

HOUSEHOLD.

EVERYDAY RECIPES.

All puddings containing milk and eggs as a basis, like custard, rice pudding, sago, or even light batter pudding are better for being steamed in the oven while baking. In order to accomplish this put them in individual moulds of stoneware, ordinary teacups will do, but are large, and put them in a pan of water reaching to three-quarters of the height of the mold or cup they are baked in. Little cups that hold about a gill or a half, with perfectly straight sides, may sometimes be picked up in Oriental blue-and-white ware at 30 cents a dozen. They make excellent individual moulds for puddings.

The advantage of using a cup with a straight side is that a larger number of this shape may be set in a pan of given size than when the sides bulge as the ordinary teacup does.

When these puddings are set in water or steamed while baking, the eggs cannot separate from the milk or curdle, as such puddings are apt to do if the heat is excessive enough to brown them properly. Grease the cups or moulds in which these puddings are baked and dredge them with as much granulated sugar as will cling to the butter before filling them. Turn out the pudding when it is served and pour a sauce over it.

Stewed Red Cabbage may be served appetizingly as follows: Wash well a head of red cabbage, cut the leaves apart, trimming off all tough parts; peel and slice one onion, put it over the fire in a saucepan with a tablespoonful of butter, a cupful of cold gravy, half a saltspoonful of pepper and two teaspoonfuls of salt. Put in the cabbage, four tablespoonfuls of vinegar over it and cover the pan closely. Cook gently for an hour or until the cabbage is tender, stirring occasionally, and serve hot.

Virginia Doughnuts.—Melt one-quarter pound of butter in a pint of milk that has been brought to the boiling point. Beat two small eggs until very light and mix them with one pound of sugar, stirring this also into the butter and milk. When nearly cold add a yeast cake dissolved in one-half cup of lukewarm water, a half-teaspoonful of salt and enough flour to make a batter to roll out. Let it stand until light, then add a grated nutmeg, let rise again. Now roll it out and cut into shapes and fry in hot lard.

Popped Dainties.—After the corn is popped, remove all round and but slightly opened grains; to each quart of corn add one large teaspoonful of melted butter and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Stir well three or four minutes to thoroughly season. This is called butter corn. To make popcorn balls or bricks, to one cupful of brown sugar add a heaping tablespoonful of butter, and three tablespoonfuls of water; boil until it ropes or hardens when dropped into cold water. While the syrup is boiling hot, pour it over two quarts of popped corn, from which all round grains have been removed. Stir with a spoon until it is cool enough to be molded into shape with the hands, which should be rubbed with butter to facilitate work.

For crystallized popcorn, boil together until it hardens one large half-cupful of granulated sugar, and two tablespoonfuls of water; have prepared two quarts of buttered popcorn, over which pour the syrup boiling hot. Stir it well to thoroughly crystallize each grain. If the corn has a tendency to adhere, set the pan containing it in a hot oven a few seconds, then stir it well to separate the kernels.

Sour Milk Biscuits.—Mrs. Rorer's rule is as follows: Rub one tablespoonful of shortening into a quart of flour. Add half a teaspoonful of salt. Moisten half a teaspoonful of soda in two tablespoonfuls of warm water. Stir into it half a pint of sour milk. Stir this into the flour. You may have to add a little more milk, but do not add any more soda. Knead quickly, roll out on a board, cut into biscuits, and bake in a quick oven for twenty minutes.

An Apricot Shortcake.—Take half a pound of evaporated apricots, rinse with cold water to free from dust, put in a sauce-pan and more than cover with cold water. Stand on the back of the range, and when the water gets hot sweeten the fruit with three heaping tablespoonfuls of granulated sugar. If, after cooking they are not sweet enough add sugar. Simmer slowly until very soft and the juice is almost as thick as a preserve, then stand where they will cool. Make a nice shortcake and bake it in a quick oven. As soon as it is a delicate brown on top it is done. When the cake gets just a little cool, turn it out of the pan on the pastry board and split it in halves with a strong silk thread. Lay one half on a plate or platter. Butter it well. Then cover it well with a thick layer of the apricots, and with a spoon cover the fruit with its juice. Now lay the other half of the cake on the fruit and cover the top of this layer with the fruit. Stand it where it will get cold and serve the shortcake with a pitcher of rich cream.

Baked Bananas.—Peel them, cut them in halves lengthwise and lay them on the bottom of a baking dish close together. Sprinkle a little sugar over them, with a few lumps of butter and bake in a moderate oven for twenty minutes. Of course, you may use the amount of sugar you think best, but most palates they are more grateful in the morning if only a tiny sprinkling

is given to each half. Serve these at breakfast or lunch.

Fried Eggs.—Put into a frying-pan an ounce of butter, and then when it is hot slip into it from a plate four eggs. Salt the eggs a bit, and cook them for about three minutes, take them up onto a hot dish and put into the frying-pan another ounce of butter and let it melt; squeeze into it the juice of half a lemon, a dash of cayenne, and when the butter turns brown a little, pour it over the eggs and send to the table.

TALKS TO MOTHERS.

Exercise is absolutely necessary to the growth and development of children. When the weather will not permit of their being out of doors they should be allowed to play games that call for plenty of active movement, short of actual romping. Battledoor and shuttlecock is a capital indoor game where there is room to play it. Bean bags,—colored bags filled with beans and aimed at a ring or other mark, and other games of this nature can be played.

The windows should always be opened a little way so as to admit the fresh air, filled with oxygen, while the children are exercising. Dancing is a nice pastime for children if not indulged in to excess. To be able to dance well adds grace and self-possession to the young child. But, as in other things, parents should use judgment and not allow their daughters to attach more importance to the cultivation of their feet than of their heads.

On cold, rainy days, when it is so hard for the little ones to stay in doors, when they have tired of everything else, often a basin of soapsuds and a common clay pipe will keep them amused for hours. The best way to prepare the suds is to take a fourth of an ounce of white castile soap, cut up in small pieces and boil three or four minutes in three-quarters of a pint of water. When the soap has melted and the water has cooled, add three-quarters of an ounce of glycerine. This should be kept in a tightly corked jar for use when desired.

Mother's often make a mistake in not looking more carefully after the children's eyes. They should never be allowed to read or study early in the morning before the sleep has been washed out of their eyes. And never allow them to read by a poor light. If they must study by lamp or gas light provide them with cheap brown shades which can be purchased at any stationer. Do not allow them to get into the habit of rubbing their eyes, it is very injurious.

Dress the girls in well fitting yet comfortable school dresses. Lightweight flannel wears well. Use as much judgment in the selection of colors becoming to them; as you do in regard to your own clothes. It will create in them a love for harmony and the beautiful without making them vain. A feeling of being neatly dressed adds much to the comfort of the school girl and will save them many a headache from unkind remarks made by their more favored companions.

Talking over their lessons in their sleep, languor, headache, dyspepsia and extreme nervousness are symptoms of over-study and the child should be allowed to rest for awhile. Plan some amusement and divert the mind if possible. The extreme effects of over-study are hysteria and insanity.

Mothers should fully realize the vast responsibility they have resting upon them and earnestly strive by watchfulness and care to do the best they can for the little ones entrusted to them.

CHILDREN AND TRUTH.

The fundamentals of a Persian boy's education 2,000 years ago was to "draw the bow and speak the truth." Can this moral training be improved upon? It is hardly possible. Truth is the foundation of character. A truthful person cannot be otherwise bad and does not readily forget a lie, while a liar hardly notices a lie in another, and may forgive and forget it at once.

Children are the greatest of imitators. For that reason does it not behoove a parent to be careful in his speech and conduct, and to tenderly encourage the germs of honesty and candid conduct in the little child? A mother should never feel prouder than when her child looks her directly in the eye and "owns up" when it has done wrong. Unless a child is a confirmed liar it need never be despaired of. Parents are responsible for much of the exaggeration children indulge in. Let them always insist upon accurate statements. Nothing stamps a person—man, woman or child,—as so unreliable as the confirmed habit of exaggeration. The habit of stating a message or of describing a circumstance exactly as it was given or as it happened, is of inestimable value. It should be the duty of the parent to insist upon this perfect truth and to avoid as much as possible any exaggeration in his conversation.

The little one should be taught to never say a thing with the deliberate intention of deceiving, and to best accomplish this is to never deceive him in the smallest particular. Everything seems possible to the little one and he readily makes promises exacted of him. Parents should carefully avoid breaking promises made to the children, and if the little ones fully comprehend the meaning of those they make they should be compelled to keep them.

DON'T ALLOW NAGGING.

Are we always just with our children? We certainly mean to be, but lack of time often makes an investigation impossible. For instance—many children are made miserable by the malicious pickings of an older brother,

sister or playmate, a fact of which the busy parent is wholly unconscious. This state of affairs should not be tolerated, for "nagging" is enough to ruin the sweetest disposition in the world.

GERMANY ON THE SEA.

Rapid Advance Made by German Steamship Companies in Recent Years. The German Government has issued an official return, the object of which is to make known the rapid advance made by German steamship companies during recent years, says the London Daily Mail.

The document makes no reference to the Government subsidies that have contributed much toward this result, nor, indeed, does it lessen the significance of the figures. The Hamburg-American line, says the report, has a greater tonnage than any other company in the world, its sixty-nine vessels representing 286,945 tons gross. The English P. & O. Company is given second place, with sixty vessels of 283,140 tons, so that the average size of each vessel is larger. Sixty-seven vessels, with a gross tonnage of 256,613 tons, place the North German Lloyd line third on the list; but this total, notwithstanding the big subsidies received, is only 4,200 tons over the aggregate credited to the British India Company, of Glasgow, with ninety-seven vessels of 251,429 tons.

Coming next is the French Messageries Maritimes, another line strongly nurtured with subsidies, the number of its ships being sixty-three, and the gross tonnage 229,837 tons. These five are the only companies whose total exceeds 200,000 tons.

The next is the Italian General Navigation Company, with ninety-six vessels of 171,041 tons, followed by the French Transatlantic Line, with sixty-four vessels of 166,701 tons and then the Japanese Nippon Yusen, which is represented as having sixty-eight vessels of 161,698 tons, built or under construction. The Wilson Line, of Hull, occupies the next place, or the third on the British list, with eighty-two vessels of 159,793 tons; the Austrian Lloyd coming next in order, with seventy-two vessels of 146,560 tons, and the Spanish Transatlantic Company with thirty-six vessels of 121,161 tons. Then follow the Pacific Company, the Cunard and the White Star, all English, of course.

The lines on this list, consisting over 100,000 tons tonnage, comprise three German, six British, two French, and one each flying the flag of Italy, Austria-Hungary, Spain and Japan.

THE RUBBER TREE.

The rubber tree is usually tapped four times during the first year of its maturity, and the intervals of rest are gradually diminished, until it can be tapped monthly. The rubber tree is the milch cow of the vegetable kingdom; its yield continues to increase with frequent and skilful milking until it reaches its maximum. Properly cared for, a tree will yield steadily up to its fortieth year; in some instances, as long as 50 or 60 years. The yield of gum, as well as the market price, is variable; but a healthy tree should yield a revenue of \$15 to \$20 per annum.

LOSING NO TIME.

I have heard a good deal about people who borrow trouble, but I think my wife is a champion in that line.

Why, I thought she was always cheerful and contented with her lot? She was until our baby was born six weeks ago. Now she is worrying because he may marry some girl that we may not like.

SNUBBED AGAIN.

Dearest, if I had a barrel of Klondike nuggets I would pour them all at your feet.

Henry—Henry—haven't you always heard me say that I detest people who go around telling their dreams?

PROOF POSITIVE.

Do you really love Uriah? 'Course I do. Think I been walkin' six miles a week ter see you fur the las' year 'cause I hated you?

BEFORE AND AFTER.

Before we were married you used to write me three letters a day? Did I really? Yes, you did; and now you cut up just because I ask you to write me a little bit of a check.

DESCENDANT OF PHARAOH.

An old gypsy has asked the Emperor of Austria to invest him with the dignity of King of the Gypsies, because he can prove his descent from King Pharaoh.

LIBRARIES.

A Frenchman estimates that there are in the world about 10,000 libraries worthy of the name.

THE MALE OSTRICH.

The male ostrich at times utters a cry which sounds like an effort to speak with the mouth shut tight.

WHAT IT WAS.

Mrs De Flat—What is that horrid smell? Mr. De Flat—I judge from the odor that it's one of those odorless oil stoves.

JAPANESE FOOT.

The Japanese foot has been praised for its strength, and beauty. Japanese can walk incredible distances without feeling weary.

Life of the French Girl.

Among the better classes the French girl emerges from a disagreeable childhood. French children as a rule are much indulged and spoiled, and very little frankness exists between them and their parents, or those who have the care of them. I have had many occasions for personal observation in various parts of France, and have found them to be untruthful and much inclined to hypocrisy and selfishness, says a writer.

The half-grown girl is full of airs, fond of dress, and often has the appearance of a miniature woman, attired in the latest fashion. She is forward and self-assertive. She is usually placed in a boarding school, where she is closely watched, never trusted by family, governess or teacher, and as a natural consequence such strict surveillance and lack of confidence develops very unfortunate traits of character. The girl in the best classes in France is often left in a convent, where if too much restraint is put over her she studies how she may elude the gentle and conscientious supervision of the nuns.

Like all her continental sisters, the French girl realizes at an early age that her chief object in life is marrying, and she is well aware that nothing can happen to her about which she will be so little consulted. She is never permitted to form any acquaintance or friendship with young men. It would be considered very indecorous for her to know or receive any man unless he were the guest of her parents. She never goes into the street without a chaperon, and then only for enough exercise to insure health. Then her eyes are busy with glances, while her wits are at work to deceive her companion.

She has no real intimacies among her own sex. Her family life is considered ample scope for her confidences and opinions. Her home is a dull place for her, for though French domestic life is kind it is not interesting to the young daughter. Her education is not thorough nor is her taste intellectual. Her talents are not much cultivated, and she enters but little into sports and games.

When her parents are ready or the opportunity comes a council is held by the family with reference to a suitable husband for her, and usually the arrangements are all made between her family and that of the proposed lover before the question is broached to her. It rarely occurs to her to oppose the scheme. She is generally only too eager to gain her freedom and feel her supreme self-respect and superiority by making an early marriage. Sometimes she is wholly unacquainted with the young or old man who is presented to her as her suitor—approved by the parents on both sides—for no man in France of any age is apt to marry without the consent of his father and mother.

French families take great pains in selecting a husband or wife for their children. They study their interests in a worldly sense. A girl must have her "dot," or portion, toward the future income and new home. This "dot" is saved in small sums, usually from the earliest years. The French girl of the better class has no beaux, no flirtations and no love affairs.

Marriage alone opens the way to these experiences. As a rule her requirements are very mediocre. She usually speaks charmingly and correctly, but rarely writes or composes well. She occasionally excels in vocal music, but has not any marked inclination toward the fine arts. She has no aptitude for housekeeping nor the economies of life, because France is supplied with perfectly trained servants whose duty and privilege is to save and manage. She is never a linguist, because her own language sounds all over the world. Needlework is not her forte, because the "song of the shirt" is pitiously sung by the half-starved "couturiere," and there is no object in plain sewing when it is done so marvelously cheap. Home decorations by the needle are not usual in France, so this same French girl is not an expert in "fancy work."

In many of the large towns, scattered all over France, there is a pathetic class of factory girls. They lead the hardest, cruellest lives. They work in ill-ventilated places and rooms that are worse than "sweating boxes." The sewage is poisonous. There is no good water and their food is insufficient. They are faithful, cheerful, uncomplaining workers. The cemeteries of the interior towns in France mark the graves of many young people, especially young girls.

I have encountered, too, the class of young girls who live on farms in lives—carrying and lifting heavy burdens, or being a French peasant in Normandy or Brittany, but it is better in painting and in print than it is in reality. The farmhouses have stone and the beautiful provincial costumes cannot make amends for scantiness of food. These girls have no recreation. Many of the peasant girls live in livelihood and in hamlets where there is no means of support for them; yet a pretty costume and earth to secure province. It lasts them for years, and their caps are so prized they are never seen without them.

The happiest class of working girls I saw in France were the fisher girls in the south of Brittany. There was

steady occupation with all the cheer of active trade. The people live on the bank and shores of the salt water and have a merry open air life, packing fish and canning sardines. The wildest excitement and pleasure is in the arrival of the fishes, and many of the girls have never been away from their native town.

THE WORLD'S MAIL.

Some Facts About the Postal Business of the World.

Two-thirds of all the letters which pass through the post-offices of the world are written by and sent to people who speak English. There are substantially 500,000,000 persons speaking colloquially one or another of the ten or twelve chief modern languages, and of these about twenty-five per cent. of 125,000,000 persons, speak English. About 90,000,000 speak Russian, 75,000,000 German, 55,000,000 French, 45,000,000 Spanish, 35,000,000 Italian and 12,000,000 Portuguese, and the balance Hungarian, Dutch, Polish, Flemish, Bohemian, Gaelic, Roumanian, Swedish, Finnish, Danish and Norwegian. Thus, while only one-quarter of those who employ the facilities of the postal departments of civilized governments speak, as their native tongue, English, two-thirds of those who correspond do so in the English language.

This situation arises from the fact that so large a share of the commercial business of the world is done in English, even among those who do not speak English as their native language. There are, for instance, more than 20,000 post offices in India, the business of which in letters and papers aggregates more than 300,000,000 parcels a year, and the business of these offices is done chiefly in English, though of India's total population which is nearly 300,000,000, fewer than 300,000 persons either speak or understand English.

Though 90,000,000 speak or understand Russian, the business of the Russian post department is relatively small, the number of letters sent throughout the Czar's empire amounting to less than one tenth the number mailed in Great Britain alone, though the population of Great Britain is considerably less than one-half of the population of Russia in Europe.

The Southern and Central American countries in which either Spanish or Portuguese is spoken do comparatively little post office business, the total number of letters posted and collected in a year in all the countries of South and Central America and the West Indies being less than in Australia, Chili and Argentina, are, in fact, the only two South American countries in which any important postal business is done, and most of the letters received from or sent to foreign countries are not in Spanish, but in English, French, German or Italian.

THE EARTH'S CLOUD-BELT.

A writer in Knowledge makes a vivid picture of the great belt of clouds some three hundred miles in breadth which surrounds the earth a little north of the equator. Within this belt rain almost incessantly falls, sometimes in sheets, and the wind seldom stirs. Before the invention of steamships, vessels becalmed in the "cloud-belt," sometimes drifted helplessly for weeks. Even now the crossing of this belt, where everything is surcharged with moisture, is a disagreeable experience for voyagers going from the North to the South Atlantic Ocean or vice versa. The belt can be traced across equatorial Africa and across the American isthmus, and the great rivers, Amazon, Orinoco, Niger, Nile and Congo, arise in these rain-soaked regions, which are like exhaustless reservoirs. The cause of the equatorial cloud-belt is connected with the trade winds, and in the course of a year it oscillates north and south over a distance equal to about three times its own breadth.

MACAULEY'S MEMORY.

Archdeacon Farrar in a recent reminiscence says that when a young man he heard Macauley name every woman who had been executed in England. He was then asked if he could name all of the archbishops. "Oh, yes," he replied, "any schoolboy could do that." The Archdeacon says that Macauley's memory made him the most wonderfully informed man that ever lived.

NO WONDER.

The reprehensible practice of kissing babies, and thereby subjecting them to danger of contagion as well as to discomfort and annoyance, is so hard to suppress that one cannot greatly marvel at the means of combating the practice which a certain father is reported to have adopted.

Why, I should like to know, a friend asked this prudent father, have you it keeps people from kissing him, answered the father.

Young George McGill of London, was fishing when a little girl fell into the river. She was being carried away by the current when the boy plunged into the water and succeeded in bringing her to land.

Lightning went down a Hamilton chimney, knocked some plaster off the dining room ceiling and walls, sending some of the pieces down stairs, and then wandered out in search of a more congenial locality.

READABLE

Interesting Items Worth

The members of the club each receive a member who is to be during a sitting of any for two weeks. The Arabs show when meeting, by eight times. Arab beyond this; they other several time. The loud quack on the way to mar road, annoyed a t tantly muzzled the hands over their l. Mrs. Minnie Hol gan, Wis., felt in lasted for twenty- apparently in dee conscious of ever and her. Some of the Ne alcoholic stimulan parties, and the r relish this form o is placed before th teacups. The daisy did no ern states until a The explanation there is, that the s in the hay sent fo the army horses. It was the custo professor of Chines of Oxford, to rise three o'clock and hours a day. He r age of eighty-two. A Chicago shoe de of drawing patron his shoes one size le are. A woman wit therefore be easily shoe in his store. Stationary beds a the houses of the J hour for retiring h and led-covered ar chests, where they the day, and spre floor. A crooked toe w from being enliste has been demonstra crooked toes cannot ches. A young lady in locked in her room, keep her from her s a ring belonging to He arrested for fa He went on her b then hastened wit in whose house he l. A queer form of li an old man in Der lives that he hold Lord for 1,000 yea the heavenly choir made twenty-three deliver them only t senger who comes d. In the ladies' bil Waldorf-Astoria Ho thoughtlessly remo ing to gain greater ing his cue, a watch by supplies him wit at. The ladies the their eyes, and do n until assured by the that the gentleman's been covered.

THE KEELE

Splendid Institution Keeley's Treatment Liqueur and Drugs. The remarkable su the treatment of the enness and the oping to the formula, Keeley the invento ey Cure, has resulte ment of one of th ing institutions in t is prepared by Dr. K administered by dul cians, especially inst work, to patients wh time of treatment. The Keeley Cure is th original remedy for The application of mild and free from facts upon the s reconstructive prop the necessity for stim the patient in a nor condition. At the en it is claimed that a new man, mentall, sially. Since the int Keeley Cure over 300 these institutions throughout the wor themselves to be cur ings for liquor and dr at 582 Sherbourne splendidly furnished. of each flat being o the building the pati comfort of a first-cla home.

TRAPPE Attorney—You say kissed you in a dark Fair Plaintiff—Yes, Attorney—Will you the Court how you c dark room with the Fair Plaintiff—Oh, I when we went in, I t out afterward.

PLANS AND ES Inquiring son—Pop. an artist! Pop. who has just h built—I guess so. T are perfect children a

Attorney—You say kissed you in a dark Fair Plaintiff—Yes, Attorney—Will you the Court how you c dark room with the Fair Plaintiff—Oh, I when we went in, I t out afterward.