

About the House

SCRAP-BAG GIFTS.

Christmas is coming, so let's see what dainty gift possibilities the scrap bag holds, though, indeed, it is equally useful when birthday anniversary and hope-chest remembrances are in order.

Every bit of silk, lace, ribbon, left-over yarn and half yards of material should be used up, and there are ways for the ingenious woman to make them into unusual gifts.

There is nothing which so pleases the little girl as doll clothes. Make her a little bathing suit for her rubber or celluloid baby, using an old woolen stocking, binding it with gay red ribbon, and a little cap made from a torn rubber glove or the pieces of a discarded bathing hat.

A velvet or silk evening cape; a little feather or ribbon hat; underwear that will come off; a knitted blanket, a foot square made from a small ball of rose wool; a little white bedspread—these will bring their reward in a child's gratitude.

If the men are handy with tools make a doll house for the child. Partition it into four rooms with tiny doors and proceed to furnish it from the scrap bag. The pleasure one gets in making tiny draperies for the windows, choosing small pieces of silk and velvet for door hangings and cushions, dressing the pasteboard furniture in muslin sheets or gold-thread tapestry as required, is such as is never found shopping in town for the expensive doll or mechanical plaything you want to give a little girl on Christmas.

Flowers are used on so many things now that they are a most acceptable gift. Make them of organdie, velvet, taffeta or satin and trim with lace or embroidery. It is easy to pick up effective ideas for such work, and both maker and receiver will be pleased with the gift.

Beautiful pillow covers for the bed or couch can be made from half-yard pieces of silks or linen. Even net combines beautifully with linen—a deep rose cushion, veiled with cream net, making an ideal gift for a friend's hope chest.

The porch can always find use for any number of square, round or oblong cushions covered with cretonne, percale, gingham or rep. Plain backs of a contrasting color, using the same in applique on the front, permit using small scraps.

Don't forget aprons! One cannot make the large kitchen aprons from small pieces, but the refreshment or hostess aprons offer no end of opportunity to the scrap-bag possessor. A very quaint black satin one was made from a long narrow piece of material, wide as the width and only half a yard long. Turned about, the top slightly tucked at the waistline and ribbons attached, it became a great favorite with its gay orange velvet applique.

Bits of left-over crochet cotton may be used up advantageously in making three-inch flet initials for towels or making lace out of short lengths of rickrack or braid. One girl was pleased as could be with a half dozen initials and trimming for the end of as many towels for her hope chest.

A yard and a half of material can be cut beautifully into one of the popular bed or breakfast jackets. A combing jacket made of voile is always useful and can often be made with a yard, if the piece is used over the head diagonally, and short under the arms.

Don't overlook the gingham luncheon sets. Perhaps by combining two kinds of material the little doilies and napkins can be made, trimmed with cross-stitch or applique. Just the lunch cloth alone, made of gingham with a plain border or unbleached muslin with a deep checked border, makes a nice gift for the busy woman.

Remember the old crewelwork in yarn and give everything a touch of it. Think over the possibilities and copy the clever work you have seen. Make a doll light, a candle lamp shade, a telephone mask, underwear, silver or typewriter covers of flannel, bookmarks of ribbon with flower end weights—anything.

Get out the scrap bag to-day!

THE AFTERNOON CUP OF TEA.

If I wish to serve an especially tasty cup of afternoon tea I use orange flavoring, many people preferring this to lemon. To give the tea a delicate flavor put dried orange peel in a closed jar with cube sugar. In a few hours the sugar will absorb the orange flavor just enough to make a cupful of sweetened tea delicious. Sliced lemon served with the orange-flavored sugar adds to the tea for some people.

WATCH THE ASH PAN.

Ashes allowed to accumulate in the fire box of a stove will cause the lining to burn out. Ashes will also interfere

with the heating of the rest of the stove. To lengthen the life of the stove, keep the ash pan empty. When a full pan of ashes becomes hot, it will keep the grate of the stove so hot that it will warp and burn out, and sometimes cause the oven to warp. When a housewife tries to build a fresh fire in a stove with a full ash pan, she will have to take twice as long before she gets her stove heated satisfactorily. It is also a waste of good fuel.

A POPULAR STYLE FOR A MASQUERADE SUIT.



4900. This model may be developed in flannel, cambric or jersey cloth. The coat is separate, and is joined to the hood at the neck. This is a very popular costume for children's theatricals, fancy dress parties and masquerades.

The Pattern is cut in 5 Sizes: 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. A 10-year size requires 5 yards of 27-inch material. Pattern mailed to any address on receipt of 20c in silver, by the Wilson Publishing Co., 73 West Adelaide St., Toronto.

Send 15c in silver for our up-to-date Fall and Winter 1924-1925 Book of Fashions.

THANKFUL MOTHERS

Once a mother has used Baby's Own Tablets for her little one she would use nothing else. The Tablets give such results that the mother has nothing but words of praise and thankfulness for them. Among the thousands of mothers throughout Canada who praise the Tablets is Mrs. David A. Anderson, New Glasgow, N.S., who writes:—"I have used Baby's Own Tablets for my children and from my experience I would not be without them. I would urge every other mother to keep a box of the Tablets in the house." The Tablets are a mild but thorough laxative which regulate the bowels and sweeten the stomach; drive out constipation and indigestion; break up colds and simple fevers and make teething easy. They are sold by medicine dealers, or by mail at 25c a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Fish That Sing.

In Ceylon there is a shellfish, a sort of mussel, which sings!

It can hardly be claimed that it competes with the nightingale, but it produces a long, low, fluty sound, which has a musical quality. Seeing that these bivalves do not possess a throat in any accepted sense of the word, and certainly no vocal cords, this singing sound must be produced by some manipulation of their double shell.

It is possible that increasing dryness does the trick, for the sound only occur after the tide has been down for a considerable time, leaving the bivalves high and dry on the rocky beach.

There is a fish which hoots, too. The Scotch fisherman calls this fish the butterman, and, when caught by line or net, it makes a noise from the back of its throat when landed. Eels also make a noise when the hook is being removed from their gills. The common and very ugly gurnard of our coasts grunts loudly when hauled to the surface, a strange croaking noise more like the caw of a crow than the sound a fish seems likely to produce.

Wonderful George!

They were on their honeymoon and she regarded him as the most wonderful being in the whole world.

They strolled along the seashore. Suddenly he stopped and in a fine poetic frenzy declaimed: "Roll on thou mighty ocean, roll!"

"Oh, look, George!" she cried in ecstasy. "It's doing it."

When the bright side is out it not only looks well but reflects the sunshine.

Winter Cruises of 1925.

Three continents are visited by the Fabre Line excursion ships in their 35-day cruise from New York to all the principal ports of the Mediterranean. Shore trips, included in the rate of passage, are made to all the places of interest. These shore excursions are under the direction of the Fabre Line and are carefully planned for the convenience and satisfaction of passengers.

The S.S. Patria and S.S. Providence, which make these cruises, are built expressly for the Mediterranean service. The carefree enjoyment of these trips is long remembered by the tourist. Concerts, lectures and social diversions of all sorts are provided, as well as moving picture and wireless daily news.

The Azores is the first point of call, where twelve hours is given to viewing the semi-tropical gardens where pineapples grow in hot houses.

Gibraltar, unique in position, in picturesqueness and history, claims the admiration of the visitor. From an altitude of 3,000 feet he views the beautiful panorama of Madeira Island, famed for its embroideries. Algiers shows the striking contrast of the Old and the New, gay life and Arabian leisure.

Following a north-easterly course, we reach sweet smelling and voluptuous Palermo with its rich background of orange and olive trees. Naples, gem of Italy, is famous for beautiful situation and remains of glorious history. Athens stands as the last beacon of the Golden Age, dominated by the great Parthenon towering over the ruins of the Acropolis.

The mystery and fascination of the Orient is nowhere more potent than at Constantinople, at the cross-roads of two continents; a splendid view over the Bosphorus, the Asiatic Coast and the Sea of Marmora.

A three-hour trip in autos from Jaffa brings the traveller to Jerusalem, the most interesting city in the world, the city that was adorned by Solomon and hallowed by Christ. There is scarcely a paving stone of the old city without its wealth of religious association, its legends and traditions. Much is still unchanged for the admiration and reverence of the ages.

Next we set foot upon the ancient soil of Egypt, land of the Pharaohs, and the pyramids, relics of an age long past. Cairo and the Nile and Alexandria, then westward over the sunny Mediterranean to the Reyiera, garden of Europe.

A voyage to charm and edify, an excursion into the delights of three continents. Information regarding these cruises may be obtained from James W. Elwell & Co., 17 State Street, New York City.

EASY TRICKS

No. 341

Mind Reading



A pack of cards is shuffled by the spectators and the performer is blindfolded. He takes the cards in his hand, face downward. He names a card and turns the top card face upward. It is the card he named. In a like manner he names half a dozen or more cards.

The trick depends upon the exercise of little skill but of much old-fashioned "nerve." In the performer's pocket are eight or nine cards arranged in a definite order which the performer has memorized. In the same pocket is a handkerchief. After the cards in the pack are shuffled, the performer puts them in a rather untidy heap on the table. He reaches into his pocket and brings out the handkerchief, and hidden by the handkerchief, the pre-arranged cards. He places the handkerchief carelessly on the table. With a little care he can manage that the hidden cards will fall on those which have been shuffled. While he is being blindfolded he picks up the cards and squares them neatly. "Reading" the cards is then simplicity itself. He should never "read" all that he has pre-arranged.

(Clip this out and paste it, with other of the series, in a scrapbook.)

From the uneducated sometimes come expressions so graphically descriptive that no one could improve on them. An old colored carpenter who was consulted about the design of a proposed verandah modestly remarked, "If I was you, sah, I wouldn't have none o' dese yer ornamental dripperes." Could you have a better description of the pendent horrors that disfigured suburban cottages fifty years ago?

—AND THE WORST IS YET TO COME



The Sun As Your Doctor.

Have you noticed how the weather affects your health?

Doctors are realizing more and more that changes of weather cause changes in the human body. They say that sunshine and rain, cold and heat, are important factors in our health. The study of the relations between health and weather has become a new science, which is called "climatology."

Different kinds of weather affect different people in different ways, but as a rule we feel better when the sun is shining. Damp is an enemy of health; a cool, bracing day a friend. Doctors frequently order their patients a "change of scene," and they are now learning that the benefits of such a change are greater even than they had thought, because a change of scene usually means a change of climate as well. Temperature, the amount of moisture in the air, the height above sea-level—all these things can affect our health.

Not only has weather a direct influence on our health, but an indirect one also. Our lives are arranged to suit the weather and climate. Bad weather keeps us indoors, and consequently, in winter, when darkness hampers our movements in the open air, many of us lead unhealthy lives.

Another discovery made by "climatologists" is that sunshine has a wonderful healing effects in such diseases as tuberculosis and rickets. The direct rays of the sun on our bodies form a treatment which is being given more frequently every year.

In the same way, the study of weather reports has become of increasing importance in deciding the situation of hospitals, sanatoria, and convalescent homes.

A Little Bird Writes Copy.

There are many stories about Horace Greeley's handwriting, which is said to have been the worst ever seen even in a newspaper office. Perhaps the best of the yarns is the following:

There was only one compositor in the Tribune office who could read Greeley's copy. One day while the compositor was out a bird had flown into the office, walked into some printing ink and then on a number of loose sheets lying on the floor.

"Why," said one of the printers, picking up a sheet, "this looks like the old man's writing." So saying, he fastened the sheets together and put them on the absent compositor's case.

Presently the compositor came back and with all eyes turned on him picked up the sheets and to the amazement of the room started setting up the supposed "copy."

Presently, however, he hesitated at a word and asked the man nearest him what it was.

"How should I know?" was the reply. You know that you alone can read the old man's writing. Better ask him."

Reluctantly the baffled compositor took the sheet to Greeley's sanctum. "Well," said the great man, "what is it?"

"It's this word, Mr. Greeley." Greeley snatched the sheet from the man's hand, looked at the alleged word and threw himself back with a snort of disgust. "Why," he shouted, "any fool could see what it is! It's 'unconstitutional!'"

Samantha says: When the children have good manners, you can be sure that the mother is more than a house-keeper; she's a home-maker.

To Sheila Playing Haydn.

Oh, when thy fingers touch the notes, I think

The deer go stepping to the brook to drink;
Beneath the level beech leaves low I peer,
And see again, branch-horned, the crested deer,
The thin-legged doe, the fawn in that green light
On tip-toe following them out of sight.

Most deft adored, thy nimble fingers make
A thousand pictures in my mind awake,
For no young thing of beast or bird or tree
I've seen, but I have seemed to look on thee,
And at thy sound I go remembering
About the woods of every vanished spring.

— Sylvia Lynd.

Many a man doesn't get along well in this world because he imagines he is a modern Samson and tries to accomplish too much by swinging a jaw-bone.

Experts figure that a bee must travel 40,000 miles to get a pound of honey.

Fascinating lectures



Interesting talks on the swift-moving progress of science and the arts are sent into the air nightly from radio stations by world-famous authorities. As a means of keeping posted on the progress of mankind, radio is unequalled. For reception so clear that you seem to be in the room with the lecturer use a

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