



# The Home Department

Conducted by  
Helen Watts Neve

## My Child

You came to me when cruel storms  
Were sweeping o'er the wintry  
earth;  
When clouds and darkness folded me,  
And life grew sweeter at your birth,  
And I could laugh at threatening  
skies—  
Could mock the brooding tempest's  
moan—  
The while I clasped you to my breast,  
Your wee, warm fingers in my own.

The world grew fair and bright again,  
And filled with flowers and sweet  
perfume;  
With sweet bird-notes and flashing  
wings—  
A world of warmth and song and  
bloom!

And to my hungry heart I held  
Your rosy form, and mocked at care.  
Oh, love, you were so near to heaven!  
I marvelled that you were so fair.

I marvel now I did not see  
The halo shining round your head;  
I marvel that I did not heed  
The strangeness of the things you  
said,

Until one day, when scarlet leaves  
And russet, told the year's decline,  
Your warm lips suddenly grew chill—  
Your clinging fingers slipped from  
mine!

And then I lost you. Then, for me,  
The clouds and darkness—night  
more deep;

The sun refused to shine—the stars  
To hazier distance seemed to creep.  
And song and flower and perfume  
failed;

A sense of loss all things intoned;  
The tempest broke with sobbing rain;  
The wind, sleet-laden, round me  
moaned.

I wander through a place of graves—  
The mounds o'erheaped with grey-  
dead leaves;

The moaning pines toss restlessly—  
The earth and air with my grief  
grieves.

I, sobbing, call, "Love, where art  
thou?"  
And "Where art thou?" all things  
repeat;

Through tears, I lose and seek the  
way—  
The paths grow rougher for my  
feet.

O, Love, I lost you. Yet, some day,  
The Gates of Peace shall swing  
apart.

And I, from all the storms of time,  
Shall rest my bruised and yearning  
heart.

And from my blurred and earth-blind  
eyes,  
God's hand shall wipe all tears  
away!

And in the joy of that far time,  
My soul shall find you, Love, some  
day.

H. W. McV.

## Nature Studies

A friend writes us, sending some  
good suggestions, for which we return  
thanks. In the way suggested, the  
summer vacation may be made a  
"summer school," without money or  
price. If a good microscope, or even a  
magnifying glass, could be used in  
these "studies" the lessons would be

vastly more interesting and instruc-  
tive. She says:

"In many neighborhoods there are  
from ten to twenty children, perhaps  
three or four in your own family.  
During the long summer days many  
times the little folks will say, 'What  
can I do?' Why not gather these lit-  
tle ones about you for an hour or  
more each day, and study—not books,  
but nature. Learn of things at your  
own door. There are the butterflies,  
bugs, grasshoppers, frogs, worms,  
ants, grass, trees, daisies, morning-  
glories, pansies, vines and birds.

"In connection with these studies,  
read or teach little poems, stories,  
songs. Read, by installments, a book  
like 'Black Beauty,' for the older ones,  
and 'Baby Plants' for the little ones.  
Now and then take an excursion into  
the woods, or climb some high hill;  
these are a wonder and delight to the  
children, and may be, also, to you.  
These talks and excursions may make  
the face of the little friend or brother  
(who has been so dull at his books  
in school) glow, and his eyes shine;  
they are reading books thus which  
they can understand."

There are many helpful books on  
nature study, etc., which may be had  
for very little money. One might read  
these, demonstrating the meaning by  
the use of real plants, or butterflies,  
etc., thus awakening great interest in  
the minds of the children, besides cul-  
tivating your own powers of observa-  
tion, as well as that of the children.

The suggestions are timely, and the  
older boys and girls, as well as the  
parents, will do well to heed them.  
The dull summer day can be turned  
into a "real picnic," if such a course  
is pursued. There are thousands of  
unseen things and unknown lives  
right here in our own neighborhood,  
and we need never spend a dull hour,  
if we but use our minds.

## Summer Annoyances

The wood-tick (dog-tick, I believe  
is the proper name) is partial to new-  
comers. The "oldest inhabitant" is,  
to a certain extent, immune; but from  
early spring until late summer the  
tick, in its various stages of growth,  
is a constant source of discomfort to  
those who live in, or go into, the woods  
region. A few are to be found on the  
prairies, but to no harmful extent.  
On reaching the bare skin of the body,  
the tick will immediately proceed to  
bury its head in the flesh and fill itself  
with blood. It is almost impossible to  
remove the tick without pulling it in  
two, leaving the head in the flesh,  
where a festering sore is likely to  
appear. When one is found fastened  
to the body, instead of jerking it off,  
rub a drop or two of coal oil or  
turpentine on it, and its hold will be  
sufficiently loosened to allow of its  
being brought away entire.

Along about vacation time, the tiny  
"seed-tick" hatches out, and in some  
localities, the grass is covered with  
them. As one passes along, the in-  
sects catch onto the clothing and soon  
reach the flesh, and, though often so  
small as almost to escape observation,  
they have a way of making their pres-  
ence most vividly felt. To get rid of  
these, the best way is to wash the  
body and limbs in a strong soap suds;  
or, in water into which a little car-  
bolic acid has been dropped; but the  
soap suds is the most convenient.  
The suds must be strong. Then,  
rinse the soap off the body and put  
on fresh garments, leaving the in-  
fested clothing outside, or dropping

the washable portion of them into  
boiling water.

These pests are especially distress-  
ing to small children who do not  
know how to get rid of them. The  
use of liquid sulphur is recommended  
and your druggist should be able to  
tell you how to use it.

## Transplanting Population

There is always more or less talk  
among those philanthropically inclin-  
ed about "getting the people back to  
the soil," and societies are organized  
having for their main object the trans-  
planting of families from the con-  
gested districts of the city to farms  
on which, it is hoped, they will, with  
a little assistance, in time become  
self-supporting. The object is a good  
one, but one should clearly under-  
stand the facts of the problem before  
going too far, else failure is inevit-  
able.

The families to be assisted are sup-  
posed to be those of the "submerged  
tenth," families that have failed to  
sustain themselves in the city, where  
thousands are more or less consciously  
holding them up, and which are al-  
ways hanging on the edge of pauper-  
dom, willingly or unwillingly. Such  
families will usually be failures any-  
where, especially on the farm, of the  
labors belonging to which they are  
intensely ignorant, and toward which  
they are little disposed to turn; they  
will be doubly unable to stand alone  
in the country, and, in most cases,  
will drift back to the cities through  
sheer loneliness. This class of peo-  
ple are like children, and unless  
looked after and directed, are even  
more helpless in the country than in  
the city.

The Salvation Army is doing the  
best that can be done for them, in  
transplanting them from the factory  
to the factory-farm, where there is  
some one to think for them, until they  
are sufficiently developed to think for  
themselves; yet, even this is in the  
experimental stage as yet.

The family which has come from  
the farm from a mistaken idea of  
"doing better," and which does sup-  
port itself while longing for a return  
to the soil, realizing their mistake,  
will hail such assistance with joy, as  
only the lack of means keeps them  
down and in the whirlpool; and these  
are the families that can be success-  
fully transplanted to the soil, because  
they know it and love it, and will hail  
the exodus with an exceeding great  
joy. These are the people that should  
be helped.—Ex.

## Defective Eyes

The fact that the wearing of glasses  
is largely on the increase among the  
American people does not mean that  
our eyes are becoming more defective  
than formerly, but it means that our  
oculists are becoming more able to  
remedy defects which were once over-  
looked or deemed hopeless. Very  
few people have perfect eyes, and as  
the closer application of the eye-  
sight is demanded in these days,  
these defects are becoming more ap-  
parent, and oculists are becoming  
better able to cope with them through  
prescribing mechanical aids in the  
way of properly adjusted lenses.

Defective eyesight does not always  
or ordinarily mean disease of the or-  
gan, but there are structural defects,  
as well as weaknesses, many of them  
hereditary, and it is the business of  
the expert oculist to know the proper

adjustment of suitable lenses in order  
to remedy these defects.

## Canning Small Fruits

Mrs. C. D. Cornman, in Colman's  
Rural World, says: To can berries  
by this process, they must be fresh  
from the vines. For strawberries,  
hull and measure, and take equal  
parts of fruit and sugar. Put in a lay-  
er of sugar in bottom of can, then  
one of berries, pressing the fruit  
gently till the juice exudes and  
smothers the fruit, then add more  
sugar and more fruit alternately until  
the can is full and ready to run over.  
The rubbers should be in place be-  
fore beginning the work, and rubber,  
can and cover should all be sterilized  
by immersion in boiling water be-  
fore used. See that the cover  
is perfect and screwed down  
tight, taking the simple precautions  
which must be taken in canning cook-  
ed fruits to make the jars perfectly  
air-tight. All varieties of berries, and  
any very juicy fruits may be put up  
in this way, insuring perfect flavor;  
but perfect freshness and quality are  
indispensable to insure success.

Don't forget that you get out of  
the fruit jars only what you put into  
them. Quality and freshness are of  
first importance.

## The Frying Pan

A caustic observer says that the  
devil of indigestion holds full sway  
in some localities, because the fry-  
ing-pan has a firm grip on the affec-  
tions of the people. He complains  
of seeing tall, gaunt men, sallow faces  
like a corpse, having perfect satisfac-  
tion with the country, but a lack of  
high, strong ambitions; women, gaunt,  
haggard, and hopeless-looking, all  
traces of womanly beauty long since  
gone, every line of their faces speak-  
ing want, privation, neglect of all sani-  
tary laws, and unvaried monotony of  
unwholesome food; little children,  
flabby, yellow, pallid, with old faces,  
and you will be told that this is ma-  
laria. But it is the frying-pan. Give  
them wholesome boiled and roasted  
foods, abolish grease and boiling in  
lard, and let them make their meals  
on fruits, clean vegetables and ce-  
reals, and within a year's time you  
would not recognize them as the same  
beings.

## For the Toilet

For barley and honey paste, take  
equal parts of bean and barley meal  
mixed with a beaten raw egg; when  
this gets hard and dry, grind it to  
a powder and make into an ointment  
with melted tallow and honey. Apply  
thickly to the face, neck and hands  
every night, let dry on, and in the  
morning wash off; this is warranted  
to keep the skin smooth and fine-  
grained.

If one's lungs are weak to begin  
with, the inhalation of air by deep  
breathing will prove painful, and the  
patient should cease each time just  
as the pain gives warning. In time  
the painful sensation will cease, and  
a feeling of rest and exhilaration will  
take its place.

## Harness for a Baby Jumper

Take a strip of strong cloth (shir-  
ting or outing flannel will do), eight  
inches wide and long enough to go  
around the little one's waist, and two  
inches longer. Fold in the center  
lengthwise, turn in the edges and  
stitch all around. At the lower front  
middle edge sew a piece about the

## 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 a bottle.