



The Home Department

Conducted by Helen Watts McVey

Nature's Resurrection

Spring's gentle breath, with touch of gracious heat,
Unbinds the current of the ice-locked stream,
Her pulses at the roots of grasses beat,
Her spirit animates each sun-ray's gleam.
The yellow wands of willows leafed in green,
Half gray, from which the woolly catkins swing,
On oak and maple summit, perched serene,
The robin and the blue-bird bravely sing.

In woody places, pungent with the scent
Of the moist earth that quickens with new thrill,
Spring beauties, that are star and roses blent,
With radiated blooms the spaces fill.
The dainty crocus lifts its perfect flower,
And kindred blossoms, gay with golden plumes,
Unfolded by the sun's persuasive power,
Look up and smile in many-tinted blooms.

From out the mold that held its bloom in thrall,
Where hid its life in darkness, all unseen,
At sound of Nature's resurrection call,
The white narcissus stars Earth's bosom green.
Throughout the land, uplifted to the sun,
The colors of the triple crown combine
To symbolize immortal aureoles won
Through resurrection of our Lord divine. —Selected.

Home Chats

A sister editor writes: "How do you find so much to write about? And how can you answer so many queries?" I think if she could see my letter box, and know what kind, helpful readers I have, that she could easily solve the riddle. Whatever the Home Department is, the merit of it is largely due to the interest taken in it by our friends all over the country, who respond so cordially to any call made on them. Do you imagine that one head could hold all this helpfulness? But thousands of heads can do so, and nearly every one of the many letters that come to me has some kindly suggestion, while the Queries themselves are very important suggestions and give a valuable insight to the needs and wants of our large family.

Then, too, I find our business people ready and willing to give any information asked of them, and some of them, when answering these calls on their time, offer other suggestions, which are of very great value to our home-keepers. In case they, themselves, can not give me the desired information, they kindly refer me to those who

A NOTRE DAME LADY.

I will send free, with full instructions, some of this simple preparation for the cure of Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacements, Falling of the Womb, Scanty or Painful Periods, Tumors or Growths, Hot Flashes, Desire to Cry, Creeping feeling up the Spine, Pain in the Back, and all Female Troubles to all sending address. To mothers of suffering daughters I will explain a successful Home Treatment. If you decide to continue it will only cost about 12 cents a week to guarantee a cure. Tell other sufferers of it, that is all I ask. If you are interested write now and tell your suffering friends of it. Address Mrs. M. Summers, Box 169 Notre Dame, Ind.

can, and in this way, the knots can be untangled reliably.

So, friends, you must accept our thanks for the interest you take and the help you give, and in order to enable me to meet your needs, remember that I am working for you and with you, and am perfectly willing to share the honors with you. Remember, too, that your kindly criticisms are just as welcome as your words of praise. We need both sides.

Floral Notes

The balmy days which March sometimes brings us sets us wild to get out our garden tools, forgetful that these are but the promise of the good times soon to come, and for which we may make preparation now as well as at another time. There will be storms of cold rain, if not sleet and snow, before the Easter dawns upon us; but the seed supply may be inspected, and plants determined upon, and orders sent to the florist and seedsmen. Many things should be started now, indoors, if we would have early bloom. Many people fail with sweet peas because they plant them too late. They should bloom before the hot weather comes. March is not too late to start pansy seeds; chrysanthemums and dahlias should be in the window box, too, that one may have sturdy plants ready for outdoor planting. The bulbs potted last fall should now be promising you their best. While planning the flower garden, don't neglect arranging for the herbs and vegetables.

There will be but a few days, now, before the spring work in the fields and gardens begins in earnest, but those few days may be well employed by the gude mon in getting up a supply of wood for the cook stove and the laundry. No fuel is more unsatisfactory to the hurried cook when getting up meals for her tired family than the soggy green stuff that is usually her portion, and few things make more "strained relations" in the household than its compulsory use. One's wood for the year's use should always be in the woodhouse, and if no woodhouse is provided, it should be piled up in the yard, close to the kitchen door. Indeed, the thoughtful husband or children should see that it is brought indoors, to lighten the mother's labor.

For The Sewing Room

One of the first things the home-seamstress should see to it that her machine is clean. If it runs heavy, give it a thorough oiling with coal oil, soaking all parts that are to be oiled, and picking out of the joints and hiding places between parts all the accumulation of dust and lint, and brushing such parts well with a stiff tooth brush. The coal oil will cut the gummed places, and everything should be well wiped off with a soft old cloth, after the machine needle has been removed and the machine run rapidly for a few minutes. Some home seamstresses may have been induced to use unsuitable oils because there was no other at hand, and if the coal oil fails to cut the gummed accumulation, she should use gasoline on its working parts freely, and after wiping off the liberated dirt, give it an oiling with good machine oil, which should be kept on hand for the sewing machine only. Do not allow the gude mon to carry off your oil can and use up your supply simply because he is too improvi-

dent to have his own; I speak from experience when I warn you of the inconvenience of such a proceeding. Keep a little fine steel file in your machine drawer to use in case your needle becomes blunted. Refuse to loan this, also, for, like the oil, it will not come back to you, in most cases, even after "many days."

Before making over any cast-off or out-grown garment, give it a cleaning and freshen it with some of the many ten-cent dyes. They come in preparations for dyeing cotton, cottons mixed with silk, or wool, or linens, or for all-wool goods, and be sure you get the right mixture and follow the directions closely. You will be pleased with the result.

If you happen to have any dresses of the make of seven to ten years ago, they will need but scant changing, as, unless you are one of the extremists as to mode, you will find them "just in fashion."

Food For Thought

A correspondent sends me a few lines clipped from another paper which is so in line with several suggestions of the same nature sent in by our readers that I think it best to give it. It does not apply to our girls only, and the reading will benefit our boys, as well. Indeed, we may pass it upward, along the line, I think, with benefit. Our correspondent truly says that our young people would indignantly resent any personal accusation, but giving it to them through the types may awaken their consciences. Here it is:

"When you, girls, tell those vile stories, which you surely would not wish your mothers to hear, do you ever stop to consider what their telling means to your own natures? Do you ever realize that you are a responsible being—responsible to your own self and for your ownself—for what you do, how you do it; how you act and how you talk? Yes, and for what you willingly hear. You will be judged by your comrades by the nature of your conversation. Even though you may not repeat a vile story, if you countenance its telling by listening to it, you encourage its like. If a young man tells a doubtful story in your hearing, let him know that it displeases you, for, if you laugh over it in his presence, he will say of you to others, 'Oh, she's no prude, she enjoys a good story,' and, try as you may, you can never regain his confidence in your purity of heart and mind, so thoughtlessly forfeited."

This evil, barely hinted at in the above lines, is greatly responsible for much of the undercurrent of immorality which so taints the social life of today, and it is in a large degree responsible for the discredit in which the purity of our women is held by her men associates. Remember, girls and boys, that you can not touch pitch without being defiled. You can not indulge in vile conversation, no matter how secret, without thinking vile things, and "as a man thinketh, so he is," is the testimony of the highest moral authority.

A Convenience For Baby

Every mother knows how troublesome, and at times even dangerous, it is to have a little one, just beginning to walk, constantly clinging to her skirts or getting under her feet. Often, too, when left for a moment alone, it gets into dangerous situations by its

venturings. To remedy this, get a dry goods box, oblong as to shape, narrow enough to pass through the doorway, and about as high as the baby's neck—just high enough so it can comfortably see what is going on on the outside when standing on its feet. If preferred, the board bottom may be left on and a piece of carpet or a folded quilt laid over it, insuring warmth of the baby's little limbs. Placed in this box with its playthings, it will amuse itself in safety while its mother goes about her work indoors and out, free from the distressing anxiety which all mothers feel when the whereabouts of the baby is a constant problem. Although the baby may prefer the freedom of the floor, and may even protest with tears and crying against its confinement, it can not get into danger or hurt itself, and busy mothers all know that babies have to cry some times. The box can be taken to the porch, the shady yard or even to the garden when the mother has work to do there, and, by holding to the sides, walk around its pen, following the movements of the mother from place to place, and at the same time be learning to walk, much better than when pushing a chair about, or occasionally pulling it over onto itself to its hurt.

Query Box

H. S.—For cleaning windows, wash in warm soap suds and dust with Spanish whiting, and, when dry, polish with chamois skin.

T. T.—To polish brass trimming, scour with hot salt and vinegar, wash well with soap suds and polish with whiting.

Sarah M.—Cheap varnish will attach labels to tin cans and boxes and glass bottles. All such receptacles should be labelled.

S. H. N.—Have had no experience with dish-washing machines, and do not know of any one who has. They are used principally in hotels and restaurants, I think.

Alice.—A girl of sixteen should not accept attentions from men without the knowledge and consent of her mother. She should not exchange photographs with them.

L. H. S. would like to know of a way to restore the ink in family records so as to be legible. Said records laid for three days in muddy alkali water, owing to an accident. If you know, please tell us.

"Seventeen."—You are too young to wear a black lace dress, and you should wear but little jewelry. Earrings are little worn. White dresses are always popular. Ask your mother the questions you ask me.

Housewife.—The color of the walls of a room must depend upon the aspect of the room; if no sunlight enters the room, blues, greens and grays are not to be thought of; warm tints, yellows and some shades of red and warm browns belong to shaded rooms, while for rooms flooded with sunshine, blues and greens may be the keynote.

Thomas D.—For clearing and cleaning plate glass, rouge is most generally used by glass manufacturers. White oxide of zinc is also good, and when the glass is set in frames, is preferable to rouge for the reason that the latter, if it should come in contact with woodwork, is very difficult to remove. Either may be had at most any drug store, and is applied on a damp cloth rubbed on the glass and let dry, then polished off with a very soft, dry cloth or soft chamois skin.

Mrs. H. L.—For filling cracks in your floor, put to soak in water several newspapers, torn or cut into fine pieces; mix one pound of flour and one quart of water together, beating until

AN OLD AND WELL TRIED REMEDY.
MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething should always be used for children while teething. It softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.