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C. O. D.

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Clerk:—Scented?

Customer:—No, I'll take it with me.

Wonderful Stuff

Downing:—Is this hair tonic any good?
Upping:—Well, I spilled some on a comb and now it's a brush.

Feeler

"Daddy, do you lose your temper?"
"No, not any more, son."
"That's good, I broke the radio."

Just Like Us

Moss:—Why does a chicken cross the road?
Ross:—To avoid meeting the chicken he borrowed chicken feed from, I suppose.

Once when an Irishman was riding a mule the animal began to kick and got its foot in the stirrup.
"Well, begorrah," said Pat, "if you are going to get on I'll get off."

Lost Strayed Or Borrowed

The rain from heaven doth fall alike Upon the just and unjust fellow, But mostly on the just because The unjust has the just's umbrella.

HINTS TO HORTICULTURISTS

Now that the flower show season is approaching we are anxiously watching our gardens, wondering whether this bud will be out in time, if that blossom will last long enough or whether it should be picked to give the buds a chance to develop.

If the plants have had good care all season they should repay us by producing their finest flowers for this auspicious occasion, but there are a few things we can do to help them. A timely stake, for instance, may save a cherished plant from being damaged by wind. A slight shelter from the sun will keep a flower fresh for several days longer and keep the color from fading. A feeding once or twice with liquid manure will help develop long stems and large blossoms. And thorough watering at the roots will encourage any plant to do its best. Phlox responds especially well to moisture at the roots while the plant is flowering by giving larger and more luxuriant flower heads.

Pick exhibition blossoms the night before they are to be shown and keep in a cool dark cellar in water up to their necks.

The Japanese have many secrets about the treatment of flowers and have qualified flower teachers who give lessons in the art of the care and arrangement of cut flowers. Many of these things are too complicated for the amateur to attempt, for instance the injection of stimulants into the stems of the flowers. But in an old book I chanced upon one secret which is too good to keep.

We have all seen otherwise perfect flowers disqualified or given a low rating because of a crooked stem. This is the Japanese method of dealing with such an affliction. Hold the stalk near the fire so as to warm it gently, as you might warm your fingers; on a very hot day the heat of the sun will be sufficient. Then with finger and thumb, stroke the stalk, bending it slightly in the direction you wish. It seems as if the warmth relaxed the muscles of the stem, as it were, and pliable under the fingers. It is astonishing to see how much bending and manipulation of this kind flowers will undergo. There is a great deal of this flower massage done in Japan. A teacher will take a stiff branch of plum blossoms and spending perhaps half an hour over it will gradually stroke it into lines of beauty. And when we remember that the entire furniture of a room in a Japanese home will consist of a beautiful vase containing perhaps a single branch of blossoms every detail of that branch must be perfect.

Another important thing to remember when exhibiting flowers is to use a plain, dark container as it shows off the beauty of the flowers to much better advantage than a fancy vase could do.

And another important point is to have your exhibits at the flower show in plenty of time in order to secure good positions.

Seasonable Recipes

Banana Pudding

One quart milk, 4 tablespoons cornstarch, pinch salt, 2 tablespoons sugar, 1 teaspoon vanilla, 2 or more bananas. Slice bananas in milk bring to a boil, add sugar, flavoring and blended cornstarch. Cook for ten minutes, cool in mould and serve with cream or fruit juice.

Tomatoes and Bacon

This is a favorite dish in England. Fry bacon, remove from pan and keep hot. Slice ripe tomatoes into frying pan, sprinkle each slice with salt, pepper and a little sugar. When cooked serve on platter with bacon.

Raspberry Shrub

Put twelve pounds of raspberries in a crock. Over them pour three quarts of cold water in which you have put five ounces of tartaric acid. Let it stand for 24 hours. Then strain and add one and a half pounds of sugar to every pint of juice. Allow it to stand in the crock for several days stirring frequently and then bottle. When serving put as much as desired in a tumbler and fill it with ice water.

Blueberry Muffins

Stir together 1 cup sugar, butter size of an egg, 2 eggs dropped in whole, 1 scant cup of milk. Add 2 cups flour mixed with two heaping teaspoons baking powder. Large cup fresh blueberries fluffed with part of the flour. Bake 20 minutes in hot oven.

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NORMAN J. GLASS

GRANDAD'S STORY

For Children

"How is the sunburn' Twinnies," asked Grandad one day.

The twins were standing at a window gazing sadly at a rainy world. They had planned a picnic for to-day and the rain had poured down steadily since early morning. So they turned eagerly at the sound of Grandad's voice.

"Oh, it got better and turned brown just look," said Jock, rolling up his sleeve and proudly showing a tanned shoulder.

"Oh, Grandad," cried Jeannie, "have you time now for the story you promised us about a little boy who got sunburned like we did?"

So Grandad settled himself in a big chair with a twin on each knee and smilingly began.

"It was a long time ago—over fifty years—but I remember as if it had been yesterday. It was a hot day in the spring and mother and father had to go to town for the day. They must have suspected what was in our minds for before they left, early in the morning, they cautioned us not to go to the creek and above all not to go in bathing as the water was too cold. So when school time came we trotted off quite prepared to spend the beautiful day doing lessons.

"When we got to school some of the bigger boys said they were going swimming and asked us if we wanted to go too. This flattered us so much that we forgot all about our parents' orders, and gaily leaving the lessons to take care of themselves, we went off with the big boys to the creek. The water was very cold but the sun was very hot so we would shiver in the creek for a while and then lie in the sun to get warm. Then we found the clay, perhaps the same pocket of clay that you youngsters play in now, and for the rest of the day we did clay modelling. The school bell rang for noon hour and we stopped and ate our school lunches. Then it rang for afternoon school but we knew we would be punished anyway so thought we might as well make a day of it. We did have fun chasing each other with clay and then pushing each other in the cold creek water to wash it off again.

"Finally the sun began to get low and the air chilly so we got dressed and walked home slowly as we could. We knew there would be a sad reckoning as soon as father found out about our disobedience and we were in no hurry to meet him."

"As we reached the house Father and Mother drove into the yard. And we could just tell from Father's face that he had met the teacher on the road.

"Where have you been instead of at school?" he thundered.

"Oh, playing," we answered.

"Go to your room. I will attend to you later."

"We went quietly up to the room which we shared and lay down on our beds. And then we began to discover just lay there aching all over and list-backs. You know how yours felt. And we had no bathing suits! We lay there aching all over and listening for father's step in the hall.

"At last he came and with a stern hand peeled off our shirts for the whipping we knew we deserved for playing truant. And then he saw the sunburned backs! And knew where we had been! And although he said that the whipping which followed hurt him more than it hurt us we didn't believe it.

"After awhile Mother came up with a delicious supper for our interiors and lard and soft clothes for our exteriors. She was looking very angry but we knew it wasn't at us. She very seldom interfered with Father's punishments but she seemed to agree with us that he had been too severe this time."

And then Grandad took the twins out to the woodshed and showed them a curious thing. Hidden behind a beam were the remains of some clay marbles which he had made on that day more than fifty years ago!

Goodnight!

Auntie was taking care of the children and Jimmie chanced to fall asleep in the evening. She undressed him and put him to bed. In the morning he came to her indignantly. "You put Jane's nightgown on me. Another time if you can't find my pyjamas just leave me raw."

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