Hints for the Home

Soups for Winter.

Thick nourishing soups make a very good luncheon dish for winter days. Served with quantities of toast they make a hearty and healthy luncheon. Black bean soup is cheap and very good. It resembles a mock turtle soup.

Two cupfuls of black beans, brown stock, brown roux, bouquet of herbs made of one sprig of thyme; four pepper-corns and one onion, thin slices of lemon, two hard-boiled eggs, salt and pepper to taste.

Soak two cupfuls of black beans over night. Put the soaked beans into a saucepan with the herbs and cover with cold water. Let them boil slowly for several hours or until tender, adding more water if necessary. When the beans are very soft remove the herbs, drain off the water and pass the beans through a sieve. Add to the pulp enough brown stock to make a soup of the consistency of thin cream.

Place it again on the fire and add a brown roux made of one tablespoonful of butter and one tablespoonful of flour cooked together until brown; dilute it to smoothness before adding, and cook it with the soup for five minutes. Season with pepper and salt, strain through a sieve. Then add a few thin slives of lemon and two sliced hard-boiled eggs and one-quarter of a cupful of sherry or red wine.

Onion soup is very simple and quickly made. Slice two or three large onions, fry them in butter or dripping until they are soft and red, then add three tablespoonfuls of flour, and stir until it is a little cooked. Add to this slowly a pint of boiling water, stirring all the time so that it will be smooth.

Boil and mash three good-sized potatoes. Add to them slowly a quart of scalded milk, stirring well, so it will be smooth. Add the potato and milk mixture to the onion mixture. Let it get very hot and then pass it through a strainer. Sprinkle over the top a little parsley chopped very fine, and a few croutons.

Parboil a heaping tablespoonful of macaroni for ten or fifteen minutes. Strain off the water and cook the macaroni in boiling bouillon or consomme for five minutes. Serve with grated Parmesan cheese.

Dainty Dishes.

Cheese Custard.—One cup grated cheese, one-half cup cream or rich milk, yolks of two eggs, a speck of salt and paprika. Mix cream and cheese and heat until cheese is melted. Remove from fire, add yolks of eggs, beaten, and pour into custard cups or ramekins. To be served with jelly or preserves.

Potato Balls.—For these mash 5 cold potatoes, an ounce of butter, and either two ounces of boned fish, minced roast beef or game, an ounce of bread crumbs, pepper, salt, a pinch of mixed herbs and an egg. When this is thoroughly mixed form it into balls the size of an egg and fry them in boiling fat.

Cheese Gingerbread.—One cup of molasses, two cups of flour, four ounces of cheese, two teaspoons of soda, one-half teaspoon of salt, one-half cup of water. Put molasses and cheese together in double boiler and let the cheese melt. Add soda and stir hard. Mix and sift dry ingredients, add them to the molasses and cheese mixture alternately with the water. Bake in small butter tins fifteen minutes.

Oatmeal Gems.—Put into a bowl one pint of cooked oatmeal, and add to it half a teaspoonful of salt and the yolk of an egg; mix and add half a cupful each of boiling water and milk, a cupful of whole wheat or white flour and a rounding teaspoon of baking powder. Beat well for two minutes and add the white of the egg. Bake in greased gem pans for half an hour in a hot oven.

Apple Charlotte.—Cover the bottom of a greased pie dish with rather thick slices of apple, sprinkling generously with sugar. On top place slightly overlapping thin pieces of bread and butter. Repeat the layers, turning the buttered side of the final layer of bread outward. Bake in a moderate oven until the apples are fully cooked, then invert on a hot dish and sprinkle with sugar.

Corn Gems.—These are especially good for a hot bread for breakfast, as they only take fifteen minutes to bake. Two eggs, one teaspoonful of salt, one cupful of cornflour, one tablespoonful of butter, one-half cupful of white flour, one cupful of milk, and one teaspoonful of baking powder. Break the yolks of the eggs; add to them milk, salt, and melted butter; mix them well together, then add the two kinds of flour. Beat the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth; when they are ready add the baking powder to the flour mixture and then fold in lightly the whipped whites. Turn at once into warm muffin pans, a tablespoonful of batter into each one, and bake in a hot oven for fifteen minutes.

Useful Hints.

Linen is a fabric which can be easily dried at home.

The sandwich with a rich filling does not require butter.

Wash chocolate and cocoa stains with soap in tepid water.

People who suffer from acidity should eat acid fruits with farinaceous food.

When there is a slight leak in the sprinkler, try a little hot paraffin on the broken place.

A bit of horseradish placed on top of sour pickle will keep mold away from the vinegar.

Corduroy suits for the small boys will stand school wear and tear better than anything else:

Nothing will clean walls so well as a piece of flannel tied on the top of a long-handled broom.

Wetting scorch stains with soap suds and placing them in the sun will remove the brown spots.

Make all pairs of stockings or socks with different colors so that the hose can be quickly matched.

Grapes and apples are among the most nutritious fruits and should be freely eaten, even by the most delicate.

Butter should always be kept in a stone jar, with the lid on tight, otherwise it is liable to absorb odors of other foods kept in the chest.

To stiffen starch, add to one quart of prepared starch a teaspoonful of gum arabic and one of baking soda; dissolve in a little water and stir well.

To remove machine grease from clothes without taking the colors out, rub the spot with a solution made of cold water, ammonia and soap.

To fasten the handles which have become loose on cupboard doors or bureau drawers, warm some powdered alum in an old iron spoon and apply it to the handles.

When making apple pies, cut the pieces irregularly instead of slicing them. The pieces will not lay so flat or pack together, and they will cook more quickly.

If, when sending or taking a hat by train, it is secured to the bottom of the box by a few strong stitches of threat, the most delicate hat will not be crushed, as, no matter how the box is turned about, the hat will not move.

NO DISCOUNT ON PIES.

How Mrs. Fifer Repaid Mrs. Castle for Her Kindness.

Mrs. Hannah Fifer, a widow, who earned her living by renting rooms for light housekeeping, had the reputation of being a shrewd manager, and much inclined to carry economy to the farthest possible point She was hard-working withal, and seemed never to reach the end of her daily labor. On a certain day, Mrs. Castle, one of the "light housekeepers," finding a surplus of time on her hands, kindly offered to help Mrs. Fifer out with her overflow of work.

"Well, if you feel like it, I wouldn't care if you'd take hold and bake me up a couple of pies," Mrs. Fifer conceded. "That'll help me a lot. There's a bowl of apple sauce that I'm afraid won't keep if it ain't used soon."

After Mrs. Castle had begun work Mrs. Fifer appeared with a supplementary suggestion.

"While you're about it," said she, "mebby you wouldn't mind baking four pies. 'Twon't take any more coal to bake four than two, and that'll be a saving. You can make the fillin' hold out by having lots of juice to it."

Mrs. Castle agreed to the amendment, and worked away industriously until her task was accomplished, when, wearied with her labors, she retired to her own apartment.

In a short time, Mrs. Fifer's small daughter, Peggy, appeared at her door.

"Ma says," reported Peggy, "that she don't b'lieve she'll be able to use all them four pies before they dry out, and she wants to know if you won't buy two of 'em off her for twenty cents—and she'd like the twenty cents right away, please."

Mrs. Castle bought the pies, observing to herself with a dry smile, "She might have let me have two for fifteen—considering!"

An Awful Possibility.

Breathlessly he rushed into the barber shop. His hat, collar and necktie were off in a trice, and he sprang into the chair over which old Fritz presided.

"I want a shave and a hair cut, and I have only fifteen minutes," he said.

Old Fritz stopped to consider. After a few seconds, he asked:

"Vitch do you vant the most?"

"A shave."

The shave took about eleven minutes.

As Fritz removed the towel from his customer's neck, he said:

"Mine friend, don't nefer again ask a barber to cut your hairs and shafe you in fifteen minutes, pecause sometime you might find a barber vat would do it."

In rubbing up against the world you will discover that truth is stranger than fiction.

Peevishness may be considered the canker of life that destroys the vigor and checks the improvement; that creeps on with hourly depredations, and taints and vitiates what it cannot consume.—Dr. Johnson.

KITCHENER'S ARMY TRAINER.

Lt.-Gen. Hunter Doing as Valiant Work as If in the Field.

Napoleon Potsdam with the maimed fist was on his way to visit Lord Rosebery at Dalmeny, near Edinburgh. At the same time Archie Hunter happened to be commanding the troops in Scotland. As the general officer commanding he attended at the railway station to welcome the Emperor. Now there is an ancient legend that horses—Scotch horses at any rate—strongly object to the near presence of the evil spirit. Whether this had anything to do with what followed, who can say? At any rate, hardly had the "Scourge of God" taken his seat in the carriage that was to convey him to Lord Rosebery's place than the horses became terrified, and it seemed certain that nothing could stop them from bolting and carrying Wandering Willie extremely swiftly to a destination which he now seems bent on reaching. Archie, seeing the peril, dealt one of the horses a smashing blow on the nostrils—a very good tip, by the way, when dealing with a frightened gee-gee—and saved the situation. The Kaiser was gratitude itself, and gave General Hunter a standing invitation to the Royal Palace at Potsdam. The late Lord Roberts was the only other British general who shared the honor (?) with him. Sometimes it seems almost a pity that Hunter was quite so prompt.

His father was a London merchant, and Archie was born at Kilburn fifty-eight years ago. But tell a Scotsman that General Hunter

Lieut.-General Sir Arch. Hunter.

is not Scotch and he will brain you. If you had heard the yells of applause that greeted him at the last Glasgow academical dinner you would have had no doubts as to his nationality, and of course he is Scotch—his father was a Scotsman and his mother one of the Grahams of Glenny.

Made Name in Egypt.

When he was but a lad his father died, and young Hunter went north of the Tweed, learned how to shoot grouse, hunted with hounds before he was in his teens, developed a great love for horses, indeed, pets of all kinds, and was duly sent to school at the Glasgow Academy. From there he went to Sandhurst, getting a commission in the 4th King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment in 1874. He became adjutant, and after some ten years of regimental service joined the Egyptian army and made his name. Made it on account of his personal valor, shrewdness, geniality, and the confidence he could instil into those serving under him. He was fourteen years in the Nile Valley, and when he left it he was a major-general, and a K.C.B., a D.S.O., and innumerable medals and mentions in despatches, as well as a brace of wounds. At Giniss he was severely wounded in the left arm. The doctors wanted to amputate. Hunter said: "Take off my arm and put me on my legs and I'll blow my brains out." That speech saved his arm, although it is not a great deal of good to him now. He was one of Kitchener's discoveries—about the best K. of K. ever made—and in Egypt he used to be called the point of Kitchener's lance. Where fighting was there were Hunter and his men gathered together, and that all might know where they were to be found an old flag used to accompany his force Known as Hunter's rag. Quite apart from such trifles as wounds, Hunter on one occasion nearly lost his life by drowning. The ill-fated boat, the El-Teb, capsized at the fifth cataract. Hunter was on board, and on jumping overboard was struck by the side rail, which knocked him out of time and nearly led to his feeding the crocodiles. He heard later that the unlucky boat had drifted down stream some thirty miles, stuck on an island, and that tapping was heard inside. Seedy as he was owing to his accident he started off for the wreck, and sat happily for twelve hours on the keel of the steamer while a hole was bing cut in her side. Out of it crawled two native firemen. Among the jobs he was given in Egypt were the governorship of the Province of Dongola, and afterwards of Omdurman.

Was in Ladysmith Siege.

He began the South African War as chief of the staff to Sir George White, and all he did to keep up the spirits of the sometimes desponding garrison during the siege of Ladysmith has passed into history. Incidentally he had a row with Admiral Lambton, criticizing with an astounding flow of language the shooting of the naval guns. Lambton is said afterwards to have remarked: "What a loss a man with such a fluent tongue is to the navy." Hunter was the life and soul of the whole defence, and was responsible for planning the successful fighting of Lombard's Kop, Wagon Hill, and Caesar's Camp. Also he led the little band that set out from Ladysmith and destroyed the Boer "Long Tom." Light shoes, revolvers, and no talking were the order of the day—or rather night. Silently the party crept in inky darkness over the hilly, broken ground right up to the Boer gun without being discovered. The work was practically over before the Boers knew it had begun. When the alarm was at last given the well-known Major Karri Davis shouted "Fix Bayonets!" There was not a bayonet with the party. But the Boers fled. All returned to Ladysmith in safety. After the relief he commanded the 10th Division and had many notable successes. One was when General Prinsloo with 5,000 Boers surrendered to him. The Boers feared but respected him. When giving up their arms they never dared to palm off weapons on him that had probably been used by Noah when he went big-game shooting in the Ark. They knew that he wanted their Mausers, and they had to give them to him. But he had time to think of kind actions, too. He returned Mrs. Delarey the horse on which her son had been riding when he met his death, which touched her deeply. For his services in South Africa he was promoted to Lieutenant-General and received the thanks of Parliament. On his returning home the good people of West Kilbride wanted him to be present at a demonstration in his honor. He refused, saying; it would ill become him to go to a scene of rejoicing when so many of his gallant friends lay dead on the battlefield.

Actually Got Married.

After this he went to India, where Kitchener was Commander-in-Chief, and commanded successively the Western Army Corps and then the Southern. Probably the climate affected him, for on coming home he bitterly grieved and disappointed his chief, K. of K., by actually getting married. The lady of his choice was the widow of the 2nd Lord Inverclyde, and to show he was forgiven Lord Kitchener was his best man.

Now Hunter is down at Aldershot turning Kitchener's cubs into an army. No one could do it better, but what heart-breaking work he has in front of him—not as regards the men, they are good, very good, but in arranging for their housing, feeding, clothing, kits, transport animals, rifles and ammunition. None of these things can be got in a moment. Because Britain had a fine toy model army in years gone by it does not follow that it can be turned into a real one complete to the last button on the gaiters without time, pains, and self sacrifice. The work he is doing is harder, braver, more unselfish work than fighting. Kitchener knows—and he is the only one that counts—that with General Hunter at Aldershot the right man is in the right place. In making a speech to some Scotch students a year or two ago Archie begged them to "keep keen and keep clean." That is what he will teach the new army, to "keep keen and keep clean."—London Tatler.

WORKMEN, SPARE THAT NEST!

When a Great Inventor Did a Kind Deed.

A very charming story is told of Mr. Corliss, the inventor of the great Corliss engine. He had made plans for building an extension to his engine works, had chosen the site and begun the work, when the workmen discovered in a clump of bushes directly in the line of the foundation a bird sitting on a nest that held four blue eggs.

Her fright and fury at the invasion of her territory was voluble and pathetic. Mr. Corliss happened to be near by; he heard of the discovery, and came over to see the bird mother and her nest. The sight interested and moved him. He ordered all work at that point suspended until the little family represented by the four blue eggs had been hatched and reared. So the masons laid aside their hammers and the carpenters their planes, and silence fell upon the thicket where the distracted little mother was now smoothing her feathers and attending again to her domestic duties. Not until the last awkward youngster was safely launched on his career was the silence disturbed by the returning workmen.

It would be pleasant to believe that each one of the four birds whose lives Mr. Corliss had made possible straightway betook itself to the gardens of their friend, and there devoured so great a quanity of noxious insects that the harvests of that year became memorable. But kindness in this, as in many other cases, was no doubt its own most satisfying reward.

Marysville, N.B., is to have a new skating rink.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, DECEMBER 6.

Lesson X. Christ Risen From the Dead. Mark 16.1-8. Matt.28.11-15. Golden Text, Luke 24. 5, 6.

Verse 1. And when the sabbath was past—After sunset on the seventh day of the week. No purchases were allowed before sunset on this day, that is, the Sabbath.

2. And very early on the first day of the week—They bought the spices after sundown on the Sabbath so that they could go very early to the tomb the next morning.

They come to the tomb when the sun was risen—As they started very early they evidently had to go some distance if they arrived after the sun was up. But love knows neither distance nor fatigue. It is significant that the sun was risen when they came to the tomb, and that the full light of day shone upon the open grave.

3, 4. Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the tomb? . . . for it was exceeding great—Natural obstacles frequently seem much greater than they really are.

5. And entering into the tomb . . . they were amazed—The fact that the stone was rolled away carried no surprise to them, even though it was the stone which gave them so much anxiety. They were amazed at the young man. Luke says there were two men in shining apparel. Matthew says an angel was sitting on the stone outside the tomb.

6. The young man spoke with particularity. There was to be no doubt as to the fact. He did not say only, Ye seek Jesus; he added, the Nazarene; and then to leave no possibility of mistaken identity, he described what had happened to "Jesus, the Nazarene," he who hath been crucified. Again he is careful and emphatic in declaring the further fact, He is risen; if you do not believe it, look, he is not here: behold, the place where they laid him! These words came in short, breathless utterances. The inference of the resurrection from the fact of the empty tomb is too stupendous for calm description.

7. But go, tell his disciples—The excitement continues. Do not remain here; spread the news abroad, spread it immediately.

And Peter — Peter would be a most important herald of the news. He had denied Jesus, it was true. But he had learned his lesson. He could be trusted to the end. And he would understand the meaning of the resurrection perhaps as no other disciple.

Into Galilee—It was in Galilee that Jesus declared himself to his close followers as the Christ the Son of the living God. In Galilee he would show these same disciples that the bands of death could not hold him.

8. They fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them—To go to the tomb with spices to anoint the body of Jesus, in full expectancy that they should find him, and then to be received as they were, with such an overwhelming announcement, was sufficient to make them afraid. For the time being they said nothing to anyone. Later, when they were calm and could estimate the importance of what they had seen and heard, they opened their mouths and told what they knew.

11. Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city—These, too, had seen and heard what had taken place. The occurrences were so important that they told unto the chief priests all the things that were come to pass. It seemed the natural thing to tell the chief priests, for even the guard knew that the chief priests were the ones particularly interested in the death of Jesus.

12. And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel—A succession of undignified and unholy proceedings followed hard upon the determination to crucify Jesus. The spectacle of these high churchmen advising with the soldiers as to how to suppress the truth shows how large a price in spiritual and religious power they had to pay.

Gave much money—The ready resource of the high priests seemed to be money. They placed a peculiar value upon its purchasing power.

13. Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept—This counsel put the soldiers in a double predicament. If they had been asleep while on the watch they were punishable with death, as soldiers. Again, sleeping, how could they know what had happened?

14. If this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and rid you of care—The high priests and elders had had so little success in persuading the governor that it is not likely they laid much weight on their words when urging the soldiers. But they were giving the soldiers much money and hence were confident of winning them. Then, too, they evidently thought they could also persuade the governor with money.

15. So they took the money, and did as they were taught—It is not likely that these soldiers did much talking. They were in too much danger. But the leaders of the church could base their account of the disappearance of Jesus's body on the supposedl truth of the soldiers' statement. People would believe them when they said, "The soldiers told us so."

This saying was spread abroad among the Jews, and continueth until this day—Some people will allow their prejudices to lead them to believe anything. Others without prejudice will believe what seems to be told them with some particularity. Many a just man has suffered because of statements concerning him which had no foundation, but which "spread forth," continue in their falsity and harmful effect.

MUTINY AND DISEASE.

Foes Which Are Making Havoc in Austrian Army.

A Rome correspondent of the London Standard says: "Harrowing details of the condition of the Austro-Hungarian forces which have reached here form a ghastly tale of death and suffering. As was reported before the last great battle which proved such a crushing defeat, the Austrian War Office sent to the front all the men of the Landsturm, three parts of whom were scarcely fit for police work and railway watching, which they had done up to then, much less capable of rendering service in the field.

"The military authorities had no choice but to call them up, for all the best troops had been put out of action in Galicia, while the Hungarian cavalry, which are the first soldiers the Dual Monarchy possesses, had all been drafted north long before to help the Germans push through to Calais. They behaved splendidly in Belgium, but were almost wiped out by the naval guns. In a single list of losses suffered by this crack corps in one week alone appear the names of 867 Magyars belonging to the most exclusive circles of the Hungarian aristocracy.

"Apart from its enormous losses in the field the Austro-Hungarian army has been seriously affected as a fighting force by indiscipline. Even sedition is seething in the ranks. Some twenty-four regiments from the Carpathian region were shot down, more or less by wholesale, at the very outset of hostilities for refusing to march against the Russians. Despite the terrible example made of the mutineers the spirit of insubordination has not been checked with the consequence that in the very first engagements whole regiments went over to the Russians at a time.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina things are rapidly approaching a crisis. Natives are deserting from their regiments by the hundreds. There is a constant stream of men returning to their homes from all sides. German troops have been detached to fetch them back, and as all villagers side with the deserters, civil war is raging over entire districts.

"The Germans are relentless in their methods of dealing with the mutineers. In order to strike terror among the population, executions are carried out by the wholesale. At Bugojno, for instance, out of 380 able-bodied men which that placed contained only 111 escaped being shot. At Mostar eighty men were executed at the same time. Frequently whole villages are burned down as a further example.

"It is easy to understand after this how the Russians are driving the Austrians like sheep before them, without taking into account the terrible ravages cholera is making in the ranks of the unfortunate Austro-Hungarian soldiers."

Just Like An Officer.

Lord Lovat, the head of the famous Lovat Scouts, tells a good story in regard to very much-ruffled private who was under arrest for some offence. Lord Lovat inquired of the sergeant as to what his offence was. "He's a very troublesome fellow, sir," the sergeant replied. "Got too much lip, goes without leave, comes back when he likes, and gets drunk when he likes—just as if he was an officer."

An egotist is a man who thinks if he hadn't been born people would have wanted to know why not.

Barber—Your hair's very thin on the top, sir. Customer—Ah, I'm glad of that; I hate fat hair.

When a knife-blade loses its temper it becomes dull, but when a woman loses hers she becomes cutting.

"What doctor do you prefer, allopath or homeopath" "It makes no difference; all paths lead to the grave."

"I thought you said his word was as good as his bond?" So I did, but I forgot to add that his bond is no good either."

"How'll yeh have yer eggs" demanded the busy waitress. "As well as could be expected under the circumstances," replied the absent-minded physician.