

## About the House.

FOR NEWSPAPERS.

Some receptacle is necessary in which the latest newspapers or magazines may be put away, and it may be made as pretty as desired. In our illustration is shown one which is very easily made and which is quite ornamental. It may be made any size desired, but for practical use it should be of such size as to receive a folded newspaper or a magazine readily. The very stiffest cardboard procurable is needed, but very thin boards or shingles are almost better, unless some way is provided by which the edges of the cardboard may be kept stiff and straight. The back is cut somewhat wider but of the same length as the front piece. The top edge may be left straight if desired. The pieces at the sides are about five or six inches wide at the bottom. Some pretty decoration adorns the front piece.

A pretty paper rack of this kind was covered with ecru linen. The board foundation was first covered with some old calico and then the linen was put on. A trailing design in delicately tinted pinkish apple blossoms and their green leaves was painted on it, and pink ribbons was used to hang it by. Another was covered with green denim on which was worked in outline stitch a conventional design with black Roman floss, covering both front and back piece. Still another was covered, first, with turkey red calico. An open design was crocheted of a coarse olive green cotton twine for back, front and sides. These pieces when finished were stretched and treated to two coats of varnish, which made them very stiff. They were then sewed over the red. This was very pretty. Red ribbons were used for it.

Cords make a nice trimming for anything of this kind and is much more durable than ribbon. Now that embroidery is the favorite form of decoration very handsome paper holders may be made. Any strong material may be used such as canvas, linen, denim, etc. All of these may be embroidered, and are strong and washable. Such a receptacle, if well made, will last for many years, and is a neat and handy thing to have in any room where papers and magazines are picked up any time. Very handsome music holders are made in the same way and keep the music in good condition. A few lines of music could be worked diagonally across the front piece, or some words and music from "Home, Sweet Home" or any well-known song would be appropriate, with a mandolin, guitar and banjo crossed in one corner or tied with long trailing ribbons worked in a colored silk. Careful scroll designs are also pretty. Yellow and white, green and black, blue and white are all pretty combinations for music holders.

### ABOUT MACARONI.

The chief foods of the Italians are macaroni, rice, and Indian meal, so there are many ways of cooking these three articles to make variety. As the good housekeeper is often puzzled to know what to serve with meat a few recipes may not come amiss.

First about boiling macaroni: have plenty of water in the pot, as it absorbs a large quantity. When the water boils salt it, and do not put in the macaroni until it boils violently. The time needed to cook it will depend on its freshness. If imported or stale such as we get in this country three-quarters of an hour will be needed. Keep it boiling well, and stir from time to time. When it seems soft, pour in a small jugful of cold water, and let it stand on the stove until it begins to boil again—this swells and whitens the macaroni—then drain in a colander. This is the first step to all the following recipes.

Bologna Macaroni.—Chop bits of cold usually cooked with macaroni but as some of the family may dislike it, it is just as well to have the cheese grated and served in a separate plate, that each may help himself according to taste. Parmesan cheese is the best, but any hard cheese that will grate well may be used. Around Milan a kind of cheese called sbrinz is generally used. In regard to the quantity, it depends on whether macaroni is a favorite dish in the family. For four persons a pound is enough.

Bologna Macaroni.—Chop bits of cold meat small, and have ready one onion and a thick slice of fat pork or bacon (about one quarter as much as the quantity of meat) also chopped small. Spread out the bacon in a frying pan, and put in the onion. When it is a rich yellow strain off the fat, season the chopped meat in the fat, season with pepper and salt, and add a ladleful of stock or weak gravy. If it cooks dry add more broth, as it should be quite liquid. Have the macaroni boiled as above and drained, lay in a deep dish and pour the meat over it. This is excellent made from the remains of braised beef. It may also be made from raw meat only in that case, after browning the meat in the fat, add cold water instead of broth. It will also take longer to prepare, as the meat must be well cooked.

Macaroni and Sausage With Fried Apples.—Drain the boiled macaroni and place in an earthenware baking-dish that can be sent to table, pour over it a cup of boiled milk, and set it on the back of the stove. Fry fresh sausage— and when they are well browned take them out and arrange them around the edge of the dish over the macaroni, and lay some slices of apple in the fat. When they are fried take them out and cover the macaroni with them, letting them lap over each other in the middle of the ring of sausage. Eat hot. This makes an excellent dish for the mid-day meal in cold weather.

### WHEN CONFIDENCE ENDS.

Is Jenks a man you can trust, papa asked the fair daughter of the house. "Not if you expect to get your money."

### ON HOME DECORATION.

In those "good old days," which pessimists never tire of recalling, and even those far less remote, it was impossible for the home-maker who must economize closely in money expenditure, to have neat and tasteful rooms, no matter how refined and cultivated her tastes, for cheap furniture was invariably had in design and workmanship; and cheap carpets, curtains and other textile stuffs were ugly in design and gaudy in coloring.

Happily for the majority of us those days are over-past. Artistic results in house furnishing no longer depend upon expensiveness. Plenty of furniture is both cheap and good, and inexpensive wall-paper, carpets, draperies and the like, are as artistic in design and coloring as the highest priced goods.

The same general rules that govern taste in personal dress are applicable to house-furnishing and decoration. Not a well-filled purse, but taste, thought and discrimination; some knowledge of the laws which produce harmony, and an "eye for color," are essential.

Color harmony is indispensable to any measure of success, but to make a room that is at once home-like and beautiful, there must also be harmony of forms and proportions, and a certain fitness of things to their purpose and surroundings.

It matters not whether one is furnishing a room anew or renovating an old one and adding to a heterogeneous accumulation of years, not a dime or an hour's effort should be expended without a well-defined color scheme and general plan.

The prevailing color of a room should be suited to its location and uses, and to the tastes of its occupants. In refurnishing one should make that color dominant which best accords with the coloring of the old furnishings that must remain; and as new materials are purchased work up to it.

Warm colors, reds, yellows, golden browns, etc., should simulate sunshine in rooms with northern exposure; while southern and eastern rooms should have cool blues, greens and similar mixed colors.

Unless bedrooms have very dark, heavy furniture, light dainty colors should prevail. With the former use medium shades of warm cheerful colors. There are effective color schemes without number, but artistic effects depend fully as much upon using just the right shades and relative proportions of color, as upon correct combinations.

In carrying out a color scheme it is not enough that the essential furnishings of a room are in happy accord, every least object intended to be ornamented must harmonize or afford a pleasing contrast.

In other words not a thing should be purchased or made without carefully considering the general effect of the room in which it is to be used. No matter how beautiful in itself your "fancy work" may be, if it does not accord with the other furnishings it is not decorative. To be decorative a thing must be appropriate as well as beautiful. Profuseness is another very general error in furnishing.

A few women who appreciate the beauty of harmony do not realize that to secure the highest results there must be room for the individual quality of an object to assert itself. In other words two pretty things where there should be but one are almost as bad as one ugly one.

Our houses are to be made into homes not bazaars, and use the comfort and convenience of their occupants should be the main considerations. Everything in them should promote comfortable and beautiful living.

### SUMMER DRAPERIES.

After cleaning house many housewives do not put up their heavy winter draperies and portieres again, but clean them carefully and put them away until the fall. For summer use there are any number of light, airy materials which may be put up in their stead. The crinkled Japanese cottons come in beautiful colors, and are very reasonable. There are any number of denims, canvases, cretonnes, silkolines and soft silks which make lovely draperies. They are washable and will come back from the laundry sweet and fresh. For window draperies there are very sheer cottons with colored dots and figures scattered over them. For warm weather nothing is cooler looking than blue and white. If one does not wish to keep the good lace curtains up to catch all the summer dust, such curtains are inexpensive and very pretty. Coarse gray, brown and ecru linens with borders of drawn-work are very popular for summer portieres. They will wear for several seasons and their initial cost is not much. Covers for furniture cushions and sofas are also made of this cool-looking material. During the heat and dust of summer these light draperies and covers make the house look cooler, and are very restful to the eye. Some people may not think there is much in this, but rich colors with much red in them make a place appear hot and close, while white and lighter colors have the opposite effect.

### SEED IN THE STOMACH.

Surgeons at St. Mary's hospital, East St. Louis, Mo., have extracted an incipient orange tree from the stomach of little Miss Anna Griffin. The child is 13 years old. Several weeks ago she accidentally swallowed an orange seed. Three days ago she was seized with intense pains. A consultation of surgeons was held and an operation decided upon. The orange seed became encysted in the lining of the stomach and had begun to sprout. Miss Griffin will recover.

### NO WATCH EXACTLY ACCURATE.

No watch keeps absolutely correct time, and even the most reliable chronometers used in observatories and on board ship must be regulated according to tables that are kept to fix the variations to which all timepieces are liable.

## AGRICULTURAL.

In our experience we have found that we can make our hogs thrive much better and lay on flesh more rapidly by feeding a continuous combination of foods that they relish, than by feeding corn one week and grass the next, followed by mill feed for a period of another week, writes John M. Jamison. The farmer never begrudges his hogs the grass and corn they eat, but when it comes to the by-products that he must buy, then there is a holding back and a claim that they cost too much, yet all are willing to admit that a "little slop goes a long way with a hog." We have not weighed the food and the animals to know just how much we get out of bought food, but have accepted results obtained at many experimental stations, as a safe guide to go by. If they can get a profit by feeding in close pens on stated rations, we argue that the farmer, with his opportunities, should do much better. If all the facts that they have produced show that a variety ration gives better returns than a single one, and that there is money in the mixing, why should we ignore the opportunity to turn an honest penny? The mill feed purchased usually goes to the pigs in the shape of slop. Sometimes when the pigs are not thriving a small quantity of bran or middlings are bought and slop fed for a time and the pigs at once show added thrift. Shortly, the food supply for slop fails; the farmer argues that the pigs do not longer need slop, and that he has not time to bother with it, anyway. So back he goes to his single ration of corn. He finds the pigs thrive for a time, and then he begins to notice that in some way they do not. He has fooled himself, but fails to fool the pigs. Some time ago we had a conversation with a pig grower as to how we sloped our sows, and the amount of mill feed used, where we gave them their regular feed. Our plan, recently, has been to mix the feed as follows: one part using only sufficient milk slop or water to dampen it. Instead of making it a morsel to drink, we make it ration to be eaten and give the pigs their drink "straight."

When we do this we know just how much solid food we give each time, and how much each sow gets at a feed. If we feed them slop as a drink, the proportions of water and solids would be variable. We might easily fool ourselves, but not so easily the demands of the sows' systems. Now we have four sows that have thirty-one pigs five and six weeks old; the other three litters of eight each, are six weeks old. (We are feeding them and have been for some time, one-half bushel of bran and middlings twice each day. Each sow gets from seven to eight pounds of this mixture per day. The pig feeder said our plan of mixing the food took too much of it; that he preferred to give a thin slop and not use so much ground food. We thought this was the keynote to the greater part of the slopping done. Farmers deceive themselves when they undertake to make water take the place of solids. But they do not deceive the demands of the systems of the sows and pigs. Highly diluted slops fed to the pot-bellied hogs, give us a and expand the digestive organs as best as possible, but water is not the best agent to accomplish this. It we give due attention and thought to the matter we will know that a certain amount of solids are required to sustain the system. We cannot substitute water for these, and if we compel the animal to drink more water than the system requires, to obtain these solids, we do an injury to the animal. If we feed slop as a matter of economy, we deprive ourselves of the source of profit, and have as a further result, an unsatisfactory outcome in our pig growing efforts.

### RATIONS FOR SHEEP.

Corn and oats in equal parts make one of the very best grain rations for sheep. Corn alone is too heating and fattening. Moreover, if sheep are fed exclusively on corn for any considerable length of time they lose their wool.

It costs just as much to keep a sheep of a certain weight right. But, if with good care in selecting and breeding, and with good feeding the sheep can be made to give eight or nine pounds of wool instead of four or five the extra weight of wool will be that much additional profit. When it barely pays to keep a sheep that shears only four or five pounds, one that shears seven or eight will give a good per cent. on the money invested. In addition in nearly all cases the heavier fleece will be of a better quality.

While it is always best to feed with as little waste as possible, it is rarely good economy to compel the sheep to eat up the hay in their racks as clean as with cattle and horses, unless it is unusually fine. Still, care must be taken not to feed too much, as sheep are inclined to waste their feed if overfed. But considerable waste can be avoided by having good racks. The slots should be wide enough apart to allow the sheep to put their heads entirely in the racks and eat on all sides should be close as to only allow them to insert their noses. If made in this way, however, it is important that they be made slanting, so that the hay will gradually sink down and always be within reach of the sheep.

Every day that the weather will permit the sheep should be turned out in the morning to get fresh air and water. At the same time their quarters should be well aired. Sheep do not bear close confinement well. Whenever it is possible the doors of their quarters should be left open during the day so that they can run in and out; as suits them. With the breeding ewes, especially, care should be taken to have the doors to their quarters wide, so as to lessen the risk of injury in their running in and out. It will still further lessen the risk of injury if the doors

are hung to slide open rather than to open and shut with common hinges. In extremely cold weather more corn may be given than when it is milder, but do not make it an exclusive ration at any time. Give oats, barley, mill feed and other materials to make up a good variety. Sliced turnips with wheat bran sprinkled over them makes a good feed for sheep, especially when grain is given at other meals. The condition of the sheep is the best criterion as to what the quality of the ration should be. One of the most economical rations is unthreshed oats, run through a dampener sufficiently to make the bran stick to the straw. Give them all they will eat up clean.

### SPRAYING FOR FRUIT.

At the present time a revolution is going on in regard to fruit growing, caused by the knowledge that spraying with poisonous washes is equivalent to the preservation of the crop of fruit. It has taken some little time for the public to become reconciled to the use of poisons, but so many persons had been accustomed to see its use on potatoes, that its use on trees was less hard to bring about. The French were the first to use poisons to preserve their fruit. Fungus and insects had nearly destroyed their grapes, a fruit of great interest to them, winemaking being one of their leading industries. Experiments led them to the use of copper sulphate, the chief ingredient in what is now known as Bordeaux mixture and the results were eminently satisfactory.

From that time to this the fame of this mixture has been steadily growing. In our own country all progressive fruit growers now use it. Whatever crops formerly suffered from the attacks of fungi are now assured when the trees are properly sprayed. The fruit grower who is satisfied to let his trees take their chances in the old way will be badly beaten by the neighbor who sprays his orchard. Although fruit trees suffer much from mildews which this mixture prevents, it is the grape which has been the most benefited. Tons and tons of fine fruit are now sent to market in perfect condition which, had not spraying been done, would have been destroyed by rot of the fruit or mildew of the foliage. There are many ways of making the Bordeaux mixture, but they differ but little from one another, and the following will be found to answer all purposes. Take four pounds copper sulphate, commonly called blue stone; four pounds quicklime, and mix with fifty gallons of water. Before spraying the trees always stir it up well. Some use rather more copper sulphate, but in my experience four pounds to fifty gallons is ample, and I would be inclined to think that less instead of more would be just as effective. The first spraying should be done just as the buds are bursting, another when the leaves are fully expanded and a third as soon as the fruit is well set. A fourth may be given when the fruit is about half grown, and this will be sufficient for the season. Treated as above, the crop will be pretty safe.

When crops are in danger from insects, as apple, plum and cherry always are, Paris green must be used. This can be applied either alone or with the Bordeaux mixture, where blights are feared as well as insects. About a pound of it to 150 gallons of water is enough. And it should be used in about the same way as recommended for Bordeaux mixture. Plum, apple and cherry crops are safe when this is used. When used with the Bordeaux mixture, the Paris green may be added to the mixture just as though it were pure water, viz: a pound of it to every 150 gallons of the mixture. It has developed curiosity enough that when trees are sprayed the foliage is more vigorous and the trees themselves grow better than when they are not sprayed. The spraying of orchards has now become so universal that all sorts of sprayers are required from the common greenhouse syringe, which the amateur uses for his few small trees, to the large engines drawn through the orchards by horses. The business is so large that manufacturers and large seed houses now advertise the various sprayers, so that it is not difficult to get just the sort wanted.—Joseph Meehan, Pennsylvania.

### MARRIAGEABLE AGES.

In Austria a "man" and "woman" are supposed to be capable of conducting a home of their own from the age of 14.

In Germany the man must be at least 18 years of age.

In France the man must be 18 and the woman 15; in Belgium the same ages.

In Spain the intended husband must have passed his 14th year, and the woman her 12th.

In Hungary, for Roman Catholics, the man must be 14 years old and the woman 12; for Protestants, the man must be 18 and the woman 15.

In Greece the man must have seen at least 14 Summers and the woman 12. In Portugal, a boy of 14 is considered marriageable, and a woman of 12. In Russia and Saxony they are a little more sensible, and a youth must refrain from entering into matrimony till he can count 18 years and the woman till she can count 16.

In Switzerland, men from the age of 14 and the woman from the age of 12 are allowed to marry.

In Turkey, any youth and maiden who can walk properly, and can understand the necessary religious service, are allowed to be united for life.

### LASTING.

I like to cook enough to last, remarked the young bride. "You do, you do, groaned the devoted hubby, no matter how little you cook."

### A GRUSOME COLLECTION.

A French Professor is the owner of a collection of 920 human heads, representing every known race of people on the globe.

## THE KING OF SIAM.

How He Will Visit England and How the Queen Will Entertain Him.

The King of Siam, His Majesty Chulalongkorn I, intends visiting England during the coming summer—not, as has been stated, in connection with the record reign celebration, for which he will hardly be in time, but for an extended stay.

The King will make the voyage in his yacht, the Maha-Chakri, a vessel of 2500 tons, constructed for him at Leith by Messrs. Ramage & Ferguson, nearly four years ago. This handsome and commodious vessel carries six 4.7-inch guns, and about a dozen small quick-firing guns. She will be commanded and navigated by two English naval officers—Capt. Cumming and Lieut. Saunders—who have been lent by the Admiralty for the purpose. The services of Lieut. Walsh, late R. N., have also been secured for the trip. On his arrival in this country the King will be received by the Queen at Windsor or Osborne.

The visit of the King of Siam to England will be an especially popular one for two reasons. In the first place, His Majesty, who is a man of about forty-five years, is a cultured monarch and a munificent patron of the arts, science and letters, although he did not have the advantage of an English tour in his youth, as has been stated. Secondly, Siam is, in some respects, almost as English as if it were a British colony. More English is spoken there than any other foreign language, and most of the trade is in the hands of Englishmen. England and Englishmen are looked up to and respected in Siam, and flattered by the proof of sincere admiration—imitation. His Majesty reads English well, speaks it a little, and understands it perfectly. For many years past he has sent members of relatives and friends to this country as students, and all have done extremely well. Members of the Siamese royal family have been educated at Harrow, at Oxford and at Cambridge.

One of His Majesty's nephews is now being educated at Woolwich as a cadet in the Royal Military Academy there. And one of the King's own sons is preparing for the navy at the Greenwich school, and will be admitted to the British navy when he is fit for it. This prince has already earned distinction and British affection by his deeds on the football fields. As an instance of how apt the Siamese are at adapting themselves to our civilization, one of the students sent over by His Majesty and put on board the Conway, which became training ship at Liverpool, not only became the captain of the crew's football team, but absolutely won the hearts of all who competed against him, under the Marquis of Queensberry's rules, for his devotion to science. He afterwards did good work on the Centurian and the Imperieuse in the China squadron.

King Chulalongkorn, who is coming to England to familiarize himself with British customs, will reside in the neighborhood of London, and will probably remain in this country about a year.—London Daily Mail.

### FIX YOUR FLOWER BEDS.

The Season Which Appeals to Every Impulse of Nature's Desires.

The time for flowers is almost here. The roses are shooting out, and wherever this is the case they ought to be trimmed. It is a little too early yet to turn up the dirt in the gardens, but those who intend to engage in the cultivation of flowers—a most delightful recreation—can begin their preparations by planting certain varieties of seeds in small boxes or baskets, filled with dirt, to be subsequently transplanted to the gardens. Some varieties are wonderfully improved by transplanting.

People have discovered that it is such an easy thing to do. Very little space is required. A made plot of ground, 3 feet square or even less, will grow a number of pretty flowers, or, if so small a space can not be had, any old box or basket can be utilized. Filled with dirt and planted with the right sort of seed, it will soon be transformed into a thing of beauty, if not of joy forever. Other fruits were sent home during last summer will answer as well as anything else; and if there is no sun or not sufficient sun in the back yard, they can be exposed in the windows or on the doorsteps.

The front door has become a favorite spot for the exposure of pretty flowers. It gives a bright appearance to the house, and a pleasant impression of the inmates. People sometimes affect not to care for flowers, but in their in-lining them. Music may strike a jangling or diseased nerve, and on that account be distasteful; but flowers appeal directly to the purest, gentlest and most beautiful of nature's instincts. To say one does not like a certain flower, means merely, that it is not liked as much as another flower. They are all delightful, but some are more delightful than others.

The labor of cultivation is trifling, rarely enough to supply a person with the exercise necessary to health. After the initial work of turning up the soil, the ground must be kept clean—that is, free from weeds; and if the rain does not water them sufficiently, they should be watered artificially. When the latter is done, the flowers should be bountifully sprinkled. Everybody should have a flower bed.

### TOO PRECIOUS.

Isabel didn't return Harry's picture when their engagement was broken. "Why not?" "She couldn't part with it; it was in such an exquisite frame."

There is naught so beautiful that there is not something still more beautiful, of which this is the mere image and expression.—Cicero.

## A Mighty Reso

Jacob Berry leaned on his handles as he watched the reform of his wife as she made over the newly-ploughed ground. "Maybe," thought he "I ought to have hitched up the coil and carried it to the station. But then 'tain't a mile an' a half by the road, a cross lots shortens the distance. If I had, it would 'a' taken part of two hours and put 'em plowin' that much. Get Dick to he with a start and an inward waste of time in foolishness. Teemed his little reverie.

The morning sun cast its light over field and meadow. It glowed on the dull clouds of yesterday, over which in irregular patches busy spider had woven her dew. Jacob saw no beautiful jewels. Jacob saw no beautiful spangled cobwebs, they are a sign of good weather to his his brows and leaned more his plow handles as his plow curved to the little water-stumbling in her haste over field. He thought she stood more than usual and felt as she was beginning to show "Women ain't like they are, her's time," thought he. that his mother's work was the care of the little desert which stood a few rods back, a tentious brick dwelling, and herds had increased bringing more work every year for tired hands.

Little Mrs. Berry reaped painted shed called by her pot, almost breathless and fatigued. She had to buy her round-trip ticket train. She sank into it. Her face was anxious could not get over the. She had prepared breakfast performed other household before light, and milked had fairly risen. Her t a curious jumble. As rail fence she noticed in the fence corners w leaf and the sturdy tr thrust its rootlets in riders. "I must remember they are, and maybe I pick some when they see, it was twenty years to get for Jacob's shirt get it all fixed in my mind. The memoranda had made with a little back of an old piece of a chance copy of a omize like sixty, now the Cummins farm, two or three dollars, and old Skinner, a store'll find it don't with me about a cent.

Finally Mrs. Berry her seat and began thoughts turned channel. "Maybe I'd to the Art Museum see the pictures about."

She finished her than she expected for car fare. Jacob thought so long and she. In a sudden flash continued "you'd dollar and a half." "You don't really put'm by till you'd ther for your dinner for fifteen cents. I state that in me lunch counter pattern.

When Mrs. Berry ner hour arrived, taken away her a ed to feast her el of the Art Museum boarder, Miss To after the work in porch before bedded at the entrance her consternation was demanded. eously explained. She gladly tender er of a dollar. Pa the gates of Pa she entered joy sh her great joy sh he was copying a pl ly laid aside his visitor. She cot ed paintings at ed the stories. Many times, sh interruption, " about that year ried. 'I have since."

The hours sp Berry found reach the tra her parcels at gates closed a do but wait a next train. A dizzy, faint sh she knew not when she expect ask where she in a hospital collected her she was in a white-c medicine occing a grave dnce.

"I didn't whispered, " pictures and "Oh yes, y hastily, "d taking." Jacob Ber and sat wait cook him amends for passed it and way to real the next m a telegram pital. He with a wife saw his wife only a trif