About the House

Useful Hints and General Information for the Busy Housewife

Dainty Dishes.

Cherry and Cheese Salad.—Arrange individual slices of cream cheese on lettuce leaves. Surround with canned white cherries in which the stone has been replaced by peanut. Put spoonful mayonnaise dressing on each cheese slice and garnish with maraschino cherry. A little cherry juice added to dressing adds to its favor.

Mushrooms.—Just let them simmer gently in browned butter until thoroughly cooked. The flavor and success of the mushrooms depends upon the slowness of the process. If you use a chafing dish, turn the flame down to low, or if it is electrically fitted use lower power. At least a half-hour is required in cooking.

New Dessert.—Take a pint of rhubarb, cut it into inch long pieces, then cover with a cupful of sugar. Let this stand for an hour. Now have a large pudding pant at hand, into which you can put the rhubarb, a pint of bread crumbs and a cupful of raisins in layers. Add a half-cupful of hot water. A final layer of bread crumbs should be added to the top, and the whole cooked in the over for 40 minutes. Cover the top of the dish during the first half-hour of baking. Serve with whipped cream.

Creamed Asparagus.—Tie the bunch up with a soft string, cut off the necessary part, and cook, for at least 25 minutes in salted water. Have ready a few slices of crustless toasted bread. Dip these in the asparagus liquor, then butter well and arrange on a platter. Drain the asparagus and place it on the toast. Now make a good cream sauce, using a cupful of milk, a teaspoonful of flour and a tablespoonful of butter and seasoning. This is the simplest of dishes, but it is an ever welcome one.

Stuffed Mutton Chops. — Remove bones from six double-ribbed mutton chops, or have butcher remove them, replace with sausage meat (about one-fourth pound) and fasten with skewers, allowing skewers to project two or three inches. Lay chops in dripping pan, dredge lightly with pepper and salt, and roast for twenty-five minutes, basting frequently with two tablespoons butter dissolved in cup hot water. Place paper frills on skewers and gravy from drippings in pan. In serving, arrange chops in circle on round chop plate, with peas or vegetable of day heaped in center, allowing paper frills on skewers to edge dish.

Carrot Chowder.—Two cups of sliced carrots, one cup diced potatoes, one-half cup diced onion, one-fourth cup diced raw bacon, two tablespoons flour, two cups fresh or one cup evaporated milk, two teaspoons salt, a little pepper, one tablespoon fresh or dried parsley or celery top. Put carrots and potatoes on to cook in three cups boiling water and boil forty-five minutes. Fry bacon and onion light brown and add milk. Mix flour with a little cold water till smooth. Add to milk, bacon and onion in fryingpan and cook five minutes, then add to potatoes and carrots, with salt, pepper and parsley. Dust with paprika when serving.

Crumb Pudding.—One cup rolled crumbs, one-half cup water to moisten, one cup milk, one egg, one-fourth to one-half cup sugar as needed. Kind of crumbs used will determine amount of sugar. Good combination is rich cake or cooky crumbs and part rolled crackers. Stale macaroons are delicious. Roll crumbs fine, add water and let soak. Beat egg, sugar and milk together, add crumbs and bake, or steam in top receptacle of small double boiler. Baking requires one-half hour in small, moderate oven; steaming about an hour. This will make four moderate servings. Serve with fruit sauce, hard sauce or cream.

"Last Minute" Dishes.—Did you ever think to make fritters, when the unexpected guest steeled himself complacently in the best armchair and made plans to stay to dinner? No matter how little you have in the larder, you can evolve a fritter out of it. They're a Sunday evening "special" in one household, where drop-ins are a common occurrence.

Make your batter out of flour, milk, baking powder and salt. Two level tablespoonfuls of baking powder and a quarter of a level teaspoonful of salt are to be used to each cupful of flour. This for a stiff batter—one to which you add fruits. In making all good fritter batter, you use twice as much flour as milk. More milk may be added to soft batter, such as for corn fritters, and such.

Canned pineapple fritters are easily made, as are any fruit fritters. Just cut the canned fruit up into very small pieces, then add them to the batter. Applies should be cut up into slices, coated with batter, then cooked in fat. Oranges receive the same treatment.

All fried foods of this kind should be properly drained on paper, after being taken from the pan of fat. If you do not care to go to the trouble of making a sauce, roll each fritter in powdered sugar.

Helpful Hints.

Alcohol will dissolve medicine stains.

Paper bags make very good covering for jars with food in them.

Paint stains on the carpet can be dissolved with spirits of turpentine.

Dark calicoes should be ironed on the wrong side with irons that are not too hot.

When the furniture looks sticky or smeary too much furniture polish has been used.

Soak nuts in hot water before cracking and the nuts will be much more likely to come out whole.

If roses are starved and otherwise neglected they are more apt to be attacked by insects and other pests.

Instead of grating cheese or the rind of a lemon, pare it off carefully and put it through the meat chopper.

Mix the batter cakes in a wide-mouth pitcher. It is easier to pour the batter cakes than it is to dip them.

Coarse salt and water is the best cleanser for wicker furniture and summer matting. Use a strong brush, and be sure to dry the articles thoroughly.

While ironing it is a good plan to get a clean brick (a white one if possible) as a stand. The iron will retain heat much longer than if an open iron stand be used.

If vegetables are wilted they should not be pared or prepared in any way until they have been revived in water. The wilted surface makes waste in the preparation.

An old flour-sifter that has lost its value as a sieve makes an excellent egg-boiler, as the eggs may all be placed in the water at once, and also removed at once when done.

When a baking dish gets burned in using it should not be scraped; simply put a little water and ashes in it and the burned surface will come off easily without injuring the dish.

Never boil dish towels with washing powders or soda in aluminum utensils. It will leave a blackened mark. Clean aluminum with paste prepared for it, or rub blackened scorched surfaces with mineral wool.

Half a cupful of milk put in a dishtub full of hot water will serve as a substitute for soap. It softens the water, does not roughen the hands, and brightens dishes, cleaning off all greases, and leaving no scum in the pan.

After cooking a new laid egg it very often gets cold through standing. When this occurs put the egg into a cup or small basin and pour some hot (not boiling) water over the egg. You will then find the egg as nice as when freshly boiled.

All the left over pieces of bread, should be wrapped carefully in a flour bag, or a sack. Hang this where the air can reach it. It serves to keep the bread free from mold. And you always have it at hand when you want to put it through the meat chopper for bread crumbs, bread puddings, cutlets, etc.

To renovate hat bands when stained by sweat dissolve 1½ ozs., of white castile soap in 4 ozs. of alcohol and 1 oz. each of sulphuric ether and ammonia; apply with a sponge or tooth brush, rub smartly, rinse out with clear rain water. This is equally good to renovate any cloth with fast color.

To prevent the finger from becoming pricked when hemming or embroidery put a small piece of surgeon's adhesive plaster over it. This plaster can easily be removed, and a roll may be kept in the work-basket for this purpose. This device is much more practical than the silver or gold finger-shields.

For damp places round a sink, or similar place, paint over with tar. Give two coats, letting the first dry thoroughly before applying the second. Then paint with a distemper. Strip off the paper from the damp places, take a sheet of brown paper, blacklead it on one side, and place that side against the wall. Then cover with the wallpaper. The damp will not strike through.

SCIENCE NOTES.

However strong a gale may be blowing, not a breath of wind is felt by the occupants of a balloon.

According to the British consul at Bordeaux each French soldier at the front has an allowance of one pint of wine a day.

It is authoritatively estimated that more than 2,000,000 women and girls have come into the labor market since the begining of the war.

Germany has already passed a law making it a punishable offense for an unauthorized person to wear a nursing uniform or badge.

In the far north of the Russian Empire lives a race of people who do not know who the Russians are and who do not know that there is a war.

Count Zeppelin has given orders that on his death his body shall be conveyed to its last resting place in one of the machines with which his name is associated.

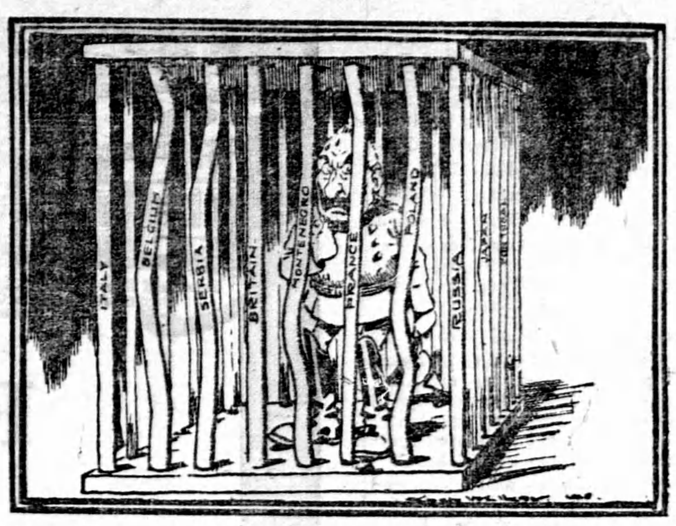
Sure Proof.

"Do you believe in luck?"

"Yes sir. How else could I account for the success of my neighbors?"

A shiftless man is always boasting of what he would do if he had the money.

CAGED!



Weary William—I've bent a few of the bars, but still I can't get out.
—From the London Daily Graphic.

THE FASHIONS

Satin and Serge Combinations.

Perhaps the most noticeable thing about the summer styles is their decided youthfulness; this is both in line and coloring. The straight lined frock and suits of serge, garbardine, taffeta and faille, lend grace and youth to all types of figures. For instance, a yoked, pleated frock of dark blue serge trimmed with black taffeta may be worn by the large woman or the small one with equally good results. One particularly good model worn by a large woman, at an exhibition recently, was made with a deep shoulder yoke of black taffeta, the serge laid in deep, flat pleats, hanging straight from the yoke. A girdle, consisting of two narrow stitched straps of the black silk, came well down over the hips, giving a long, slender appearance to a rather heavy figure. A pretty adaptation of the same style of dress is illustrated here in serge for the slender, younger woman.

Satin is effective with serge; and of course the combination of navy blue serge and black satin is quite as popular this season again as it has been for several seasons past. One sees many smart serge frocks with sleeveless coatees of black satin, half skirts of satin, sleeves of satin, and the various other notions favored for the modish combining of two or more contrasting materials. Scarcely a frock appears these days made strictly of one material. It is a fad which makes for economy and becomingness.

Hand Painting on Sport Costumes

The sport costume is another youthful notion. It imparts a delightful feeling of freedom, both of movement and spirit. There is something very becoming and exhilarating about the combinations of vivid colorings in the wide striped, checked, and printed novelty fabrics now being used in skirts and suits. The middy-blouse costume is popular with all; one of the new materials being used for middys is an adaptation of the old-fashioned jean. This material wears quite as well as its old-time blue predecessor, is reasonably priced, and a most satisfactory material generally for middy blouse and accompanying skirt. An effective combination for a middy costume is one of the bright awning striped linens or ducks, with blouse of plain white, collared and cuffed in the stripes.

The hand-painted or stencilled hat has been a fad for some time, its vivid parrots, chanticleers, conventionalized

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Blue Serge Frock.

flowers and fruits, harmonizing and blending in charmingly with the sport suit or frock. While many of us have misgivings as to the durability of the colors when the sun takes a hand, and beats down mercilessly on their gorgeous tones, still the idea is most attractive and becoming, and so easily carried out, that even if the colors do fade they may be quickly and readily restored; therefore, we may go a step farther and have hand-painted neckwear to match hat, or complete the suit. Georgette crepe is usually the material chosen for these collars and ties, with now and then one of Chinese crepe or a loosely woven linen. The motifs range in coloring from pale, softly tinted blossoms to gaily plumaged birds, and vividly colored flowers and fruits of tropical origin. The notion is not confined to sport suits by any means; many a simple little serge frock has been given its note of chic by the addition of one of these collars or ties. In hats, too, the idea is toned down and made effective use of in tailored millinery.

There are hand-painted belts of suede and antelope-skin being shown,

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Plain and Plaid Voile.

offering another effective way of introducing a bit of color in a dark linen or serge costume. Some of the most effective ones shown this year are of suede, in the favored soft blues, greens, and lavenders, either stencilled with flowers, or finished with beaded motifs and ornaments. One imported novelty has a bead flower applied at the center-back, and is closed in front with another rose to match.

Another pretty suggestion for the young girl is illustrated here in the effective combination of plain and plaid voile.

Foulards are being used extensively again this year; there is no silk, it seems, half as satisfactory for the summer silk frock for afternoons and for church. A most attractive dress, shown recently was fashioned of polka-dotted foulard, a dark blue dot on a white ground, trimmed with bandings collar and cuffs of plain, dark blue foudard. Foulard wears well, and is soft and cool.

These patterns may be obtained from your local McCall dealer or from The McCall Co., 70 Bond St., Toronto, Ont., Dept. W.

Left One Thing.

Wife—Well, that cook has gone, bag and baggage.

Husband—She didn't take that case of dyspepsia she left with me.

Its Usual Remark.

Master Bilton—Pa, what does money say when it talks?

Bilton, Sr. (speaking from personal experience)—Good-bye!

The Rest Hour.

"Bobby, why aren't you playing with your cousin Ethel?"

"Gee whiz, mother! Don't I get an hour off at noon?"

At the age of threescore and ten nearly every man is rich—in experience.

WILL WOOL PRICES GO STILL HIGHER?

DEPENDS ON PRINCIPLE OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND.

Questions to be Considered in Determining Price for Present Season.

They say that the centipede has one hundred legs, but the centipede would run short of legs if he should attempt to place one on each angle that has to be considered in determining the prices of wool this year," said Mr. John Hallam, the large Toronto wool buyer, "for there are so many elements entering into the price of wool and so many contingencies to be considered, that growers and buyers alike will have to be very conservative and use good judgment or they will find that they have lost money on the season's business.

Prices on wool in Canada are high; in fact extremely high, and the Canadian wool grower is receiving prices for his wool to-day that far exceeds his wildest dreams of a few years ago, yet optimistic human nature is so constituted, that although we have in the present more than we expected in the past, we look for more in the future than we have in the present; this is probably the reason that some growers are looking for still higher prices for their wool—whether they will receive them or not, depends on the basic principle of supply and demand modified by the unusual conditions existing to-day, a few of which we will now consider.

Wool of different grades is adapted for different uses, more wool of some grades is produced in Canada than we can use to advantage, while we require wool of other grades to meet our requirements; hence we must find a market for our surplus wool of some grades and purchase and import wool of other grades to supply our wants.

For the twelve months ending in January, 1916, there was imported for consumption in Canada wool and manufactures of wool of the value of $27,137,969, of which $6,006,770 worth was imported from the United States, the value of the importations from the United States alone being about double the value of the wool clip of Canada for that year. At the same time that we were importing this large amount of wool from the States, practically all of the surplus wool of Canada was exported to the States; therefore, in considering conditions of wool in Canada, we must also take into consideration the conditions in the United States.

Argentina is one of the great wool producing countries of the world, and up to a couple of years ago, shipped a majority of her wool to England, yet in 1915 out of a total of 322,991 bales of wool exported, 140,521 bales, or over 40 per cent. of the total amount of wool exported, was shipped to the United States, who was her best wool customer during that year.

United States' buyers also purchased great quantities of wool in Australia last year after the embargo was lifted, paying higher prices for the Australian wool than their English competitors, and as long as a permit to export wool from London could be secured, they also purchased large quantities of wool on that market, so that statistics show that on January 1, 1916, there was on hand in the United States 102,092,429 pounds of wool, which was a larger amount than was on hand on the first of January of any year since 1912.

Clipping is now in progress in the south-western part of the United States, and the clip is ready for market, but the large amount of wool on hand in the States has already had its effect on the market, as there is a lack of spirited competition among buyers for the wool that has been a feature of previous seasons, buyers showing a marked indifference as to whether they secure the wool or not, and only willing to purchase it at a lower range of prices.

Another item that is of interest to the Canadian wool grower and dealer, is the fact that there is a considerable quantity of Canadian wool in the hands of the dealers of the United States that was exported to that country last year, as they have been unable to dispose of the wool at a profit.

While these conditions exist, if the surplus Canadian wools are to be sold to the United States' dealers and manufacturers, they will have to be priced on a basis so that they will be able to compete with the foreign and domestic clip, and the large quantities of wool that are now on hand in the States has a tendency to, and undoubtedly will, place Canadian wools on lower range of prices than has prevailed in Canada during the past few months.

Very similar conditions exist in the Canadian wool situation to-day. Statistics show that on January 1, 1916, there were on hand in Canada over 3,000,000 pounds of wool. This is equal to about one quarter of the annual clip of Canada. Prices on Canadian wool have been so high that Canadian manufacturers have found that they could purchase foreign wools of similar grades, and we can naturally expect that the Canadian manufacturer will continue to use his stock on hand, and to import foreign wools as long as possible, or until the price of Canadian wools have adjusted themselves so that he may purchase our native wool as cheap as the foreign importations.

It is true that the freight and the war tax of 7½ per cent. that has to be paid on wool that is imported into Canada gives the Canadian producer that much advantage over the producer in foreign countries, so that we expect him to receive a higher price for his wool that is suitable for home consumption than is paid the foreign grower for wool of a similar quality, while for Canadian wools that are to be exported we can expect them to be placed on a basis so that they will be able to compete with the foreign and domestic clip of the country to which they will be shipped.

Over the whole subject of prices there is the nightmare of the embargo. Dealers and growers alike remember only too vividly the great drop in prices of wool last year in Canada when the Canadian government placed an absolute embargo on the exportation of wool to any country except the British possessions, and they also remember the immediate rise of prices on wool as soon as the government modified the embargo, and allowed wool to be exported to certain specified countries under a permit. The same was true in Australia. While an absolute embargo was in effect, there was simply a competition for the Australian wool among English buyers, at which time wool brought fair prices, but as soon as the embargo was lifted allowing exportation to the States, prices took a decided jump and sales were at a high level of prices. England at the present time has an embargo, and wool can only be exported under a special permit, but from the latest advices, these permits are very difficult to obtain; in fact, very few, if any, have been issued since the first of the year, and should the Canadian government at any time refuse to issue permits for the export of wool to the States, it will immediately shut off competition in that direction and will undoubtedly mean a decline in prices. A restricted market for the sale of any commodity results in a restricted competition among buyers and lower prices.

These are only a few of the angles that have to be considered in determining the price of wool for the present season, and unless the unexpected happens, all things indicate that last year's prices for wool were as high or higher than we can expect for the clip of the present year, which prices were about 100% higher than prevailed for many years past, and give the wool grower good returns for his product.

SHOES
FOR EVERY SPORT AND RECREATION
Sold by all good Shoe Dealers
Worn by every member of the family
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LOSS OF YOUTH BRITISH PERIL

Speakers Discuss Economic Value of the Disabled Soldier.

The loss of the youth of the nation is perhaps the bitterest blow to the countries engaged in the war.

"At this moment we are threatened with a man shortage greater than any we ever before knew in our history," writes the medical correspondent of the Times.

As a people, the writer concludes, the English must set their house in order lest in the days to come they find it tenantless and so become a prey to foes who have shown a wiser foresight and a truer appreciation of values.

On the other hand Dr. Murray Leslie, lecturing recently at the Institute of Hygiene, London, on "The Disabled Soldier; His Future and Economic Value,' said the present marriage rate is the highest ever known. Present marriages for the most part have been confined to young strong and active soldiers, although there were numerous instances where girls had been only too glad to marry the men of their choice after the latter had been disfigured or disabled. From that point of view war engagements as well as war marriages are greatly to be recommended, the speaker believed. Admiration for disabled war heroes should be encouraged. He continued:

"The economic question is the difficulty; yet how many women there are in this country with comfortable incomes who spend large sums on pampered lapdogs! Such incomes could be better utilized in other directions."

If people were as wise as they think they are the unexpected would seldom occur.

A girl thinks she has made good as soon as she hypnotizes some young man into buying her an engagement ring.