

The Home Department

Conducted by
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Memorial Day

O'er the breadth of a great republic,
From ocean to ocean borne,
Wherever the stars of her banner
Gleam out to the light of morn;
From the depth of her grain-sown
valleys,

The slopes of her wooded hills,
In the song of her wind-swept prairies,
The rhyme of her peaceful rills,
Comes the noiseless tramp of an
army,
Shadowy, silent and gray—
An army, though vanished its legions,
Yet lives in our hearts today.

To the men who from field and forum
Uprose at their country's cry,
Their lives, if the need, for the honor,
Their honor for her to die;
Who, seizing the gum for the plow-
share,

And grasping the sword for the pen,
Went forth an army of patriots,
Of noble and free-born men;
'Tis to these a hand of a nation
Its tribute of love will pay,
Wherever the grave of a soldier
Shall hallow its soil today.

Not with branches of yew nor cypress
But with roses and blossoms sweet;
With amaranth and laurel above
them,

And heartsease fair at their feet.
While softer than winds of the sum-
mer,
And sweeter than roses bloom,
Are the memories and love which
gather,

And brighten each silent tomb;
And though Time in his march tri-
umphant

Bends all to his final sway,
Yet the touch of the Great Eternal
Is nearer than he today.

O'er these graves where all strife is
ended
Where the past and its memories
lie,

Rise the grateful hearts of the people
In prayer to the Lord Most High
For the hope of a prosperous future,
The gracious gift of His hand;
For a great and united nation,
A free and a fruitful land;
For His angel of Peace, whose pinions
Stretch over that land today;
For the love that claspeth as brothers
The hands of the blue and gray.
—Selected.

Women's Clubs

Some of our readers refer rather unkindly to the "club woman," as a being "who neglects her home and children for gossip and dress." This view shows that the club woman is known to them only through newspaper squibs and hearsay. If these women would organize a club among themselves in the interests of any good movement, they would find little time for gossip of an injurious kind, and I doubt not that the home and children would be greatly benefited by the enlarged views that would accrue therefrom. They might form a Parents' and Teachers' club, to hold regular meetings at each other's homes at stated times, and at these meetings papers might be read and discussed concerning the better care and education of the child, giving experiences and suggesting plans, besides con-

sulting authorities on the subjects under discussion at each meeting. The problems and difficulties which beset the inexperienced meeting could, in many instances, be solved by the advice of the elders, and even the experienced could learn a few things from those of larger outlook. In the clubs with which I have had the good fortune to be connected, we have absolutely no time for gossip, and one of the rules is only that each member shall be dressed cleanly and wholesomely, no matter what the material or fashion. If one member is in trouble, or has difficulties, we all endeavor to help in straightening the tangles; we keep track of each other, and if one is sick, or has sickness in the family, or in need, our hearts, hands and purses are open, and our services are freely given. Could we do more, if we shunned the social afternoon, and kept no track of our neighbor? In these club meetings, I have yet to learn of an unkind criticism having been made, or a word of harmful gossip or tale-bearing having been uttered. But the good work for each other is freely recognized, and our homes, husbands or children are in no sense averse to the afternoon meeting of "mother's club." Indeed, it is looked forward to by all as mother's outing, from which she comes home refreshed and invigorated with new ideas and suggestions in many lines that add to the comfort of the whole family. Do not distrust the club's influence, sisters, until you have proved it by a thorough acquaintance in your own neighborhood.

"Making Over"

Very frequently one has dresses, suits or skirts that contain good material, but no amount of re-furbishing will make the garment presentable, either because the goods is faded, or the color bad or unbecoming, or the fashion out of date. Many of these garments, with a little altering or re-trimming can be made to serve "between-times," and materially lengthen the life of our newer garments, if one is "handy" about things. Such garments should be carefully ripped apart, all threads picked out, the pieces carefully washed, rinsed and dyed. If you can not afford to send the goods to a professional dyer, it is not so difficult to do the work at home by the use of some of the ten-cent package dyes to be had of your merchant, in all shades, for silk or woolen or cotton goods, being particular to follow the directions which accompany each package, using the proper dyes—those for silk and woolen being for those materials only, and those for cotton to be used only for cotton.

After dyeing and washing, the goods must be pressed carefully on the wrong side, using an iron that is hot enough to take the wrinkles out, but not hot enough to scorch the material. If you are inexperienced in dyeing, you should try your hand on something which will bear spoiling, but if you follow directions strictly, there is really little danger of ruining the goods. One must be careful in details if success is aimed at.

Not every woman is or can be a good seamstress. Even skill in handling needle, thread, thimble and scissors will not take the place of "capacity." The woman who is puzzled and fretted over trying to make a kitchen apron "set good," should not try to wrestle with the problem of

"making over" even simple things. But if one "feels capable," a good paper pattern, of a style suitable to the goods in hand should be bought; the pattern should be studied, then tried on the goods to decide how it may be cut to the best advantage, taking care to have each piece "run the way of the goods," and also that there shall be no "duplicates," or both gores cut for the same side. Always avoid the thin, worn places. If linings are to be used, get good material, as the cheap, flimsy kinds soon lose their shape. Baste everything carefully, and see that the fit is satisfactory, before sewing on the machine. One can not always fit one's self, but can usually tell where the garment feels uncomfortable; yet it would be much better if one could have assistance at this point.

Home Dressmaking

Many of our best magazines devote a separate department to assisting the beginner with details as to correct putting together and fitting garments at home, and information is gladly given when asked for along these lines. These magazines sometimes issue booklets treating in a clear manner on garment making, which are a great help to the home seamstress and the beginners should avail themselves of all such helps. The ability to make a well-fitting garment, especially suits or dresses, is worth money, and in these days of sham specialists it is hard to get a really good dressmaker in whose hands one would feel safe to trust good material even where a big price is paid for the work. Particular fashions may change, but the fashion of thorough, conscientious striving to do satisfactory work should never "go out." The groundwork of the business is always the same. It is very difficult to get a seamstress who will make over garments; but where a really skilled dressmaker is willing to do such work, she can always find employment at living wages. Especially is this so among the better class of people who feel that they must economize. In sewing, as in everything else, the inefficient predominates, and because of this, oftener than not, the really good garment finds its way to the ragbag, or to the second hand dealer, when otherwise it would have become a valuable addition to the owner's wardrobe.

Business Women

There is a growing disinclination on the part of business women to accept seats in cars from men; they want no concessions simply because of their sex. But this suggests the matter of physique, which must not be overlooked, and when it becomes a question of strength and weakness, as for example, when the swaying of the car, and its frequent sudden stoppages and starts are taken into account, and it requires considerable strength to stand on one's feet, men, being stronger than women, do a graceful thing in giving way before weakness, just as they would if one of their own sex, manifestly feeble, were in question. The business woman does not expect concessions or favors because she is a woman, and men often make the mistake of considering the woman instead of the worker, forgetting, or ignoring the fact that a business establishment is like a machine—everybody working for one end, and that the sensible woman recognizes this fact, and is willing to dispense with the

little amenities which she has the right of the custom of all polite society to expect in her own home. In the business world, the really sensible woman asks only that she be treated respectfully and honestly and justly.

The Bedroom Smell

Bedrooms having no outside ventilation are not fit for human habitations, but in closely packed cities, they are often found. No one who passes the hour of darkness in such foul, pestilential holes can hope for health. A constant supply of fresh, clean air is a necessity for the sleeping room, and a stationary washstand in a bedroom is often a source of danger because, with the best of care, sewer gas at times leaks through the pipes and loads the atmosphere. If one sleep with open doors and windows, this can in a measure, be escaped, but with every avenue of ventilation closed, the health must suffer seriously.

In country homes not having pipes, the supply of fresh air is just as necessary. The "night air" so dreaded by some, is never as heavily laden with poison as that which is breathed over and over and over in close confines. Even the bed-clothing becomes saturated and tainted, and carpets, curtains, and all draperies catch and hold the poison, just as they do the smells from the kitchen, or from cigar smoking, and need frequent sunnings and washings in order to purify them from the "smell." The idea of having exclusively woolen bed-clothing is that exhalations of the body may escape in the same way that the gas does and woolen clothing being porous, permits the escape of these exhalations, while cotton, or linen absorbs, with the result that an unpleasant odor is often very noticeable about the bedroom in the morning. If the room and contents are not ventilated at least during the day, this smell becomes permanent, clinging even to the clothing worn by the person occupying the room. One who is accustomed to sleeping in a well ventilated room finds it very difficult to occupy a room that is at all "close."

Use of the Lemon

A writer in American Motherhood says: Every morning, take a pint of hot water, squeeze into it the juice of one lemon and season with a half teaspoonful of salt. Drink slowly half an hour before breakfast every morning, for two weeks; keep this up for three months, every alternate two weeks, and it will clear the complexion, clean a coated tongue tone up the stomach and act directly upon a torpid liver without injuring the health, as the use of strong cathartics or quantities of "liver" medicines will do.

Making a Rose Jar

A rose jar is a jar filled with rose leaves, spices and the leaves of other fragrant blossoms. It must have a tight-fitting lid, and its use is for perfuming a room. To make one, first get the right kind of a jar; there are different sizes, and they are not expensive. Dry the rose leaves in the oven of the cook stove by placing the pan containing them in the oven when it is nearly cold, and then put them in the jar with some dried lavender flowers, a bit of thyme, a few leaves of lemon verbena and rose geranium, dried in the sun. Mix well and stir in a tablespoonful of mixed spices—alspice, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg, all ground together. Get the drug-

BETTER THAN SPANKING

Spanking does not cure children of bed wetting. If it did there would be few children that would do it. There is a constitutional cause for this. Mrs. M. Summers, Box 118, Notre Dame, Ind., will send her home treatment to any mother. She asks no money. Write her today if your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child. The chances are it can't help it.

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 bottle.