



# The Home Department

Conducted by  
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**Ended**

Yes, that is the same fair face  
That your lightest footfall could  
flush;  
Today, in its pure, pallid grace,  
Moved neither by tremor or blush.  
Aye, stood with regretful pain  
And kiss the shut mouth, if you  
will;  
But even your kisses are vain  
To waken an answering thrill.

And tenderly touch with your hand  
The ripples of soft-shining hair;  
Yet, under once magic caress,  
She sleeps with a smile—unaware.  
Still sweeps the dark, curving eye-  
lash,  
White lids are locked over the  
eyes

That never again will up-flash  
With joy at the sweetest surprise.

So, press on the curved lips your  
kiss;

Your flowers lie soft on her breast;  
So leave her; you'll never be missed  
In the rapture of Eternal rest.  
—Miriam Deane.

**Roaming the Street**

Rev. E. G. Payne of the Teachers' college of St. Louis, said, in a recent speech before the Academy of Science: "The law allows children to leave school when they reach the age of fourteen years; but the effects of the statute prohibiting the employment of children between the ages of fourteen and sixteen, longer than forty-eight hours a week, are such that employers will have none of them. Of the 1,800 children who are brought before the St. Louis juvenile court each year, the greater number are of those unemployed. What we need is supplementary legislation which will keep those children off the street."—St. Louis Republic.

It is a lamentable fact that not only the unemployed youths from a very tender age up, are found too many hours running about the street, many of them almost babes, until quite a late hour. There should be something provided to wean them from this idle, irresponsibility; a good place for them to be is at home, if they have a home, but, whether they have a home or not, the street is about the very worst place they can resort to. Some one has suggested that they would be far better off at a manual training school for the evening hours.

**Cleaning Carpets**

If the carpets are only stained in spots, having grease spilled on them, sweep thoroughly, then sprinkle potter's clay very thickly over the grease spots, cover with a soft brown paper and set a quite warm flat-iron on the paper over the spot; repeat until all the grease is drawn out. If the carpet requires cleaning all over, take up, shake the dust out of it, spread on a clean floor and rub over the breadths, a small space at a time, raw, grated potatoes, using a new broom to rub the pulp on them. Let the carpet dry before using it.

**Spring Work**

For a dividing line between the house grounds and other parts of the premises, a low growing hedge that is beautiful all the year round is the barberry. In summer it has beautiful green foliage, changing in autumn to brilliant tints, and in the

winter the wood is a bright color, and covered with red berries. It is hardy unless in very cold climate.

Rosa rugosa is a shrub that takes care of number one; it does not contract disease as other roses have a habit of doing; its leaves are large, dark and glossy, and the flower is large, single, and followed by red berries. The Sweet Briar is just as desirable now as it was in our grandmothers' days, and will give satisfaction. Another rose that is not so well known, is the microphilla. It is perfectly hardy, grows anywhere, but will fill up a corner finely; has small double or single flowers that are full of fragrance, and can be had of any florist, mailing plant size, for ten cents.

Some kind of plant growth should be near the base-walls of the house in order to do away with the naked look a bare foundation gives. Nothing that will reach above the window-sill and obstruct the light should be used; especially should the angles and corners be given this attention. Many of the spireas will fill in such places admirably, and the list of plants suitable for such work is not small. Foliage plants which grow thriftily all the season are good; many low-growing annuals make a pleasing effect. The annual phlox, the petunia, low-growing pinks and sweet-williams—in fact, many of the old garden flowers may be used better even than the new, as they mostly take care of themselves. If the petunia is given rich ground it makes too rank stalk-growth, and flowers less than if on poorer soil. Ever-blooming roses do well where there is plenty of sunshine, and for them the ground can not be made too rich. Keep them cut back well to encourage new growth, as the flowers are on the new branches.

**House Cleaning**

When the subject of house-cleaning is touched upon, we must remember that there are new housekeepers, as well as new readers, coming on every year, and many things that have become old to us, are startlingly new to the beginner.

Many women are not good housewives simply because they do not think. They just follow in the old ruts, and in this way many things are left undone, not exactly from ignorance, but from unthinkingness. Old methods of housecleaning were thorough enough with some, but with others it was a straggling affair. If you have kept the closets straightened up and aired, overhauled the attic and kept the boxes and bags sorted over, you will find the cleaning of the rest of the house not so bad.

Unseasonable clothing should be sorted out, repaired, cleaned, and packed away from moths, and the boxes or bags labeled.

The winter bedding should be aired, or washed and put in good shape for next autumn. Air everything well before packing it away. There will be many things that you will probably not need again, and these should be disposed of in some way.

A few cans of ready-mixed paints, varnishes and polishes should be at hand, as the paint brush is as good for the furniture as the doctor is for the family.

A good thing to put away is the drapery—portieres are excellent dust gatherers, and give the air a stuffy

appearance. Put them away from the moths. For the porch pillows, have washable covers, and have them made of serviceable materials.

Don't wash the hardwood floor. Mix equal parts of crude oil and turpentine and rub well into the wood with a cloth dipped into the mixture. If the floor is not greasy, do not wash with soap; a tablespoonful of coal oil in a basin of water is more cleansing. When furniture needs only a good dusting and rubbing, first wash with a soft cloth and tepid water, then when dry, mix equal parts of linseed oil, turpentine and vinegar, and rub the furniture with this, a little at a time, finishing with a good, hard rubbing to bring out the polish.

**Removing Old Varnish**

To remove old varnish from furniture or walls, scrub the surface with a strong solution of sal soda; to each pint of water add enough common washing soda to equal the size of a hen's egg; heat it and apply to the surface while warm. Moisten the varnished surface with this, let stand a few minutes, and the varnish will be easily removed with a scrubbing brush. If scrubbed thoroughly, all foreign matter will be removed from the wood, and it must then be well rinsed with clean water. After thorough drying, it may be painted, stained, or re-varnished. For removing stains that have been applied to new wood, the surface of the wood must be sanded, or planed off.

There is nothing easy about renovating old furniture, because of the much and vigorous rubbing necessary to bring out the polish.

**The Refractory Door**

If the door has sagged so the bolt can not run into its accustomed socket, open the door, loosen the screws in the bottom hinge and drive wooden pegs between the hinge-plate and the door. If the door is warped so that the part carrying the lock does not shut in far enough to reach the catch plate, pry off the stops or strips that are nailed to the door casings, shut the door until the bolt catches, then nail the strip back in a new position and have it close up to the door.

If the door is shrunk until the bolt will not reach far enough to catch, take the screws out of the plate and put pasteboard behind it. If the door will not shut without turning the knob, try a drop of sewing machine oil on the sloping side of the bolt so it will slip easily when it strikes the catch. If the door squeaks, put a drop of oil on each joint of the hinge. When the door sticks, and is hard to open, rub a bar of soap on the hanging place, or a little vaseline or tallow.—Good Housekeeping.

**Planting Nut-Bearing Trees**

Listen to this, boys and girls, and see if it will interest you. About fifty years ago, two old gentlemen (they called them old men, at that time, because each of them was over fifty years old) planted a long row of walnut and hickory trees on the outskirts of their farms. One of them planted his along the front of the farm, along the country road. The other old gentleman told him that he had made a mistake; that when the trees began to bear he would have no end of trouble with people clubbing his trees to get the

fruit; so the second old gentleman planted his nuts along the back of his farm, for a wind-break. The woods were at that time full of nut-bearing trees, and any one could have a wagon-load for picking them up. So people laughed at these provident old gentlemen, and said that they had their pains for their trouble; that they would neither of them live to eat the fruits of their trees, and that there would never be a sale for walnuts or hickorynuts—the woods were full of them.

Now, that was a long time ago, and there were not nearly so many people in Missouri as there are today. But both of these old gentlemen lived to see their trees fruiting abundantly, and a young city grew up at their doors; the country road became a great thoroughfare, and the trees flourished wonderfully. There were nuts and to spare, for a long time, and the farmers sold quite a lot of them, and when they passed away, their children, grown to men and women, and their children's children, feasted on the abundance of fruit. Now, don't you think it paid these old gentlemen to plant the nuts? Don't you think it will pay you young people to do a little planting on your own account? Not now; for this is not the planting season for nuts; but this fall, when the nuts are falling, select the best nuts of the best bearing trees and plant them where you want them to grow, before the nut-meats dry. Just as soon as you can, after the nuts ripen.

**The Matter of Diet**

With the lack of appetite which the warm weather usually brings, make a change in the substance of meals; they should be lightened, but should still be nutritious. People need to be nourished in hot weather as well as in cold, but their digestion should not be made to work unnecessarily hard. A very good dependence for summer breakfasts is a few slices of nicely-cooked breakfast bacon, or a bit of fish, with an egg or two cooked in some form that is liked, varying the manner of cooking to avoid sameness. An omelet is very good, and is not hard to make.

**Household Helps**

For the machine that runs heavily, take out the screw that holds the needle-plate down, lift the plate and, with a long pin or darning needle, or a crochet hook, remove the lint and dirt that have accumulated in the needle slot and about adjacent parts, replace the plate and screw down; give a drop of oil, and see how much better the machine works.

To prevent fleas in the house-dog's bed, put in the bottom of the kennel a layer of slacked lime, then cover with cedar shavings or the needles of the cedar tree, and the dog will hardly be troubled with fleas.

For a laundry bag, make of the size wanted, leaving the back breadth longer by several inches than the front. Sew the top of the bag together, and hang it over a coat-hanger, leaving a slit of sufficient length down the front to admit of putting in the clothes. Do not sew up the bottom, but hem the ends; hem the long end deep enough for making button-holes in the hem; sew a strip of cloth on the front just above the end to act as a stay for sewing buttons to, then button the back width over onto the front width. When the clothes are to be removed from the bag unbutton the bottom, and they will fall out.

If you are one of the "unattached" women who live in "furnished rooms," one or more, there are some simple rules that you should observe. This class of women, and a good sprinkling of homeless men, is be-