

LAUNDRY LINES.

Iodine stains will disappear if dipped in liquid ammonia.
 Borax is the simplest and least harmful washing powder for use with clothes in the boiler.
 A spoonful of kerosene in boiled starch keeps it from sticking, but do not use enough to make it smell of the oil.
 Handkerchiefs should be ironed while very damp and dried by the iron. Thus will they acquire a certain stiffness and will keep clean longer.
 Soap should never be rubbed on silk underwear. Put the garments in soapsuds and squeeze gently between the fingers. They should be pressed on the wrong side with a moderately hot iron.
 A laundry convenience is a sleeve board, which slips inside shirt waist sleeves and makes ironing them easy. Properly used, the sleeve board obviates the ugly crease down the back of the sleeve.
 It is recommended that a little vinegar be added to the water in which stockings are rinsed after being washed. The stockings should then be dried wrong side out. Colored stockings will be unfaded and black ones will retain their original luster.

Elder Down Comforters.

The trouble that takes away the pleasure of possessing elder down comforters is the trouble and expense of having them washed. If they are cleaned at home they must be ripped apart, and after washing the covers and giving the down an airing both must be remade. If sent away to a professional cleaner one might as well buy new. It has been proved, however, that these spreads can be washed in a very satisfactory manner at home without the extra trouble of making and remaking. For this work a bright warm day is absolutely necessary. If the colors of the cover are doubtful place the article in a solution of either ammonia or common salt and let it stand for half an hour. This will generally set any color. Then immerse the comforter in a tub of hot soapsuds and wash by squeezing rather than by rubbing it. Wring from the water into clear hot water and from this rinsing hang on a line where it will dry as rapidly as possible. Keep watch of it while it is drying, shaking it and turning it on the line and rubbing the down to prevent it from becoming lumpy. It requires considerable care to make a satisfactory job of it, but it pays for the trouble when once done.

House and Furniture.

"Excess of furniture destroys the repose of a lazy man and is in the way of an industrious one," wrote William Morris, and it was also one of his maxims that if houses were built as they should be we should want but a little furniture and be happy in that scantiness. In "The Lesser Arts of Life" he wrote:
 "The arrangement of our houses ought surely to express the kind of life we lead or desire to lead. Our furniture should be good citizens' furniture, solid and well made in workmanship, and in design should have nothing about it that is not easily defensible, no monstrosities or extravagances, not even of beauty, lest we weary of it. As to matters of construction, it should not have to depend on the special skill of a very picked workman or the superexcellence of his glue, but be made on the proper principles of the art of joinery; also I think that, except for very movable things, like chairs, it should not be so very light as to be nearly imponderable; it should be made of timber rather than walking sticks."

Spoke Too Late.

An old New England farmer's wife lay a-dying after seventy years of life and fifty years of steady drudgery as housekeeper and mother. As the end grew visibly near the husband stooped to her ear, the tears forcing their way from his eyes and down his rugged cheeks.
 "Goodby, Hannah! You have always been a good wife to me!" came with a strangling sob.
 The glazed eyes opened; the numb hand was raised in a rebukeful gesture.
 "Then why in the name of mercy didn't you ever tell me so before?"
 The whisper was her last breath.
 Ah, my brothers, tell the faithful, brave, overworked wives the blessed truth before the tonic comes too late to brace the spirit and tide nervous forces over the sand bars that ridge the channel of weekday toil!—Chicago Record Herald.

Would You Be a Fidget?

Beautiful women learn calmness and composure. They never wiggle their feet or play with their thumbs, but repose in a chair. Women with a propensity to fidget should cultivate the habit of sitting perfectly still in a chair with their hands loosely clasped in their laps. A quiet, reposeful manner is more to be desired than riches. Fidgety women have nervous fingers, which apparently must always be doing something—playing with a chain worn around the neck, beating a tattoo on the lap, crumpling the bread at dinner or otherwise occupied in irritating the nerves of other people.

Your Grievances.

If you want to be loved, keep any grievances you may have to yourself. A woman with sorrows may be interesting, but a woman with a grievance is quickly voted a bore. Weeping, and eyed heroines are all very nice in novels, for one need not have more of their society than he likes, but everyday life cheeriness is in demand, and the woman or girl who bravely determines to find the silver lining of every cloud is rewarded by gaining the respect and love of her fellows.

HANDLING A HUSBAND.

Take mishaps merrily. Men like women with a sense of humor.
 Beware of oversweetness. A little acid is good for the constitution.
 Let him alone when he wants to be let alone. Boredom is death to love.
 You will differ on many things, but don't dispute them; agree to disagree.
 Be unselfish, even if he isn't. It's the only way you can be blameless yourself.
 Opposites attract. Keep your own spice of individuality, but don't let it stoop to aggressiveness.
 Never try for effect. The average effect is either to distress him beyond measure or to make him mad.
 Give him plenty of rope. He may love you ever so much, but he doesn't like to feel the pull of apron strings.
 Don't imagine that love makes up all of his life. It is only one side of it. But make it the best and brightest side.
 If he forgets his appointment and apologizes, don't pout. Treat it as a joke, and he will love you ten times more.
 Don't cling to him too tightly. "Even an angel may be tiresome when one can never get out of the shadow of its wings," says a wise person.

Run and Get Health.

To take a mile run daily, as a man in training would do it, is the best way in the world for a girl to get color into her cheeks and sparkle into her eyes.
 "If girls would turn their attention to running, they would find it the most exhilarating pastime in the world, as well as one of the most healthful," says an authority on athletics. "Besides adding roses to the cheeks and inches to the lungs, running is the stout woman's best resource."
 "Let her take a brisk run daily, beginning with a few yards and getting up to a mile or thereabout, and she will not need to resort to a diet—that most melancholy and depressing method of reducing avoirdupois."
 If a run cannot be taken daily out of doors, the running track found at every well equipped gymnasium should be utilized. A run out of doors, however, is the ideal practice, for fresh air is one of the important factors of the sport. It is fresh air that gives a girl bewitching color in her cheeks and purifies every drop of blood in her body.

To Obtain a Slim Waist.

It's nice to be plump, but to be plump in the wrong place is misery. French women, though they get quite redundant, have their redundancy located properly owing to the training of their figures from girlhood. The best thing for a woman to do when she has allowed her "form to get out of form" is to regain it by taking gymnastic training of some kind, fencing or clubs or dumbbells. In the modern gymnasium there is such an apparatus for the waist—two great ropes from the ceiling terminate in a pair of padded metal rings, into which you slip your arms, and, poising your toes within the central disk on the floor, you swing yourself round and round in a circle, making your toes the pivot. It is splendid for indigestion, this apparatus, and for one's condition generally as well as one's figure. The action comes greatly from the waist, which should be the strongest part of the body and which by no means implies the thickest. The waist should be firm and in reason slight.

Table Mats.

The common custom of using rush mats under hot dishes as a protection to the polished wood does not appeal to a housewife as giving an air of daintiness to a prettily set dining table, and we suggest a pretty idea for table mats. Cut a round or oblong piece of linen the size desired and embroider with sprays of flowers or a conventional design, then cut two pieces half as large for the underside. Place the two straight edges together, which should be on the selvage at the middle across the center. When placed in this manner they are the size of the upper piece, and both should be basted together and a scallop worked around the edge through the top and underside. Now you have a mat with an opening in the center, into which you can slip a piece of asbestos cut the shape of the linen, only a trifle smaller. When the mat needs laundering slip out the asbestos and launder same as dollies.

A Medical Defense of Corsets.

The use of the corset is to transmit the pressure of the skirt bands to the hips and the ribs and so to protect from their pressure the organs in the region of the waist. The conclusion is that so long as skirt bands are fastened round the waist corsets should be worn. They should be stiffer than usually made if they are effectively to protect the soft middle portion of the body from the pressure of the waistband. The front should be quite straight, and the waist measurement should be at least as large as the wearer's waist, measured over a single soft garment. The abuse of the article consists in employing it as a means of compressing that which it was meant to protect from compressing—namely, the soft middle portion of the body.—Medical Press and Circular.

Cooking Sausages.

Boiling sausages for five minutes renders them more digestible and delicate than the usual method of frying. At the end of five minutes dip the sausages gently, being careful not to break them; drain, pierce the skins in several places with a fork in order to keep the sausages in shape, roll in flour and place in the frying pan or to bake in the oven in a covered pan until thoroughly done.



A FLOATING LIGHT.

How to Make a Night Lamp Out of a Horse Chestnut.

Boys and girls make many uses of the handsome, big eyed, brown horse chestnut, which falls from its shell at frost time, but it has never occurred to them, perhaps, that it may be turned into a really good night light. Or, if that seems too serious a purpose for them to have in mind following the directions here given, let them call it a floating lamp and show it to their friends as a curiosity.
 Here is the way to make it: Select a nut that is not perfectly round, for you want it to float steadily, and a perfectly round nut cannot be depended on to do that. Having found one of some what uneven shape, make holes all over it with the point of a needle and then lay it in lamp oil and let it remain there soaking for ten or twelve hours.
 When you take it out of the oil put it in a tumbler nearly full of water and note what part of it remains above the water. Make a mark with a pin on the highest point and, taking it out of the water, bore a hole at that point about one-eighth of an inch in diameter and well down into the nut, but be careful that you do not go entirely through. Twist some cotton thread to make a wick and insert it in the hole, and then you are ready to light your little lamp.
 Having placed the nut back in the water, touch a lighted match to the wick, and you will get a flame that will burn for eight or ten hours. It may be used as a night light because it makes a comparatively weak illumination, as a night light is intended to do, and yet it will give light enough to answer all practical purposes.

A Quaint Little Maid.

This picture shows how the baby girls of long ago were dressed. Can you imagine this small, dignified person running or jumping or indulging



PRINCESS ISABELLA.

in any childish games? She was a royal baby, being the Princess Isabella, daughter of Philip IV. of Spain. Are you not glad that the little girls of today are not dressed up in that funny, stiff old style?

A Soap Bubble Party.

Did you ever give a soap bubble party for your little friends? It is very amusing, and this is how you set about it:
 Have five rings, made of cardboard and wound round with tissue paper of bright colors, in a doorway, suspended in a row by strings.
 Each ring should measure about seven or nine inches across, but they need not all be the same size.
 Have ready some bowls of strong soapsuds in which a teaspoonful of glycerin has been dissolved and as many clay pipes as will be needed for yourself and your guests.
 The players take turns in blowing their bubbles through the rings, and the one who succeeds in getting the most through without breaking them is declared the winner and gains a prize.

How to Spell Hat.

Richardson is in the primary department this year, having graduated himself from the kindergarten—which he thought "all nonsense"—and convulses us with his learning. The very first day he announced that he had learned to spell hat. When asked to do so he said, "I-e-a." "Oh, no!" I exclaimed. "H-a-t," but he shook his head gravely. "They don't spell it that way now. Perhaps they did when you were a little girl. Why, didn't teacher draw a picture of a hat and tell the class to say, 'I see a hat?'"

A Game of Skill.

Did you ever try throwing cards in a hat? It is great fun. Take an old high hat, place it on the floor, then let the players in turn stand at a distance from it—say ten or twelve feet. Use an ordinary pack of cards and toss them one by one in the hat as far as possible. A prize to him who gets in the greatest number adds to the interest.
 After a little practice it is remarkable how skillful one may become.

Good and Bad Children.

Children, you are very little, And your bones are very brittle; If you would grow great and stately You must try to walk sedately.
 You must still be bright and quiet And content with simple diet And remain through all bewild'ring Innocent and honest children.
 Happy hearts and happy faces, Happy play in grassy places— That was how in ancient ages Children grew to kings and aages.
 But the unkind and unruely They must never hope for glory; They will never win fame, surely; Theirs is quite a different story.
 Cruel children, crying babies, All grow up as geese and gables, Hated as their age increases By their nephews and their nieces.
 —Robert Louis Stevenson.



No. 428.—Riddlemeree.

In Jack and in Jill;
 In James, not in Bill;
 In Anne, not in Belle;
 In Eunice, not in Nell;
 In Mark and in Pat;
 In Mary, not in Mat;
 In Harry, not in Mose.
 Whole first is when the new year comes
 As the old one goes.

No. 429.—Progressive Enigma.

"1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10 that he has stolen and hidden away," said Madge, but all the time she was painfully conscious that she still had 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10 herself.
 That the delegate 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12 did not suit the 6-7-8-9-10-11-12, though, being tried, it gave him 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12.

No. 430.—Diamond.

1. In Saturday. 2. A small piece of anything. 3. A large and powerful wild animal found in southern Asia. 4. A beverage. 5. In Saturday.

No. 431.—Double Acrostic.

Primals and finals name a time when joy abounds.
 Beginning with the upper left hand letter read the primals downward and the finals upward.

Crosswords: 1. To fatigue to excess. 2. A singular person. 3. A feminine name. 4. To purpose.

No. 432.—Anagrams.

Tin kags—A winter sport.
 Nig coats—Enjoyed by children.

No. 433.—Illustrated Zigzag.



When the seven objects in the above illustration, which is adapted from St. Nicholas, have been rightly guessed and the names placed one below another in the order given, the zigzag between the first and second row of letters will spell the name of an annual holiday.

No. 434.—Connected Squares.

I II III
 O O O O O O O O O O O O O O
 O O O O O O O O O O O O
 O O O O O O O O O O O O
 O O O O O O O O O O O O O O

I.—1. An ancient poet. 2. A tree of several species. 3. Above your head.
 4. To challenge. Connecting words: A quilt. An inclosure.
 II.—1. A comb for wool. 2. Inclosed space. 3. Restraint. 4. A native of Denmark. Connecting words: Exploit. Brink.
 III.—1. To give in doses. 2. Above. 3. Prophet. 4. Sins.

No. 435.—Additions.

C and a boy's name form a sweetmeat.
 C and competent form a chain.
 C and to stir up form to dissipate.

Very Interesting.

"What was the sermon about today, Mary?" inquired a mistress of her domestic.
 "Please, m'm," said Mary, twisting the corner of her apron, "I've forgotten the text, but it was about young men."
 "Oh, really?" said the lady. "And what else was it about?"
 "Please, m'm, it was about young women too."
 "But can you tell me anything Mr. B. said?"
 "I couldn't repeat it exactly, m'm, for it was a mixed up kind of sermon, but it was very interesting," added the maiden.

Key to the Puzzler.

No. 420.—Charade: Fill-a-dell-a (Philadelphia).
 No. 421.—Illustrated Primal Acrostic: Firecrackers. 1. Fishes. 2. Ivy. 3. Rolling pin. 4. Egg. 5. Candle. 6. Radish. 7. Acorn. 8. Cherries. 9. Knife. 10. Envelope. 11. Rake. 12. Spade.
 No. 422.—Anagram Verse:
 If the world seems cold to you,
 Kindle fires to warm it.
 Let their radiance hide from view
 Winters that deform it.
 No. 423.—Rebendments: Christmas tree. Crosswords—1. Candy. 2. Holly. 3. Racket. 4. Ice. 5. Snow. 6. Treasure. 7. Merry. 8. Apple. 9. S-tocking. 10. Tabor. 11. R-ose. 12. E-ntertain. 13. E-nergy.
 No. 424.—Double Rhymes: Down, white, brown, sight, gown, light. Fair, still, there, hill, prepare, thrill. Track, glide, back, ride, lack, wide. Fine, shout, line, about, time, out.
 No. 425.—A Diagonal: Gifts. Crosswords—1. Glimcrack. 2. Mind. 3. Differ. 4. Diction. 5. Press.
 No. 426.—Jumbles: Mistletoe. Evergreen.
 No. 427.—A Literary Nightmare: Flora Annie Steele, John Esten Cooke, Hamilton Wright Mable.

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