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NORTHWESTERN YEAST CO.
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necessary to the business asked of me; and when the answer reaches the querist, nothing sent may suit the occasion or meet the requirements, owing to personal conditions. So many things make a difference. If the answer is given on the printed page, it must necessarily take up considerable space, and would in but few instances appeal to our other readers. For these reasons, it would be much better for our young people planning entertainments, to invest in one of the many books devoted to games and entertainments to be found in all books stores, and frequently in the public or school libraries.

Keeping Things In Order

This is the month of beginnings. The winter will soon be over, and the springtime at hand, and there is always much to do in the way of planning and preparation for the work ahead. Indoors and out, many things must be set to rights; things which have been neglected during the cold months. If our families would but study to keep things clean and in order, rather than to clean and bring to order; to put things in their proper place when done using them, rather than to set misplaced things to rights, time, temper and strength, as well as loss of both comfort and money might often be avoided.

One of our readers writes: "We can clean up beautifully, but we don't know how to keep clean." There is but one sure way that I know of, and that is to "keep everlastingly at it." Straighten at once any hint of disorder, and insist that others of the household do the same. This is a phase of "co-operation" that should be put in operation in every home. Keeping things in order must be a family affair, and every member of the family must be held to account for his or her share in it. The wife and mother can not, alone, keep things in place. She generally tries to do so, but in the effort, her hands are "worn to the bone," and her nerves worn to frazzles, and she gets to "nagging" and fretting, and then she gets blame, where none is deserved. In this mat-

ter of keeping things in place, the father is often more derelict than any other member of the family, and resents very emphatically any attempt, however kindly made, to bring him to a sense of his shortcomings. For this show of indignation he is to be censured; as his example is largely followed by the older children—especially the older sons, who do not always have a proper respect for the mother's authority, or a very high sense of her right to dictate a line of conduct for their following. Then, too, in his persistent carelessness in swelling the sum of disorder, he is extravagantly spoiling his own and the family's comfort, as well as using up the already exhausted energy of the one whose help and support he should never fail to be. We may talk as much as we please of the mother's influence over her children, but every one of us must acknowledge that, after a certain age, it is the father's influence that tells; his example that is followed.

Preparations for House-Cleaning

Many things can be done this month which will materially lighten the labors of house-cleaning when "the real thing" is to be taken in hand. Some fine day, the attic may be invaded, and boxes, bags and trunks overhauled, their contents assorted and separated, either for further use in their present form, or to make over to pass down the line, to eke out a scant wardrobe, to turn into patches, put into the rag-bag, or sell to the rag-man.

Closets can be ransacked, garments aired, dusted and repaired, shelves unloaded, cleaned and refilled. The wardrobe of the various members of the family should be inspected, put in order for a "hurry" call in spring and an estimate made as to the needs of a shopping tour; many things may be worked up into "combinations," saving the purchase of new. If you live near a rug weaver, and have time to sew the rags, you can use up otherwise unusable things, and by the use supply yourself with several comfortable rugs.

The "must haves," in the way of new shades, curtains, rugs, carpets, papering, painting, calomining, etc., can be decided upon, and many items noted down for future reference. Bed and table linens should also be looked after and repaired, towels and others necessities arranged for. New quilt covers may be evolved from the piece bags—cotton and woollen scraps, and all this will leave us the more money for the purchase of the new.

If this preparatory work be well and thoroughly done now, you will find that much of the bugbear of housecleaning has been met and conquered; then, when you do commence the real work, try cleaning but one room at a time, cleaning and replacing the furnishings before you begin on another, and see if your work is not a great deal more satisfactory to the whole family than if you have the whole house turned topsy-turvy at one and the same time.

For the Young Folks

Pretty blouse waists, simply made, are among the latest models for the school girls, many of them made of plain material, worn with plaid skirts, or vice versa. Straps on the shoulder seams give a pretty effect.

Russian dresses are still holding their own in popularity, being suited to many fabrics, and especially wash materials. The long-waisted effect given by the belt being pushed down and held in place by straps is very desirable. Many combinations are seen.

Idiosyncrasies

In many instances there are as marked idiosyncrasies in regard to the wearing of winter clothing, as in other matters. While to many people, the wearing of flannel next the skin is perfectly comfortable, to others the touch of wool is simply torturing.

Woollen stockings will make one person wild with itching, burning feet, and for these, the best footwear may be fleece-lined cotton. No matter how great the degree of cold, some people can not abide the sight of gloves or overshoes, while still others must have the thickest foot and hand wear, or suffer from the slightest cold. Flannels that are dyed with logwood benumb the sensibilities of the skin in some instances, and logwood itself is well known to deprive the skin of acute feeling. On the other hand, flannels dyed in cochineal increases the sensibility of the skin, and while irritating some skins almost beyond endurance develop in others a sense of warmth that seems to act in a curative fashion upon rheumatism and neuralgia. In making underwear, it is a good idea to satisfy one's self upon these points in regard to dressing the children. Often, two or three skirts made from fleecy flannellettes will afford more comfort than one thick woollen one, while loose drawers of canton flannel, or soft flannellette, to be drawn over a pair of knit cotton drawers, will keep a child much warmer than a thick woollen pair worn next the skin will do. For the baby who creeps over the floor, the cotton would hardly do, as cotton is cold when wet; but the cotton may be worn under the woollen ones, and thus save the little limbs from chilling. Little woollen shoes are much better for baby than thin leather ones, as the woollen ones may be washed and dried, and thus kept soft and warm, while the leather will harden and hurt the delicate little feet. It is well to watch the children, and keep them comfortable—especially the baby that creeps, or is just beginning to walk.

Spring Work

The annual candy-tuft should be sown in the spring as early as ground can be worked. Sow where the plants are to bloom and thin out until five or six inches apart. When the plants are started late in the spring, the heat is very detrimental to the health of the little plants, and but scant growth is made. Candy-tuft is hardy and if sown late in the fall, the plants will appear early and become a sheet of bloom before the heat comes.

Meat Soups

Lean, uncooked meat, a pound to a quart of cold water, is the best base for soup, but the inferior parts of meat, a shank or shin of beef, or a knuckle of veal, the trimmings of steak, the bones from a rib-roast, to which may be added bones of fowls or veal, well broken up, will make rich soup, and soup stock may also be made of remnants and bones of cooked meats and fowls. The meat should be chopped fine, the bones crushed, and all ends and fatty trimmings added. For the best results, the meats should be cooked the day previous to the using of the stock, as the liquor is called, and strained and set away to cool. When cool, all fat should be taken off and put away for drippings. For a nutritious soup, place the meat and broken bones in the soup kettle and cover with cold water. The water must be cold at first, in order that the gelatin may be softened before it can be dissolved by heated water. Let the water come slowly to a boil, and continue to boil or "stew," until the meat is in shreds. Rapid boiling will render the meat hard and the soup flavorless. Ordinary soup stock need not be skimmed, but clear soup must be. Whatever vegetables are to be used should be cleaned and cut into small pieces, or, better, run through a chopper, and left in cold water for half an hour before being added to the soup. Always strain the stock before adding the vegetables, in order to remove any bits and slivers of bone. Add the vegetables soon enough to be thoroughly boiled to pieces, then mash

them through a colander and return to the soup. For seasoning, salt, and just enough pepper to give it a taste of warmth, should be used. Many like a bit of cayenne or red pepper, Worcester sauce, Chili sauce, catsup, celery seeds, and other flavoring additions, but these should not be added to the soup as a whole, unless all who are to partake of it like them. It is safest to allow each individual to use what he likes. Stock made from meat without bones will not jelly, but will have a very good taste. Soups are both appetizing and nutritious. Nearly all scraps of whatever vegetables or cereals one uses may be added to the soup-stock when making soup, and will render it more palatable and nourishing.

Sago

Sago is a form of tapioca, and is often called pearl tapioca. It is one of the most useful of starch foods, and can be partaken of freely by invalids as well as healthy people, and by babes as well as "children of a large growth." Pearl tapioca is a trifle more expensive than the ordinary form, but it cooks soft more quickly and does not require any soaking. Cream of sago is a soup deemed very beneficial to the chest and throat; wash one cupful of sago and cook it clear in two quarts of water, adding a few sprigs of parsley, a stalk of celery and one green onion, tied together with a thread. When the sago is clear, dip out the herbs, add one level teaspoonful of salt and a pinch of cayenne; stir well, then add one pint of sweet, hot milk; beat the yolks of two eggs, stir well and serve. Do not allow to boil after adding the eggs or the soup will curdle. Meat stock, substituted for the water, gives a richer soup.

Something to Think Of

"T. S." asks why people who object to the wearing of feathers in their hats take such a pride in wearing furs and fur garments. In the "feather" business, he says, whole birds, or breasts of birds, or wings, may be constructed of loose feathers, dyes, beads and wire, without sacrificing life, but no animal can yield up its skin and live. The slaughter of innocent and inoffensive animals is carried on, in some cases, even to the threatened extermination of the species, for no other purpose than to secure the skins for commercial purposes—generally to be made into garments or unnecessary accessories of the toilet. In the matter of the skins called "baby lamb," the unborn lamb must be taken alive from the living mother, in order to preserve the peculiar "wave" of the hair which would become "curl" under natural birth measures.

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