

### RAG RUG-MAKING REPLACES KNITTING, M'LISS DECLARES

#### Miss of Today When She Wants to Emulate Grandmother Goes to Modern Attic, Which Is the Basement of Big Shop

WHO was it who said, "You can't get very far away from your grandfather?" Of course, whoever it was referring to heredity, but the same phrase, with "grandmother" substituted instead of "grandfather," occurred to me the other day when I stood enraptured before a collection of old-fashioned rag rugs.

Whenever we want anything particularly entrancing, be it frock or house-furnishing, we go back, not forward. Nothing that the futurists have ever done for us, or will ever do, in the matter of floor covering equals in beauty and durability the wonderful carpets that our Colonial ancestors (who, if you had asked them, would have told you emphatically that they knew nothing at all about art) made and designed in the glimmering light of a tallow dip after the real day's work had been done.

Unconsciously, or at least without any formulated knowledge, they followed the first principle of true art. They made the useful beautiful. And the modern makers of rag rugs, when they want to put out a truly artistic rug, realize that they can achieve nothing superior in design or execution to the rugs of our grandmothers. And so they go back.

Furthermore, they endeavor as nearly as possible to reproduce just the same kind of material—the same designs and the same color schemes as the old Colonial rugs, now treasured heirlooms, display.

The recurrence of the rag rug as something more than a mere bath mat is, indeed, something to be grateful for. I know of no more charming floor covering than the cheerful pinks and grays, delft blues, and gray and green combinations that these rugs show.

What a rare eye for colors the old Colonial dames had! No wonder Wallace Nutting has achieved a nation-wide reputation for his faithful reproductions of their quaint rooms and costumes. They themselves were pictures, and they refused to move in a setting any less picturesque.

They dyed their own cloth, to say nothing of weaving it, with indigo for the blue and peach bark for the yellows, cochineal for the reds and pinks, and iron and copper for browns. And when the attic was ransacked at rug-making time, the rags that it produced made rugs that wore for several lifetimes and had colors that never ran.

Oh, for an attic! But alas, attics are already as extinct as the dodo. However, if we cannot go a-rummaging in our modern three-rooms-and-bath apartment, we can rummage at the calico counter, and I know of no better substitute for the old-fashioned attic than the basement of the modern department store.

Here, if you are bent on making your own rag rugs—and even an inexperienced needlewoman can "do" the simple braided kind, which really are the prettiest—buy the old-fashioned Washington prints. They can be had for 10 cents a yard in all of the quaint sprigged designs.

I know of no more fascinating diversion (since knitting has become a little too general to be stylish) than making a rag rug. In addition to being a productive accomplishment, it is conducive to a peaceful and meditative state of mind such as few other manual occupations yield.

If you are interested in the revival of this beautiful craft, send me a stamped, self-addressed envelope for the name of a little book that explains the art lucidly and gives designs and instructions for carrying them out.

Letters to the Editor of the Woman's Page Address all communications to M'Liss, care of the Evening Ledger. Write on one side of the paper only.

If the following letter interests any of my charitably inclined readers—and it ought to—I will gladly give them the address of the writer of the letter, who will put them in the way of helping this family.

Dear M'Liss—Because your kindness has been the means of securing aid for various unfortunates, I am writing this letter to you, hoping it will bring the desired results.

Triplets were born to a very poor woman last week at the Jewish Maternity Hospital, and while the husband has a position, it is all that he can do to support the five other children in the family. You can imagine what it means to have three more to look after. If any of your readers can render assistance it will indeed be more than appreciated. Mrs. B.

Dear M'Liss—Will you please tell me how I can pack away a good velvet suit? Also something that will rid my kitchen cupboard of ants. HOUSEKEEPER.

Brush your suit well with a soft brush suitable for velvet. If there are any spots try steaming them out by laying the spots on the face of a hot iron over which several thicknesses of a wet cloth have been placed. When the suit is thoroughly freshened hang on a hanger, the skirt under the coat. Put moth balls in pockets and every available crevice. Dip several swabs of cotton in gasoline. Hang one in each sleeve, one in the lining of the jacket proper and one in the skirt.

Make a huge thick newspaper bag, using three or four layers. Cover the suit with this entirely. Be careful that the aperture where the hanger protrudes is protected with a little sack containing about a half dozen moth balls. Hang in your packing closet.

Get at the root of the trouble if possible and find the nest of ants. Destroy it with kerosene. Then wash your cupboard with hot soda water. As a final precaution sprinkle some liquid camphor over the shelves. Ants hate the smell of this.

Unusual Dessert A nice dessert for Sunday evening tea is made by lining a bowl with lady fingers, either fresh or stale ones, then filling with this mixture: Cream two cupfuls of sugar with a half cupful of butter, add two tablespoonfuls of cornstarch, three eggs, well beaten; the juice of three oranges, the grated rind of one orange and three cupfuls of water. Cook in the double boiler, stirring constantly, or it will burn. It is delicious served like a custard in small cups, if you have no lady fingers on hand.

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### SEEN IN THE SHOPS



#### MODISH FOR APRIL SHOWERS

A SLIP-ON coat usually fails to be a real slip-on because it is too large and bulky. This model is lightweight itself. It is fashioned of oiled silk, quite transparent, but still storm-proof. The best part of it is the fact that it may be tucked into a very small space when not in use and carried inconspicuously under the arm in doubtful weather.

The lines of the coat are tailored with raglan shoulders, a very high turned-up-to-thee collar and vent pockets. The shirred underseams may be seen peeping from the wide, mannish cuff. This is a practical addition. Every one knows how annoying it is to have the water trickle up the arm when it is lifted. It also serves to keep the breezes out.

Full length, it protects even the skirts of the wearer. The fastenings at the front are smoked pearl buttons. Price \$29. Colors include Nile and bottle green, navy, Havana brown, taupe, purple, cardinal tan, champagne, orange, old rose and oyster. A knee-length sports coat of the same is designed for the golfer, and sells for \$18.

Fearless of showers and sleet, too, is the little hat which is worn with the coat. It is also fashioned of oiled silk, with a soft tan crown, attached brim and tailored bow for trimming. In colors to match the coat, it sells for \$5.50.

The name of the shop where these articles may be purchased will be supplied by the Editor of the Woman's Page, EVENING LEDGER, 508 Chestnut street. The request must be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope, and must mention the date on which the article appeared.

Fanciful names in scores of cases where the patient helped in making the diagnosis. A single drop of pus incorporated by some accidental obstruction to drainage is capable of producing the most violent imaginable symptoms, though unfortunately pain is not always one of the symptoms when soft tissues are involved.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS No Indulgences for Members of Bread and Milk Club I would like to join the Bread and Milk Club, but have not the time to eat every two hours. Would it be all right to eat just three times a day? If so, how much milk and bread each time? asks a slim woman. And should the milk be warm, cold or boiled? I find it impossible to satisfy my appetite with less than a large slice of bread and butter and a large glass of milk every two hours, writes a stout man. Is that all right?

Answer—The slim woman may try the fat man's method, and he should adopt her schedule. Bread and Milk Club members are denied indulgences. Small glass of warm, cold or boiled milk if you prefer, with a cracker or a mere mouthful or two of bread—that is the order, and every two hours from rising to bedtime. Monday is the day, and Excelsior the motto. Only near-invalids, bilious, overfed, too well-nourished victims of auto-intoxication, liver complaint and general prostrated membership. Sick persons need not apply.

Non-surgical Treatment of Goitre Please tell me what you mean by non-surgical treatment of exophthalmic goitre and where such treatment can be had. Answer—Non-surgical treatment means good medical treatment—rest, proper diet, open-air life and general management much the same as for tuberculosis. Medication to meet the conditions in each case. Such treatment is given by most family physicians.

Flattering Tulle If you are going to wear the quaint 1830 frock of our grandmothers, why not have the flitch of tulle? You will find them very flattering both to the face and the shoulders. Silks are a bit stiff, although one French model was seen with an odd combination of fabrics. On a gown of flesh-colored faille, cut low and dropped off the shoulders, was used a flitch of fine organdy. The queer mating of material attracted much attention. But to return, the tulle flitch of cream, white or flesh-colored tulle is the most fascinating of all. It lends itself beautifully to making angular young shoulders look rounded.

### Marion Harland's Corner

"I HAVE many requests to make and I but little to give in return and feel shy about writing for that reason. But could not you give me a few fruit, nut or other meat substitute recipes? I have already made noodles, dumplings, sweet-breads, and vegetables every way I can think of and of now come to you for help. I should also like the horoscope for the following: June 15, May 25, February 9, and September 11. If there are any lonely homesteaders or strangers in the city who would like letters I'd be glad to write to them if I could cheer them up." "MRS. C. P."

Have you thought of any of these substitutes? They are good at all seasons, but in many families will be particularly welcome now. Moreover, one should eat less meat now than when cold weather demands supplies of carbon and fat for the human system:

Sweet potatoes au gratin—Parboil the potatoes, peel and slice while hot. Butter a deep dish well; put in a layer of potatoes, sprinkle with sugar, salt and pepper, and dot with butter. Then a stratum of fine crumbs, seasoned in the same way, leaving out the sugar. The uppermost layer should be of crumbs and well buttered. Pour in four tablespoonfuls of warm milk to generate steam. Cover closely, and bake an hour. Uncover and brown. This is an especially nice dish for a family dinner and is always liked by children. Chestnut pudding—Boil and slice enough chestnuts to make a cup when rubbed through a colander or vegetable press. Beat four eggs light, stir the chestnuts into the yolks, add a tablespoon of melted butter and two tablespoonfuls of warm milk, and set in a cold place for an hour before frying in deep boiling fat.

Here is something especially tempting and which deserves to be better known: Chestnut pudding—Boil and slice enough chestnuts to make a cup when rubbed through a colander or vegetable press. Beat four eggs light, stir the chestnuts into the yolks, add a tablespoon of melted butter and two tablespoonfuls of warm milk, and set in a cold place for an hour before frying in deep boiling fat.

The chestnuts used for this and for the croquettes are the large Spanish variety sold in all our city markets. They are palatable and nourishing and less rich in fat than walnuts and pecans. I could multiply the number of meat substitutes by the dozen. If these are not enough for you, let me know. As a nation, we are the largest consumers of meat in the world, the British excepted. Anything that promises to bring down our bills for "butcher's meat" will do us our brains clearer and our blood purer, to say nothing of the increased weight of the house-mother's pocketbook. Your request for horoscopes is referred to students of astrology.

Flavoring Recipe Called For "Would you please print a recipe for vanilla flavoring, published some time ago, in the Corner, which I failed to see? It seemed a good one." L. C.

I am sorry, but we have no record of any recipe for vanilla flavoring. Should it have escaped my eye, the thrifty member who copied and preserved it will please let us have it, or any other formula for vanilla flavoring she can recommend conscientiously.

Another Copy Offered "If J. W. L. will communicate with me (included find address), I will send him the song he wants—'The Dark-eyed Sailor.'" "P. F. H."

Our sailor has come bodily to the front through the kindly and efficient readers of our well-nigh omniscient constituency. As the querist has already received a copy further.

Pleased With Their Gifts "Your letter, with the address of Mrs. O. N. and Mrs. B. S. is received. I have sent to them both packages of books and magazines, and have had letters from them saying how pleased they are. I am as glad to pass these things on as they can be to get them. Mrs. O. N. has written me two of the nicest friendly letters—just as if we were old friends. We all thank the Corner for helping us to know one another. Many, many thanks." "A. M."

May the friendship so auspiciously formed be a lasting comfort to all of you. The Corner claims a share in it.

All communication addressed to Marion Harland should enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and a check for the article in which you are interested. Persons wishing care of this should give the address of those they would like to help, and having read of them, communicate direct with those parties.

The Corner has no skill in reading the stars.

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### THE CHEERFUL CHERUB

The moon alone is a poem to me From its tender youthful hope To the time when it thinly fades away Like a used up piece of soap.

R. J. CAMP

The Last Leaf I know it is a sin For me to sit and grin At him here; But the old three-cornered hat, And the breeches, and all that, Are so queer!

And if I should live to be The last leaf upon the tree In the spring, Let them smile, as I do now, At the old forsaken bough Where I cling.

—O. W. Holmes.

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