

plume will be fluffy and ready to be curled.

To curl the feather, procure a very dull-edged knife and have the top hollowed out towards the point, holding the feather in the hand, place the fibre of the feather between the thumb and the edge of the knife blade and draw it swiftly along, being careful not to curl the fibre too tight. Only the ends of the fibre should be curled. A good way to curl feathers of uneven fibre is to steam the flues evenly on the side and curl the feathers with a curling iron that is not too hot. If gasoline is used, the work must be done in the open air, and the feather dried in the wind.

For washing with suds, cut some white curd soap in small pieces, pour boiling water over them and add a little pearlash; when the soap is quite dissolved, and the mixture cool enough for the hand to bear, plunge the feathers into it, draw them through the hand until the dirt seems squeezed out of them, then pass them through a clean, weaker lather with a few drops of bluing in it, then rinse in cold water with a little bluing in it to give them a good color; beat them against the hand to shake off the water, dry by shaking them before the fire, and when perfectly dry, curl each fibre separately with a blunt knife or ivory paper folder.

If the feathers are valuable, unless you have confidence in your own skill, it would be better to send them to a professional cleaner. Some feathers can not be cleaned, especially those of the cheap quality, without injury.

By Way of Comment

"With a husband to take care of her," began the other lady, but was quickly interrupted by John's wife, who insisted that when there is any "taking care" it is the wife who does

A BRAIN WORKER

Must Have the Kind of Food That Nourishes Brain.

"I am a literary man whose nervous energy is a great part of my stock in trade, and ordinarily I have little patience with breakfast foods and the extravagant claims made of them. But I cannot withhold my acknowledgement of the debt that I owe to Grape-Nuts food.

"I discovered long ago that the very bulkiness of the ordinary diet was not calculated to give one a clear head, the power of sustained, accurate thinking. I always felt heavy and sluggish in mind as well as body after eating the ordinary meal, which diverted the blood from the brain to the digestive apparatus.

"I tried foods easy of digestion, but found them usually deficient in nutriment. I experimented with many breakfast foods and they, too, proved unsatisfactory, till I reached Grape-Nuts. And then the problem was solved.

"Grape-Nuts agreed with me perfectly from the beginning, satisfying my hunger and supplying the nutriment that so many other prepared foods lack.

"I had not been using it very long before I found that I was turning out an unusual quantity and quality of work. Continued use has demonstrated to my entire satisfaction that Grape-Nuts food contains the elements needed by the brain and nervous system of the hard working public writer." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

"There's a reason," and it is explained in the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

it. Most wives have the maternal instinct so well developed that they are happy to be allowed to mend and make and wash and bake for the particular John to whom they are attached. They do not expect much of John, except that he makes the money, and they could do that, too, if he were ill and unequal to the task. Most women are married to men older than themselves, and with middle life begin to take care of the man who must have his health looked after and his clothes kept in order and must on no account be worried by household affairs. The old maid who asks scornfully what a wife gets for all this attention finds out that she gets all she asks, which is not much. But it is the happiness of mothering a man that is even more satisfactory than that first dream of love with a strong right arm always at her service. A woman who has not developed the maternal side of her nature has a hard time of it after the disenchantment that is certain to come in every woman's life. She still demands that John give her all his love, that he think of her before himself and so on. But John is not naturally a worshiper and if there is a pedestal in his house he is very likely to get on it himself. Blessed is the woman who is willing to accept things as they are. If she is a woman of spirit she will come to it only gradually, but if she is a sensible, loving woman she will certainly come to it in time. She will give her service freely and without asking any reward. She will take good care of that big man who vowed to take care of her, and the chances are that he will love her more dearly than even in the honeymoon days, although he may never think of letting her know it. Blessed is the woman who learns to take care of her husband, and also learns never to contradict him or to thwart him. The home where such a woman abides will be as near a heaven on earth as it is possible, for it will be the abode of peace.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The Deadly Gasoline

It is claimed that a large percentage of household damage by fire is caused by the explosions of gasoline, or coal oil; fires from gasoline usually result from failure to observe the simple rule that gasoline must never be exposed to the air where there is any fire or flame; the gasoline in bulk does not explode, but when mixed with air the gas arising from the fluid makes a very high explosive, and is claimed to be a far more dangerous substance to handle in this form than dynamite or gun powder; the danger does not depend on the nearness of the fire to the gasoline, but to the existence of the fire in any form where this gas can reach it. No gasoline tank should be filled where there is a flame or fire of any kind. Gasoline should not be used for cleaning in a closed room, or where there is the least bit of fire or flame. Many housewives use gasoline for all household purposes for years, with no accident, because they are unconsciously careful in handling it, observing necessary precautions and following the simple rule given. In careful hands it is a good servant; in careless hands, it is a constant menace. If there is the least smell of the gas in the room, the burner should at once be inspected, the doors and windows opened, and the smell allowed to escape before a match is lighted. In many localities, gasoline is the only fuel of the kind obtainable for the house, and where it is handled carefully and intelligently, with a good, reliable make of range, it is a good servant. The new evaporator range is the only one that should be used; the old style, where the oil is lighted to form the gas should have no place in the

house. The majority of housewives are learning that the quick fire to be had by the turn of the wrist and the lighting of a match is a necessity in winter as in summer, and a good, safe gasoline range is a good investment where proper care is observed, if gas is not to be had.

Odds and Ends

Where milk will not sour, but acquires a bitter taste, and the fault is laid to the dairyman, it is well to investigate the home treatment before making the blame too heavy. Even if one has perfectly clean vessels to start with, of the various bacteria that infest the milk, some develop in the dark and others in the light. The daylight ones are the sour-milk makers, while the putrefactive, bitter, rancid milk is the work of the bacteria that develops in closed vessels in dark pantries and close cellars. The flavor of milk is not always amenable to the dairyman's methods, as they depend upon the season of the year and the food given the cows.

In using cold cloths on the head for headache or nausea, see that the cloths are thin and light; three or four thicknesses of cheese-cloth or two folds of light muslin is much more effective than a thick, heavy band, as the effect wanted is to cool the head by evaporating the heat, and the thin cloths allow the heat to pass off with the evaporating water, and should be renewed frequently to hasten the cooling.

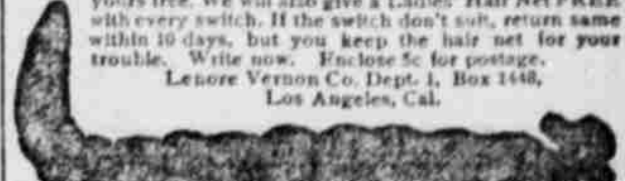
Sponges are not good to use as wash cloths, but where they are

used, and have become slimy and disagreeable to the touch or smell, soak the sponge in sweet milk for half a day, wring out and wash thoroughly in warm water to which has been added a teaspoonful of carbolic acid. For general purposes about the house, a sponge is not desirable, and a cloth which is washed and boiled regularly is much more sanitary for the bath and toilet.

To stop the unpleasant creaking of the doors, either put a few drops of oil on the hinges, or rub the edges with soap. Bureau drawers are rendered easy to draw out by rubbing soap on the edges that touch. A little oil on the rollers of furniture occasionally will make the pieces easier to shove about. The wheels should be oiled where they move, not on the outside.

The tops of old shoes make excellent strips for fastening vines to the walls; they are strong, soft and durable, and are also serviceable for lining the holders to be used about the stove. They make excellent patches for the mittens where the thumb wears out while the glove or mitten is still good. There are many uses to which the soft scraps of leather can be put.

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