

SOFT FOOD.

A Happy Medium is Most Likely to Succeed With Poultry.

Opinions differ greatly as regards what is the best food for poultry. Some people swear by soft foods of various kinds, whereas others patronize a grain diet alone. All sorts of mealy doughs, however, are a wholesome food for poultry, and result in producing more eggs than feeding a whole grain diet pure and simple. The ideal diet for poultry should be neither too much soft nor too much hard, but just the happy medium. Several people feed soft foods alone in every possible form...

THE FASHIONABLE BED.

The Narrow Single Bed is Now the Proper Thing for Everybody.

The famous bed that used to accommodate from two to four on a pinch has been driven out of the homes of fashion, and in its stead reigns the narrow single bed on which there is hardly room for the occupant to turn over. The correct style now is a single bed, sometimes a three-quarter, rarely a double bed, for a young girl, two single, sometimes two three-quarter beds placed side by side for father and mother.

Sometimes a drapery is arranged over the top of the bed, but the newest things in this line are not at all voluminous. A pretty summer bed has all the covers made of fine point d'esprit over white or colors in silk as suits the occupant's taste.



For married folk the two beds that go into new houses are of the Empire, French or Italian renaissance style, made of rosewood. They have a superb brass work ornamentation with quite a high headboard and footboard. Many of them are imported presumably from decaying castles, where the old nobility have parted with their possessions. Others are of good American manufacture to order.

The two stand side by side, the wall over their heads is covered or draped with folds of silk and a shallow canopy drapery is arranged to include both beds. For summer these draperies are made of dainty or cretonne or other wash materials.

A Clever Woman.

"There are more ways than one to make a living," said a demure little woman with flashing black eyes who came down town in a street car recently. "I know a woman who was left penniless in New York. She was riding on the elevated road one day, when she was struck with the sameness of the advertisements that are posted up in the cars. She thought that she could write good advertisements, and she thought out a lot of little fourteen line rhymes for a certain article. She submitted them to the advertising manager of that firm, and they were accepted, and now she is making a lot of money every year with her verses extolling various wares."

"Pshaw!" said the blonde, who sat next to the demure little woman. "I know of a case right here in Buffalo that discounts that."

"I don't believe it," said the demure little woman. "Well, I do, and I'll tell you about it to prove it. A friend of mine who had been doing some newspaper work got the craze for writing advertisements, and she went around to a lot of stores only to find that they were well supplied with people to look after that branch of their business. She did find one firm that was willing to let her try her hand, and she began work. In less than a year she was comfortable well off for the rest of her life."

"Did she invent some new style of writing or something of that kind?" asked the blonde woman.

"No," replied the blonde, "but she married a senior partner."

Ink on Marble.

Ink spots on marble may be removed with a paste made by dissolving an ounce of oxalic acid and half an ounce of butter of antimony in a pint of rain water and adding sufficient flour to form a thin paste. Apply to the stains with a brush, allow it to remain three or four days and then wash off. Make a second application, if necessary.

How to Preserve the Complexion. An excellent mixture for preserving the complexion, easily made at home, is as follows: Take a wineglassful of the best French orange flower water. Add a tiny pinch of carbonate of soda and two teaspoonfuls of glycerine. Melt a piece of camphor the size of a pea and three teaspoonfuls of cologne water and add to the orange flower water. Shake the whole for five minutes. Apply to the face every night.

An Unhappy Outlook. "Miriam," said her mother, sorrowfully, "if you don't learn to control that waspish, jealous, snarling disposition of yours you will never be fit for anything but a great opera singer!"—Chicago Tribune.

Fireproof Dresses for Children. An old book on simple household ideas says that one ounce of alum added to the last water used in rinsing children's dresses will render them unflammable. While it isn't probable that the cloth would be actually fire proof, it wouldn't take fire so easily from flames or heat, and it is a good thing for mothers to remember.

The Common Practice. Willie—Ma, does the world move? Mamma—The most of it will, on the first of May—except those who don't have to dodge the Sheriff.

The Soubrette's Game. Cora Fee—Why did you become engaged to him? His relatives would spend their last penny to prevent the marriage. Odette—I know it; but I shan't ask for but ten thousand.

A Fond Mother. "Dear me!" cried the nurse, "the baby has swallowed my railroad ticket. What shall I do?" "Go and buy another right away," returned the mother. "I'm not going to have the baby punched."—Harper's Bazar.

EXCUSES THAT DO NOT EXCUSE.

The old question of why people don't go to church has been raised in a few newspapers and the old set of answers given in justification of absence from church services. It is noticeable that few, if any, of the absentees give the real reasons for staying away, which are not objections to the members of the church or to the church services but want of respect for the day and want of religious feeling.

It must not be presumed that all those who remain away from church services have religious services of any kind in their own homes. Were they to do so they would lose nothing, for it is what is in the heart, not what is in the church, that brings a man nearer to God. He may stay away from a church all his life, but if he commune with God in his closet he is as much of a Christian as anybody can well be. But a man who does this is not the kind of man to make excuses for not attending divine services, and most especially is he not the man to excuse himself by condemning either the congregation or the quality of the services. It is more likely that the pure in spirit would commend both, since it is the church and not the secret worshiper that exercises the greater influence in making converts to the true faith.

One excuse, and the one oftentimes given, for church absenteeism is that there is a great deal of hypocrisy among church members. Whether this is true or not the excuse is itself hypocritical. It is sufficient for most men to take care of their own souls, and if they do this zealously they will find that the condition of the souls of their neighbors will not affect theirs in the least. The man who has a high appreciation of his moral rectitude does not refuse to go upon the street because he fears that nearly all men and many women he may meet there, while outwardly and apparently virtuous, are merely pretending to be what they are not. The good man who stays at home because some church members, he thinks, are hypocrites, may assure himself that his presence would not make the church members more hypocritical nor put his own soul in more danger.

There are exceptions to every rule. There are men and women who have reasons for staying at home. But these do not justify their absence and ease their conscience by attacking those who go to church. They would rather abandon their own convictions than condemn those of others.

The Prevailing Styles for Ladies Tailor Gowns.

The tailor costume is exceedingly popular this season. These gowns are worn everywhere in town, in the country and even at the seashore and in the mountains. They are made in every kind of material; light woolsens, serge, duck gingham, and foulards. This prevailing fashion calls for a great variety of models and every style of French and English coats are brought into requisition. As for the skirts, although their simplicity is always adhered to, in accordance with the severe tailor system of dressing, they, nevertheless, exhibit a diversity of styles. This fact is well exemplified in the latest McDOWELL FASHION MAGAZINES which contain, beside several pretty and very practical models, the patterns of which can be secured by means of coupons at exceedingly moderate prices. These coupons form an attractive monthly feature in the McDowell Magazines for they enable one to secure the patterns of the newest and more correct fashions.

"La Mode de Paris," and "Paris Album of Fashion," cost only \$3.50 each per year, or 35 cents a copy. "The French Dressmaker," is \$3.00 per annum, or 30 cents per copy. "La Mode," which is unequalled as a family journal, costs merely the trifling sum of \$1.50 per year, or 15 cents a copy. The three first mentioned publications offer each \$1.00 worth of coupon patterns and "La Mode," fifty cents worth of the same as a premium for a yearly subscription. If you are unable to procure any of these journals from your newsdealer do not take any substitute from him but apply by mail to Messrs. A. McDowell & Co., 4 West 14th Street, New York.

The pudamucks of the Philadelphia Zoological Gardens are said to be sighing for their native goo-goo berries. If death ensues it may be attributed to the lack of this nourishing food. And the fillyoo birds are also losing their fatness for want of the filum-flam upon which they principally subsist when at liberty on their native heath. How the poor things must suffer.

A question which is likely to give our capitalists fully as much trouble as tariff revision and income-taxation is the trifling matter of controlling the laborers they necessarily employ. We have no sympathy with laborers who presume to own the plant, or who presume to dictate not only the wages an employer must pay but also who the employer must and who he must not employ at any rate of wages.

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