

stove, and brush until a good polish is obtained.

To prepare caramel sweet potatoes boil the potatoes until tender, slice, and dip them first in melted butter and then in granulated sugar; then put them into a hot oven and leave until a coating of caramel is formed. They are both delicious and nourishing.

When a silk petticoat has been worn two or three times, it should be pressed with a hot iron to prevent the splitting of the silk; new creases will form each time it is pressed, in a different place, and the silk will thus wear much longer. Try this on your skirts.

We should no longer allow the kitchen to be located in the ugliest corner of the building; ample sunlight, plenty of windows and convenient doors; we should make the kitchen the pleasantest room of the house, as the house mother spends

most of her time there, in caring for the needs of her family.

Have a hook in the kitchen on which to hang waste newspapers, and when wanted, pull them off. Newspapers will save a great deal of cleaning about the kitchen, if used for covers for tables, floors, and benches, after which they should be burnt. They come in handy about the sink and for polishing "things" and furniture, as well as stoves.

Renovating Velvets, Etc

Now that fashion has decreed that we may again use velvets, here are some hints on caring for it.

No matter how good a quality of velvet is purchased, velvet will almost invariably leave a soiled mark on any white fabric it comes in contact with, and many women are in despair at the dirty line it leaves across the neck of the white shirt-waist. To prevent this, wipe the velvet thoroughly with a soft cloth slightly moist, then rub a rag saturated in pure alcohol over it. This method, if done once a week, will prevent the velvet from "croaking."

While the home woman often fails to do the work of renovating as well as it is done by the professional, yet there are many things she can do, if careful, which will save much expense. To re-dress crepe, steam over a hot iron, as you would silk or velvet, pulling it in all directions; to remove stains from crepe or grenadine, boil a handful of fig leaves in one quart of water until reduced to one pint; rub the stains with a sponge wet in this water.

To wash silk plush caps, bands for hats, plush coats for children, etc., first remove all dust by switching; spread it on a board or block and sponge every inch of it with warm rainwater with ammonia—a tablespoonful to the gallon—in it; then take a dry sponge and rub the plush until it is perfectly dry; then brush with a soft brush to raise the pile.

To raise the nap of a beaver hat, take a small switch and beat until the fur is fully aroused. Velvet, in steaming, should not be allowed to become too wet, as this will make it stiff.

To remove paints from silk goods, saturate the goods with equal parts of turpentine and ammonia; then rub in soap suds and let dry between blotting paper under a heavy weight. The suds may be applied by sponging with a soft cloth or clean sponge, then rinsed with another sponging with clear tepid water.

Testing Butter

Here is a simple test to apply by which it is known at once whether the butter one buys is the real article, or only a grade of oleomargarine, or a mixture of tallow with a little good butter:

Put a lump of the article the size of a hickorynut into a big kitchen spoon and heat it over the flame of a lamp turned low, or the gas jet. As the grease melts, turn on the heat to make it boil; stir while heating with a skewer, or the end of a burnt match, that it may all be well heated. If it is real cow's butter, there will be foamy bubbles all around the edge, and no sputter; if there is tallow or other grease added, it will boil with a lot of spluttering, and there will be no bubbles. Oleomargarine makes no froth or bubbles at all, and makes more noise. Often, old, rancid butter is beaten up with fresh milk, after being boiled and aired, and is then worked up into pats and sold as fresh butter. Every housewife should know how to test the purity of food products, and one of the most frequent frauds she meets with is in the shape of a mixture of all sorts of greases made to look, and so far as possible, to taste like real butter. It is often

labeled "creamery" butter, and goes by the name of butterine, selling at a much less price than the real cow's butter.

THE CHEERFUL GIVER

"No, I don't go to church very often," a young man declared to the girl whom he had accompanied to a house of worship in Dauphin street Sunday evening, "but when I do go I make up for my absences by slipping a five dollar gold piece in the offering."

"I don't think I have been to church in six months, so that sort of squares me," he whispered, when he dropped a coin about the size of the five dollar piece in the box as the usher passed it.

At the close of the service the minister arose and announced: "The collection for foreign missions this evening amounted to \$3.26."

The young man didn't have much

to say on the homeward walk.—Philadelphia Times.

A DUSTY SPOT

A school inspector, noted for his idiosyncrasies, happened to notice that a terrestrial globe in one of the class rooms was very dusty. This annoyed him, and, putting his finger on the globe, he cried out, "There's dust here an inch thick!" "It's thicker than that, sir," calmly replied the new teacher. "What do you mean?" asked the inspector sharply. "Why," came the answer, "you've got your finger on the desert of Sahara."—London Daily News.

CORKERS

An Irish evangelist always addressed his hearers as "dear souls," but he came to grief, when, addressing an audience in Ireland, he called them "dear Cork souls."—The Christian Register.

How to Make a Nice Xmas Present

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