, Bishop of Nola, a city of Campania, who flourished in the fifth century of the Christian era. Not long after they were introduced into Britain.

BAPTISM OF THE BELLS.

When first set up the bells were solemnly consecrated by the clergy with a ceremony called baptism, which implied that they were supposed to possess some important virtues. It is certain that many properties of a very remarkable nature were ascribed to them. All evil spirits were understood to entertain an insurmountable objection to the music of the bells, a single flourish making the fiends disperse with wonderful alacrity. During storms bells were continually rung, and as they continued to ring so long as the storm lasted, it is not to be wondered at that they should receive the credit of stopping them. This practice lasted until the middle of the eighteenth century. Another virtue attributed to bells was that of clearing the air during the prevalence of epidemic disorders. But the most remarkable of all their virtues was that of locomotion. It was considered necessary, whenever a bell was removed, to secure it with a rope or chain, in order to prevent it returning to its former place.

WORK FOR THE EXPERT.

In England the passion for bells prevailed very early; St. Dunstan presented several to Malmesbury Abbey, and the Abbot of England in King Edgar's time made six bells, which were named after distinguished personages, and, says the historian, such a concert was never heard in the land before. An old picture represents King David as striking with a hammer on little bells instead of his harp. Toward the close of the sixteenth century the English are described as "vastly fond of great noises that fill the ear, such as the firing of cannon, the beating of drums, and the ringing of bells." The writer does not appear to be aware that bell ringing was an important accomplishment. Ringing a single bell was the work of a novice only, but to ring a bob-major upon twelve marked the ringer was an expert. The custom of ringing upon occasions of public rejoicing is derived from an early usage of the Catholics, who in this manner gave notice of the arrival of a church dignitary within their jurisdiction, and it was regarded as a high offence if the bells were not rung.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY

INTERNATIONAL LESSON. MARCH 19.

Lesson XII. Defeat Through Drunkenness. (Temperance Lesson). 1 Kings 20. 12-21. Golden Text, Prov. 31.4.

Verse 12. This message—He and the other leaders of the immense army (estimated at 130,000 men) were so confident of their superiority, that they were wasting their time and strength drinking in the pavilions, or temporary bootns set up for the exigencies of war.

In array against the city—This would include the establishment of the war-engines before the walls, battering-rams and catapaults, being the chief instruments of a siege. Ladders would be set up, and archers would be placed in commanding positions. It must have looked dark to the king and his people cooped up in the city. Should the walls fall, it meant that desolation and destruction were sure to follow.

13. A prophet—Though his name is not given, he probably was one of the schools of the prophets, who seem to have acted in concert. The name of Elijah curiously enough is not mentioned in this entire chapter.

15. Young men of the princes of the province—Their number, two hundred and thirty-two, was nothing as against the great multitude of the Syrians and their allies. But this prophet wished by the comparison to throw in relief the fact that the victory was to be a supernatural one. The sterling youth of the nation were picked out to lead the attack. The older men had already failed and been driven within the refuge of the city, and were as a result filled with fear. The wretched state to which the city itself had been reduced may be conjectured from the small number of men who could be mustered to follow behind the youthful leaders—only seven thousand.

16. They went out at noon—This was a master stroke. At this hour, under the scorching Syrian sun, everything would be at a standstill, heavy armor being cast aside, and the soldiers lounging about in careless relaxation. The king continued his brutish drinking with the vassal kings and so rendered himself more and more helpless.

17. The young men . . . went out first—This was a ruse intended to deceive the unwary foe. And it succeeded. The drunken king thought the little band were coming out to make terms of peace, and he exclaimed, in a spirit of bravado, Whether . . . for peace, or . . . for war, take them alive (18).

20. They slew every one his man—The motley army outside the walls were totally unprepared for any onslaught. Their leaders were stupid with drink, the chariots and horses were unharnessed and unready, the army itself, besides being at ease, lacked homogeneity and any sense of loyalty to a common interest. A panic was exactly the thing to look for. It was Jehovah's victory, but the Israelites had to exercise the right sort of ingenuity in order to meet conditions as they were. These conditions, of course, could only grow worse under the sturdy attack of the young men and their aroused followers, so that it is little wonder that the proud forces of Ben-hadad suffered utter rout, and he himself was obliged to escape on a horse.

Probably there is something more industrious than an idle rumor.

A centenarian named Jas. Wilson of Crooknagrally, Fivemiletown, has just been photographed at the age of 104 years—for the first time in his life.

The milling firm of John Thompson & Sons, of Gamble street, Belfast, were recently fined for neglecting to have proper safeguards around machinery as a result of which a man named Charles Sangster received fatal injuries.

The Belfast Corporation, at its monthly meeting on the 1st inst., decided to confer the freedom of the city upon Mr. G. W. Wolff, who for upwards of half a century has been closely identified with the commercial progress of that city.

SCOTT'S SENSE OF HUMOR

A CHINAMAN'S IMPRESSIONS OF ABERDEEN.

Former Student at Aberdeen University Gives Appreciation of People.

There is a very interesting appreciation of Scotsmen by a Chinaman in the World's Chinese Students' Journal. It gives the "Impressions of Aberdeen" of Siow Thye Lee, who was a student at Aberdeen University.

"Aberdeen, like Oxford or Cambridge, is a seat of learning," he writes. "It is strange to note that the university is very little known among foreigners, more especially among us in the Straits and in China.

"The Aberdonians have a very peculiar mode of speech, which could not escape the observation of a stranger; in fact, some foreigners often remark that it is much like singing.

RECOMMENDS COUNTRY.

"I must say that no foreigner could spend any length of time in Aberdeen, or in Scotland generally, without being impressed by the wonderful hospitality. The sense of humor is wonderfully keen, and one cannot help noticing this, as it is to be found in practically all classes alike. I have particularly noticed that all Scotsmen—rich and poor alike—have a unit of heart. Though their opinions may differ, they all strive to do their best for the welfare of their country and the people. The sense of duty in which every citizen of a country has a share is deeply carved in the heart of every Scotsman. Not only are they busy and practical, but are more tactful and dignified. The common sense, the serious way they look at life, and their amazing self-centredness and self-confidence.

MODELS OF POLITENESS.

"I have also noticed that a good thing in the Scottish character is its independence, and this is shown by the industrial populaton in habits of life.

"In a company of strangers you would think that the Scotsman was deaf, for his eyes never wander from the table or newspaper. He would say that it was impolite to overhear a conversation to which he was not invited. In short, he is always cold and reserved.

"Moreover, I was told that Scotsmen were well trained in their manners; they are said to be the best type of men from whom people that are not well acquainted with manners can learn. Whether this credit may rightly be put to them I do not know, but the general impression I have here is that the average Scotsman knows always and everywhere exactly what to do and how to do it. He never seems to hesitate, and makes no fuss about his doings. It is, I think, also, a fairly general impression in the east that the Scotsman—the term in this respect also includes the English—keeps himself aloof, reserved, cautious of making or accepting advances towards acquaintanceship. This may arise either out of pride or shyness.

SCOT A DELIGHTFUL HOST.

"At home the Scotsman is a most gracious and delightful host. He is at once the servant, and knows how to please his guest.

"In the railway service the civility of the guards and porters, the neatness and carefulness, and the quiet energy of the drivers and firemen is notable. In the east railway engines always show a lack of care, and things look very confused and disordered. In Scotland, as in England, they are bright and clean. That shows a workman's pride in his work and its instruments. It is the man with the clean engine who is going to succeed in life."

ROYAL CAMP IN INDIA.

Splendid Camp Will be Provided for Residence by King.

The Allahabad Pioneer states that the King-Emperor, during his stay in Delhi, will not occupy Circuit House, but will go into camp, the idea of a splendid royal camp appealing to popular imagination.

Motor cars and taxicabs, the journal adds, are likely to be more in evidence than horsed carriages, thus obviating the difficulty of the management of wheeled traffic which arose at the Curzon durbar.

Steps have already been taken to induce the Calcutta and Bombay companies to send several hundred taxicabs to Delhi. Communication between the different camps will be by circular railway trains running at short intervals.

The programme of the royal tour in India at the end of this and the beginning of next year will include a big game shooting trip when his Majesty visits Nepal.

The royal party leaves England about December 12, and, according to present arrangements, travel overland to the Mediterranean to take steamer for Bombay.