About the Household

Three Kinds of Cookies.

Fruit Cookies—Beat to a cream one cup sugar, one-half cup shortening, one-half cup sweet milk, and one beaten egg; add three and one-half cups flour, three level teaspoons baking powder. Roll thin, cut out and place in pan. Put some of the following filling on each piece, place another cooky on top, and bake.

Filling for Cookies.—Three-quarters cup sugar, one heaping tablespoon flour, one cup boiling water, one cup minced raisins. Cook till thick. This filling can be changed by substituting figs, dates, English currants, or hickory nut meats in same proportion as raisins.

Extra Nice Molasses Cookies. — One cup lard pressed in solid, three cups molasses, one teaspoon ginger, one teaspoon salt. Boil this 15 minutes. Let it become thoroughly cold. I usually boil mine the day before. Take one cup of boiling water and into this put two teaspoons of soda. Hold over pan as it foams and runs over. Add flour enough to roll, taking care not to mix too hard. Roll thin and bake in a quick oven.—Mrs. D. L. T.

Orange Cookies.—Three-quarters cup butter, one cup sugar, three well beaten eggs, yolks and whites beaten separately, grated rind of two oranges, one and one-half cups flour, sifted before measured, one-half teaspoon baking powder, heaped. Drop by teaspoons on greased or wax paper and bake.—Sunbeam.

Choosing Mutton.

Mutton is generally considered the most healthful meat, and is eaten by many, to the exclusion of any variety. Consequently great care should be exercised in the selection, and a little time should be given to the study of quality.

In buying mutton (or lamb) care should be taken to see that the fat is clear, hard and white, as mutton with soft or yellow fat indicates too long a stay in cold storage. It might appear that a great quantity of fat on mutton signifies waste; but the lean part is much juicier and more tender when this is the case, so the wise housewife makes purchases with this in view.

The leg has the least fat in proportion to weight. Next comes the shoulder. The color of lean mutton is a deep red.

Lamb is good to eat when one year old and is much more digestible than other immature meat, such as veal or young pork. The wise housewife knows the value of nutrition, so she will hesitate about buying lamb merely because it is in market, as it is generally expensive.

The meat of spring lamb should be a clear pink, with plenty of pure white fat.

Saving Time and Energy.

Have you ever noticed how much time and energy are wasted, almost imperceptibly too, both by men and women? In the kitchen as well as in other places in these days, when the cost of living demands many economies, it is well to remember that a saving in money, as time saved may be used otherwise.

Systematizing housework so as to avoid unnecessary steps saves both time and energy; keeping knives sharp saves time; knowing how to manage a fire saves time, fuel and temper.

Some housekeepers may not see how to save much, especially the inexperienced, in actual dollars and cents, but they can with a little forethought save a few valuable moments here and there during the day, and the total summed up will afford time to do a little embroidery, sewing, read a new book, or taking an outing of an hour by way of relaxation and renewal of nerve force

Do all work carefully and neatly; do not throw scraps and threads on the floor while sewing to waste time in picking up when you have completed the work.

To Keep Out Moths.

As the time is approaching when winter clothing will be put away, some advice on how to prevent damage by moths will be found useful.

First shake each garment, then brush or beat it and hang it out of doors if possible. Spray the receptacle which is to hold the woollens with turpentine and line it well with newspapers.

Fill the trunk or box with the garments, laying them smoothly and with newspapers between them. Put newspapers over the top.

Should moths be seen during the warm months raise the cover of the trunk or box, remove the top papers and spray the things lightly (if not perishable colors) with turpentine and put fresh newspapers on top (moths abhor printers ink).

Moths are said not to lay eggs where kerosene has been sprinkled.

This plan of prevention has been in use for years with success. The odor of kerosene and turpentine disappears very quickly.

By Way of Helping.

It will be found a great help if cooking utensils are filled with water as soon as emptied of food instead of being allowed to stand. The sooner they are washed the better and easier it is. If dishes must wait free them of scraps, then put them to soak; cover with a towel or paper.

Do not throw away clean tissue paper; fold it neatly, put a rubber band around it, then place it with your kitchen towels; it will be found satisfactory for polishing lamp chimneys and gas or electric light globes and to wipe out the grease from frying pans before washing.

It is very annoying to have a small cooking utensil tip over on the range, as it will occasionally do. It can be avoided by simply placing a flat tin lid, such as comes on lard cans, then put your cup or whatever it may be over it.

An earthenware casserole, or any dish, should be soaked in salty or soda water for twenty-four hours before using, so as to avoid cracking. Treated thus its term of usefulness will be prolonged.

Hints for the Home.

Nerve specialists now realize that weakness of will is dangerous to health.

Salt in the oven placed over the baking plates will prevent the pastry from scorching at the bottom.

To help to purify the air of a sick room place a bowl of clean water in the room, and change it every day.

A paste of common baking soda and water spread on a burn will stop the pain and inflammation almost immediately.

Skim milk, warmed, is a splendid cosmetic for the skin. Bathing the skin with warm milk prevents it from getting rough in cold weather.

Scientists have discovered that disease germs quickly die when they come in contact with the ordinary floor covering known as linoleum. This is thought to be due to the disinfectant properties of linseed oil which is found in linoleum.

The Nun's Hood—A Parisian Hat of Mourning.

So many Parisian women have lost father, brother, husband, son, or sweetheart in the great European war that almost every other woman one meets on the streets of Paris wears the deep crepe denoting bereavement. Fashionable milliners appreciating the trend of the times have designed numerous very charming effects for those in mourning. The photo pictures a very charming creation, a "Nun's Hood," trimmed with just the faintest bit of white to offset its sombreness. It may be that some milliner with advanced ideas may soon set the vogue of creations in white for those in mourning.

Bonds and Their Yields

Railroad Bonds—There is a Splendid Market for Railroad Bonds Which are Quoted on Most Exchanges.

Few general classes of bonds offer such a wide range of choice as the railroad bond. This kind of investment offers a great variety of bonds, ranging from the strictly staid and sober prior lien or first mortgage bond to the third and fourth general debenture issue; and short-term notes ranking either pari passu with the one or the other of the mortgages, or as a secondary lien after all the others have been looked after. If the investor wants absolute security for his money together with a steady rate of interest, he can get this in a certain type of railway bond: or if the speculator wants to take a little flier in something which has a great many elements of safety lacking in shares, and yet has sufficient price-variation to net a decent profit on the turn, he will find his desires fulfilled by yet another type of railroad bond. And so it is all the way down the line; practically every requirement of the average investor will be found to be fulfilled by some one of the numerous kinds of railway mortgage securities.

The Straight Mortgage.

Probably the best known representative of this large class, is the ordinary railroad mortgage bond. This is an obligation of a railroad company, which runs for a certain length of time at a certain definite rate of interest, and is usually secured by a mortgage upon railroad property. In the case of the first mortgage bonds, they are secured by a mortgage against all or the greater part of the company's property; while in the case of the other subsequent issues of bonds they may be secured by separate properties or as second or third mortgages on the same property. The short-term notes may be secured in either of these two ways, or a certain amount of treasury stock may be set aside as special security, in addition to the general deed of hypothec against the property itself.

There is still another type of railroad bonds known as equipment trust certificates, which are specially secured by the equipment they are issued to purchase. These are usually amortization bonds and are redeemable serially. They are different from the ordinary railroad mortgage bond in that their security is rolling stock and not fixed assets.

The Best Kind of Security.

Where absolute security is the paramount consideration, it would be difficult to find better bonds than the first mortgage and even the second mortgage bonds of the big railways of the United States and Canada. It has been the custom of most railway builders on this continent when building new lines to issue bonds for so much per mile of line, securing the bonds by a mortgage against the property on either side of the right-of-way, as well as upon the actual railway line itself. Usually a good deal more money has been needed to build the railway than is represented by the bond issue, and this additional money is often raised by the sale of stock and secondary bonds, all of which increase the security behind the first mortgage bonds. These latter are the safest kind of security, because in the first place they are a real estate mortgage against property which the very building of the railroad has made more valuable; and in the second place they are a mortgage against other corporate property which has a definite marketable value aside from the value of the land itself.

When is Security Sufficient?

There are various tests to apply to railroad bonds to ascertain the amount of security behind them, and as to whether they are or are not an absolutely safe investment. Examination of the trust deed will show the nature of a mortgage; but the investor need not bother much about this as the bond house will give him all the necessary information. The total market value of the road, its cost and replacement value are, however, important factors. These can be arrived at only by careful consideration of all the securities outstanding and their selling price in the open market. The bonds should be covered twice over.

Then there is the earnings feature of the case. It is essential that the railroad be operating at a good profit. Bond interest must be earned and well earned. Further, before profits are shown the property must be well maintained, sufficient allowance being set aside for replacements and renewals.

The issue of subsequent mortgages is a good thing for the prior lien holders. It shows that others have confidence in the property, and moreover it provides a buyer for the road should it fail to meet expenses; for the second and subsequent mortgagors must buy in the road at a sum equal to the first mortgage or lose their money.

Why They Are a Good Buy.

Many Canadian and American railroad bonds are an unusually good buy at the present time. The security behind the issues of the more prominent companies is of the best; and particularly in the case of Canadian railroads largely financed through sale of stock. is the market value of the roads greatly in excess of the bonded indebtedness. For various reasons railroad bonds have kept down below normal values and appear cheap compared with some other investment securities. Their extremely wide range of offerings together with general stability of price make them an attractive buy. As some of these bonds are quite speculative in nature, however, the counsel of a thoroughly reliable bond dealer is advised where safe investment is the first consideration.

Cheering for the Patient.

Cautious Doctor: Excuse me for bringing you my bill; but you know how difficult it is to get money out of anyone's heirs.

Branding for crimes is still performed in some countries, and was not abolished in Great Britain until 1822.

The boss was taking the new typist to task. "You sing too much during business hours." "Surely a girl may be allowed to sing at her work!" "But you don't do any work. You ought to be a typist in a musical comedy!"

The Kaiser's Doom

Opinion in the British Isles is gradually hardening that whatever else the terms of peace, on Germany's inevitable defeat, may or may not include, they must certainly include the holding of the Kaiser to what President Wilson would call "strict accountability" — although the British public would scarcely interpret those words in a Wilsonian sense. Anyhow, the view is gaining ground, with remarkable rapidity, that the Kaiser must on the conclusion of the war, pay a personal price for the long series of outrages committed during the war, with his sanction and in his name. Writing in the Birmingham Post, Edgar Wallace puts this view both moderately and succinctly, as follows:

"Militarism was not destroyed in France until its symbol was transferred to St. Helena. We may talk round and about the question of reprisal for the ill-treatment of British prisoners, but the only reprisal we can make is to remove for ever from his sphere the man who has created the system which has made Prussian brutality possible. He has proved to us that he will stop at nothing to gain his ends, that he will violate every law of God and man so long as he can achieve some sort of success. We cannot apply the same treatment to him that we could apply to an honorable enemy. We cannot draw the sting of Prussian militarism without cutting off its head."

I am sure of this, that nothing but the deposition and exile of the Kaiser and his brood will satisfy the peoples of the allied countries and that, unless the whole lot are sent packing, bag and baggage, those peoples will feel that their Governments have fallen short of their duty. It may be impossible—it probably is—to change the nature of the Hohenzollern beast, but at least, its fangs can be drawn.

First among the terms of peace to which Germany will be forced to submit the delivery up of the Kaiser to be hanged. Lesser murderers have to pay the penalty of their crimes in their own person and there seems no reason why the carcass of the arch-criminal of the universe should be exempt. But I fear that this is a counsel of perfection.

Poultry

What Breed to Buy.

Long before you get your poultry house ready you will be thinking of the question of breed. Perhaps you already have your favorite. If so, the question is an easy one, and you have only to select some dependable breeder and buy your stock. Buy yearlings from strains that are good egg producers. By this we mean birds from a strain which has been gradually bred up to laying from 150 to 200 eggs yearly without loss of vitality.

Really, the question of breed is largely one of individual preference rather than marked superiority. Any one of the standard breeds will give you an abundance of eggs if you do your part.

If you prefer white eggs of course you will want some of the Mediterranean class. White Leghorns are generally credited with being the most prolific layers, not only of this class, but of the poultry world.

Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds lay brown eggs. These breeds are larger than the Leghorns, and are referred to by their champions as general-purpose fowls, being in addition to good layers fine table birds.

Buy one cock or cokerel for 8 to 10 hens of the heavier breeds, or from 12 to 15 hens of Leghorns and that class.

How to Preserve Eggs.

There are many solutions offered for this problem. Nearly all of them are more or less satisfactory, according as they are put into use efficiently or not. Salt and lime will keep eggs fresh, if they are taken directly from the nest, cooled right out at once, and placed in the isinglass method. Eggs may be kept for a long time, and safely, if they are taken strictly new-laid to begin with, wrapped in pieces of paper, and packed away in a cool, clean, sweet cellar.

To get the best results, it is always best to pack only eggs laid late in the season, when the weather is already cool, and when the time between storing and consumption is, after all, much shorter. It is scarcely practical to pack eggs away, to lie in storage through the heat of summer, and find them very choice for the following winter use. It can be done in cold storage plants, but even then the egg is far from the same in quality as a new-laid egg.

If eggs are carefully kept sterile to begin with, are gathered every day, are at once placed in storage by the use of any of these methods, and are kept in a cool cellar, they will keep for a long time, long enough to afford a good winter's supply. For the greater part, it all depends upon the thoroughness with which the job is done.

To prevent woollen garments from shrinking hang them out on the line quite wet. They should on no account be wrung in any way. Simply take them from the water and hang them out as they are, being careful not to pull the garment out of shape with the pegging.

Have you ever looked under a window-sill? If so, you have probably noticed that there is a narrow groove running right along underneath it. When it rains the water finds its way under the window-sill, and when it comes to the groove it drips off at once. This prevents the walls of the building from becoming soaked.

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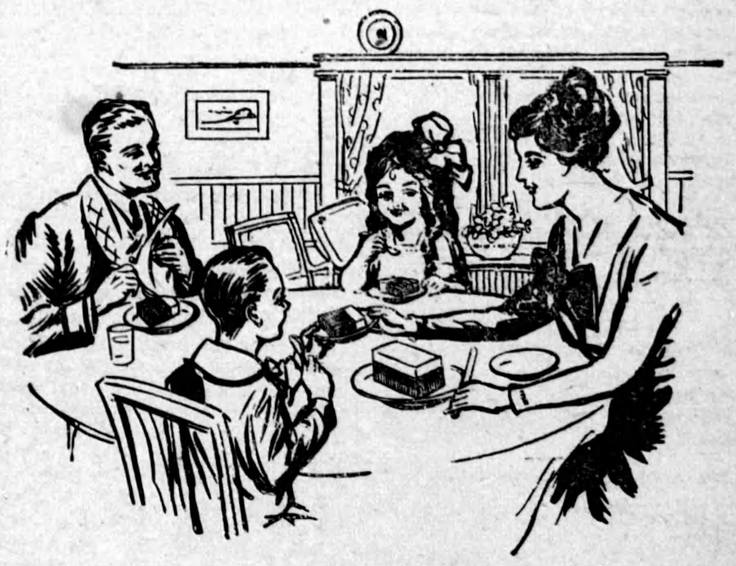

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in the Home

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