



The Home Department

Conducted by
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God's Way.

God never would send you the darkness

If He felt you could bear the light;
But you would not cling to the guiding hand

If the way were always bright,
And you would not care to walk by faith

Could you always walk by sight.

'Tis true, He has many an anguish
For your sorrowful heart to bear;
And many a cruel thorn-crown
For your tired head to wear.
He knows how few would reach
heaven at all.

If pain did not guide them there.

So He sends you the blinding darkness,

And the furnace of seven-fold heat;
'Tis the only way, believe me,
To keep you close to His feet.

For 'tis always so easy to wander
When our lives are glad and sweet.

Then nestle your hand in the Father's,
And sing, if you can, as you go;
Your song may cheer some one behind
you,

Whose courage is sinking low.
And—well—if your lips do quiver,
God will love you the better so.

—Selected.

"Paying for Itself"

I am glad to notice that many of our "gude men" are reading the *Home Department*, and evincing interest in the labor-saving devices referred to. I am sure our husbands and fathers wish to ease up the work for the wives, mothers and daughters, and I hope these questions will be seriously considered, and that, this fall, when the crops are sold, the conveniences indoors will receive all the additions that can be afforded. Wives and mothers are somewhat to blame, themselves, for not having the most necessary household machinery, because, they seldom say anything about them. Many of them refuse to try them because having gotten into a rut, they feel awkward about getting out of it, and, as in the case of the washing machine and wringer, they say they would rather do the work by hand than to fool with the machine. There are mothers—lots of them—who would rather (and do) do the work than to teach the little folks to do it, "because it is less work to do it than to bother with the children." It may be, for a while; but it pays to "fuss" with both the children and the machine, in the long run.

There was a time when woman did not like to use a sewing machine; when the gasoline stove came out, they were afraid, and would none of it; when the "blue-flame" oil stove called them, they hung to the hot wood or coal range; and now, when the steam cooker and the fireless "hay-box" offers them rest from the heat, they say, hesitatingly and doubtfully—"Well, may be; but I don't know."

Sisters, it is time you did know. Don't stop to ask if the convenience will "pay for itself." The question is, will it pay you, in labor-saving, to have it. This is the age of machin-

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.

ery; muscle is too costly. Try the machine. Don't get a "bargain counter affair. Don't buy a glib-tongued, irresponsible agent. Send your order to a reliable firm, and get a good machine that will both save your strength and give good service. When you get it, use it until you get accustomed to its workings, and study its possibilities. It does not pay you to buy "cheap" things, merely because you get them for a smaller price than a good one would cost. Plan to save yourself. Your husbands may readily get other wives, but your little ones can never have but one mother—no matter how hard a second mother tries to take her place. Be good to yourselves. Get the labor-saving machinery—if it is nothing more than a food chopper or an egg-beater. If you begin with one or two, you will want the rest. And I am sure the gude mon will be glad to show his appreciation of your worth by saving you all he can.

A Restful Drink

One of the best drinks for a tired person is bran water. It is prepared as follows: Stir one teacupful of clean, sweet bran into a quart of water letting it stand for six hours, or even longer, stirring occasionally. When ready, pour off and add ice, or drink without, as preferred or convenient. A little lemon juice will add to the flavor, and it will be found to possess wonderful resting qualities. There will be no disagreeable "aftermath" to drinks of this kind.

Disposal of Kitchen Waste

During the hot months, the garbage from the kitchen should not be allowed near the house, as it makes an ideal breeding place for flies and other insects. One has but to observe the countless swarms of flies hovering over such a spot to realize what a menace it is to the health of the family. The most approved method of disposing of this refuse matter is by burning. If this cannot be accomplished, a good way to do is to bury all perishable stuffs, and cart away any thing that can neither be buried or burned, depositing it in some place far from the house. Aside from the unsightliness of a back yard strewn with rubbish and rotting garbage, the gases arising from the decomposition of organic matter are very injurious to health, and, in epidemics of filth-diseases, a positive menace. If no other way, keep a garbage can in which every refuse thing is deposited, and empty it every day, in some place remote from the house.

Goldenrod

As nature lifts her gates from week to week
New beauties rise, its wondrous power to speak;
And now, clad in her glory as of old
The goldenrod uplifts her crowns of gold.

—J. W. Waits.

Floral Talks

The beautiful liliun candidum must be planted in August, to do well. There must be a growth of leaves—a green rosette,—made this fall, and the bloom will come next spring. Order as soon as may be, and the bulb will be sent you in time for plant-

ing. Do not keep it out of the soil when it comes.

Freesias must be potted in August, or they will not do well. If one succeeds with this bulb, any work will be well repaid, for the fragrance is delightful. But not every one succeeds, because the care of it is not so well understood.

As soon as the catalogues come—which will be early in September—your order for the hardy bulbs, for potting both indoors and in the garden, should be made out and sent in. If it is your first order, study the catalogue carefully, both as to the descriptions and soil and method of planting. Later in the season, yet still early enough to pot and plant, the florist will offer a "collection," to be of his own choice, which will bring you many beautiful things much cheaper than you can get them from the catalogue list, earlier in the season.

One difficulty in waiting for the cheaper "collections" is, that the florist fills his orders from the best, as long as the orders come in, and the bulbs are then fresh and firm; after the selling season is over, the "left-overs" are usually culls, and the bulbs are not so fresh. If you do not care to save on the price, you will get better satisfaction by ordering from the catalogue, and get first-class, fresh bulbs. The bulbs will be larger, and the bloom better. In plant matters, as in everything, the best grades are always a few cents higher in price than the poorer grades. Don't forget to look over the perennials and shrubs for fall planting.

For the Fruit Garden

Do not forget that this is the month in which the new strawberry bed must be started. If the ground is well prepared, the soil rich and the plants sturdy and well-set, they should become fully established and make good growth this fall, ready to bear a full crop next season. If the work is left until the busy season, next spring, it is apt to be neglected, and, at best, there will (or should) not be a crop however small. The plants must be set about a foot apart, and only good, young plants used. The cultivation should be done with the plow or cultivator, even with a small "patch." All weeds must be kept out of the rows, and every runner pinched off. For the best and largest berries, the "hill" system (that is, single plants, about a foot apart in the row) gives the best results. Berries from "matted rows" or beds are usually small, and fewer of them. Don't fail to have a bed of strawberries, even though it must be a small one. It will pay. Any reliable florist or seedsman can supply you with plants, and instructions for setting the same.

Knitted Rag Rug (Round)

These rugs can be made of either silk, wool or dyed cotton or linen rags. Prepare the rags as you would for a woven carpet, and either keep separate or mingle the colors. The weight of the rug may be regulated by the size in which the rags are cut, the finer the "string," the lighter the rug, and the prettier, in most cases.

Use large wooden needles, which can either be made at home, or bought at the fancy-work store. Rag rugs and carpets of fancy weave are very much used now. If the center

of the rug is knitted of "hit-and-miss" colors, and the border of solid color, wind on separate balls.

To begin, cast on thirty-three stitches of the hit-and-miss color. First, row, knit plain and turn; 2d row, knit off all but three stitches and turn; 3d row, knit clear across and turn; 4th row, knit all but six and turn; 5th row, same as third; 6th row, knit all but nine and turn; 7th row, same as third; 8th row, knit all but twelve and turn; 9th row, same as third; 10th row, knit all but fifteen and turn; 11th row, with the solid color, knit same as third. 12th row, knit all but eighteen and turn. 13th row, same as third. 14th row, knit all but twenty-one and turn; 15th row, same as third; 16th row, knit all but twenty-four and turn. 17th row, same as third; 18th row, knit all but twenty-seven and turn. 19th row, same as third row. This finishes one section, leaving the original number of stitches on the needle, to begin the second section. With the hit and miss, knit clear across again and turn, take off the first stitch without knitting it (do this at the end, in beginning of each section), knit clear across again and turn. The next row will be the second of the new section, and the work should proceed as before.

Knit eighteen of these sections and join the first to the last with a strong linen thread so that the stitches will not show.

For the border, take of the solid color, or of combination of colors as desired. Cast on ten stitches, knit across plain, purl the next row, knit two rows plain, one purl, repeating until the piece is long enough to circle the rug. This will make a pretty fluted border. In knitting this take off the first stitch on one side each row, without knitting, which will make the strip fit the circle better when sewing it on. Such a rug should measure thirty inches across, more or less, according to the fineness or coarseness of the cutting; it should weigh about three pounds, the weight depending on the fineness or coarseness of texture of the rags. These rugs are nice for "veranda" work, and nice to put on the veranda floor, or bed-room, dining room or kitchen floors.

"Dog Days"

The period of the greatest heat of the summer is called "dog-days," and has reference to the fact that in ancient times, this was also the season when the dog-star rose with the sun, and to this was attributed the malignant energy of the sun's rays at that season. Sirius, the Dog Star, is the brightest star in the heavens, and at one time was thought to exercise a baleful influence upon human affairs. Although ancient astronomers decried it as a red star, it is now a clear white star, in the constellation Canis, and is, in mythology, closely associated with the story of Orion. Whatever of baleful influence the ancients ascribed to the rising of the star with the sun, is purely fictitious, as it is the great heat which works the harm.

An Ice Box

Where one does not keep a refrigerator, yet would like to keep ice, here is a home-made ice-chest, described by a farm wife in *The Toledo Blade*: "It was a very primitive affair—simply a small box inside of one that was two sizes larger. The inner box was raised an inch or two at one

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.