

The Housekeeper's Corner.

With this issue we open a department devoted to the interest of the home, a department which we desire to make especially interesting and helpful to the house mothers of the homes into which the Independent comes. In this we shall be glad of your assistance and pleased to receive such suggestions and hints as you may see fit to offer. Bits from your own experience will be especially welcome. In this way we can come into closer touch with each other and be mutually helpful.

A woman may love her home better than any other spot on earth, yet be sometimes so weary of the daily routine of never-ending duties that she cannot help a feeling of envy for those who have more time for recreation, for going abroad, for all the little things so dear to the heart of every woman. She would not, if she could, exchange places with any other woman on earth, but sometimes feels discontented, envious and longs for a change. And change is exactly what is needed. It is the dreary monotony of their lives quite as much as over-work that is sending so many of our farmer's wives to the insane asylum and the cemetery.

So, sister mine, are you despondent, do envious thoughts fill your mind when you meet those who seem more free from care; are you irritable and cross, given to what John calls scolding—men do not seem to recognize the distinction between scolding and the protest of a weary, overwrought nervous system; does life seem to you not worth living, and yours the dreariest, most joyless lot of all? You need a change. If practicable a visit to mother, sister or brother, or some friend of your school days, affording entire change of surroundings, would be an excellent thing for a beginning. When John thinks the matter over he will realize the importance of the trip and will do his part. The greatest difficulty will be to convince you that

you can be spared from home. Women have an exalted opinion of their own importance in domestic affairs and not without reason. But we are very short sighted. You will urge that the spring work is coming on with all its rush and worry. Out of doors preparations for seeding are under way. The men must not be hindered in this all-important work, so many little chores and helpful turns usually done by women are left to the "women folks." Housecleaning is right at hand; the spring sewing must be done, John and the children are almost in rags; they do wear out their clothes so fast, and you have been patching and patching on their winter clothes to make them last until warm weather, when they must have new; and along with it all is that ever unfinished work, the cooking. If you were to be away at this time that silly Biddy would take her brood into the barn to roost where the horses might step on her chicks, or into the cow shed where the rats would get them, instead of going, like a sensible hen, into the place prepared for her. The milking would not be done at the right time and your favorite cow would fall off in her milk or go dry. It is simply impossible, you say, for you to go away and leave all this work.

Mothers have gone away and left their work, left work as pressing as yours, left homes as dear to them as yours is to you, and left them desolate, for they never came back. What if Biddy does lose all her chickens, and Bossy goes dry; what if the house is not cleaned this spring and the family is in rags? There are other chickens and other cows; ready made clothing is cheap. Spring will come again, and you, if you heed nature's warning and take proper care of yourself, will be better prepared to take up your work again and set matters to rights. Yours need not be one of those homes left desolate.

When you come back refreshed and rested, to take up your daily duties again, you will need to be careful lest you fall into the same old ruts and your life becomes again a dull, ceaseless grind. Plan your work with care, and according to your strength; plan only so much as may be done during the day, giving up your evenings to social intercourse and recreation, making the two hours just before bedtime a play spell. If the restless fingers of the busy housewife insist upon having something to occupy them, let it be something that can be done with-

out effort of mind or body. If it can be something in itself pretty, pleasing and restful to sight and touch, so much the better. You may have to pursue many things undone in order to leave this plan, but after following it faithfully for a few weeks or months you will find that you are really accomplishing more work than when you kept at it from the time you got up in the early morning till you went to bed at nine or ten at night, to say nothing of the better health and better spirits in which you will find yourself.

DOROTHY.

Take time to think whether you are doing your work in the most effectual way. Never stand to do what you can sit to do just as well; thus husband your strength.

A daughter should never seek nor be allowed to "out dress" her mother. In every family the mother should be the best dressed member. The discarded finery of a daughter should never constitute a mother's wardrobe. No one feels especially dignified in the presence of one whose clothes she is wearing, and a mother should at all times preserve her dignity before her children. The mother who never loses her queenliness will never lose her crown.—Ladies Home Journal.

Mama went into town with a friend to do some shopping, taking with her three-year-old Grace. To economize time the ladies separated, arranging a place and time to meet before going home together. Owing to some misunderstanding they missed each other and as mama searched the stores wondering where her friend could be, Grace gravely said, "She knows where she is but we don't."

To make lemon sandwiches trim the crust from a loaf of fresh bread; put it into a large butter pot or soup tureen and surround it with lemon peel. Take a sufficient quantity of butter, about half a pound, cover it with grated lemon, wrap in wax paper, put it also in the tureen and allow it to remain over night. When you are making the sandwiches rub the butter down until a little soft; add gradually the juice of one lemon and four tablespoonful of finely chopped parsley. Spread it on the bread, put two slices together and cut into the desired shape.—Mrs. S. T.

Rorer in Ladies Home Journal.

Tin vessels having any part of the iron exposed will taint any milk left standing in them with a disagreeable odor and taste, and this taste will pass into butter made from such milk.

Hyacinths and narcissus may be planted in the open ground as soon as they have finished flowering in the houses, where they may remain until time to pot again for winter flowering.

Sweet peas, if properly cared for, are among the most satisfactory of the summer annuals. The following directions for raising them are given in Vick's Magazine for March. "First, always sow the seed early. Second, prepare the soil deeply, and include some bone in the manure. Wood ashes are also excellent as they keep the soil damp. Third, sow in trenches something like a celery trench about four or five inches deep, and cover the seed with two inches of soil at first, filling in almost, but not quite enough soil in the trench, as growth proceeds, to bring the top even. Fourth, in the summer mulch the line of peas and water liberally if the weather is dry. Lastly, pick all the flowers before they drop, in order to prevent seed from bearing, which is fatal to continual bloom."

He—"When women get to voting, if they ever should, they will be found wearing the party yokes as meekly as the men."

She—"They won't if yokes are not in style." Selected.

The best definition of good housekeeping that I ever heard was that given by a little slip of a boy, who, after listening for a long time to a very learned discussion from some of his mother's club associates on the best way to order a home, was asked: "Well my little man, what kind of a home do you think is best?" A beautiful light came into the child's eyes. He tossed back his yellow hair and shook his head. "I don't know much about it. Just the only kind that I like is the home that it's nice to go to." And when all the philosophy, theory, science and wisdom of the subject had been exhausted, the women there assembled had to agree that the very best home, after all, was the home that it was nice to go to.—The Ledger.

Bananas should always be cooked, unless they are very ripe and the skins quite black. To bake a banana nicely you should have a porcelain or granite baking dish. Strip the skins from the bananas, place them in a dish, sprinkle over a tablespoonful of sugar; add four or five tablespoonfuls of water, and bake in a quick oven for twenty minutes, basting once or twice. Serve warm.—Mrs. S. T. Rorer, Proper Cooking for the Nursery in the April Ladies' Home Journal.

A PLEA FOR JUSTICE.
Governor Pingree on Tax Dodging by Rich Men and Corporations.
In a recent address before a club of the University of Michigan, Governor Pingree said:
"It is the duty of every good citizen to take part in the affairs of government. The laws should be amended so as to compel men to attend caucuses under penalty of losing their votes. Those who do not vote have no right to criticize. We are rapidly losing the idea of equality in this country. There will soon be but two classes—the millionaires and the poor. The great middle class is in danger of being eliminated. Corruption of public officers and bad laws are responsible for this."
"We are engaged in a deadly struggle with corporations, which enslave us. The railroads own one-third of the property in the state and pay only one twenty-sixth of the taxes. The supreme court at Washington has decided that the state is master, and the state can compel the railroads to pay taxes. The trouble arises in getting the right men—men who will refuse to ride on passes or take bribes in any other form. The Michigan Central charges passengers 3 cents a mile; the Grand Trunk, a competing road, can only charge 2 cents. Of the \$3,000,000 which the people pay to the former road \$1,000,000 is wrung out by extortion. The people don't understand this or they would make it dangerous for men to live among them who barter away their rights."
"The same class which controls the railroads is getting control of the streets in our municipalities, and after becoming firmly fixed there they charge unreasonable fares and howl down any one who tries to make them reduce fares as an agitator and an unsafe man. I believe in agitation, however. There is a great opportunity open to you young men. Corporate wealth may try to barn you if you pursue a popular course, but in the end you will be victorious and have the satisfaction of having done your duty."
"The supreme court has decided against an income tax. The decision should be reversed if possible. If the constitution is such that the decision must stand, it should be amended so as to allow the government to get at corporate wealth which is escaping taxation. It is the same with charters. I don't believe in long time charters. How can one generation of men give away the rights of those who come after them? The right to control the affairs of the world belongs to the living."
Result of Spanish Elections.
BARCELONA, March 28.—As a result of the elections here yesterday to fill six vacancies in the cortes, three Monarchists and three Republicans have been returned. An anarchist candidate was ignominiously defeated. The Liberals obtained all the seats in the province, except one, for which a Catalan home ruler was returned.

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SPIANIARDS GOING HOME.
An Exodus of Spanish Population From New Orleans—War Looked For.
NEW ORLEANS, La., March 30.—The Spanish merchant marine agents here are much exercised over the war news current in the newspapers. Hoping that war may be averted, they are, however, exercising all necessary precautions. Every ship sailing under the Spanish flag is leaving New Orleans as fast as it can get out. From and to this port there is annually a very large movement of Spanish shipping. Almost invariably these boats when they leave New Orleans homeward bound call at Havana and Porto Rico. At these points they secure cargo and passengers. It is understood that all who can get away from either city will do so at once and seek the protection of the mother country.

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Some More Interesting News For Economy Lovers.

Another list of values and small prices that are bound to interest knowing ones, that cannot but appeal to lovers of true economy. The goods mentioned here are not cheap; it's the prices; they are the only small and insignificant things about the store.

Spring and Summer Millinery.
Without exception the prettiest, daintiest, most chic and up-to-date Headwear for Ladies shown in the city.
Creations of the best paris and New York designers on sale here at the prices you usually pay for the ordinary kind.
Every new shape, style and make in walking and bicycle hats—every late color, design and pattern in ribbon, and all the most popular kinds of flowers and foliage.
Don't fail to visit this department before purchasing, or if you cannot come, write to us for any information you may desire.

Underwear
Boys' ribbed Cotton Shirts and Drawers, each..... **19c**
Misses' high neck, long sleeve cotton Vests, spring weight..... **15c**
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Immense assortments of dainty Easter Novelties, such as Eggs, Rabbits, Chickens, Etc. Eggs and Rabbits in Wax, China and Chocolate. Many exclusive novelties not to be found elsewhere.
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No. 1 Shore Mackerel, per kit..... 90c	Best Winchester Bacon, per lb..... 9c	Lima Beans, per lb..... 3 1-2c
No. 2 Mackerel, per kit..... 45c	Best Winchester Ham, pr lb..... 8 1-2c	Roll'd Oats, bulk, per lb..... 2 1-2c
No. 1 White Fish, choice, per kit..... 90c	LARD.	Package Quail or Grouse, per package..... 6c
No. 1 Shore Herring, per kit..... 90c	3 lb pail Swift's Silver Leaf Lard per pail..... 23c	Quaker Oats, per pkg..... 9c
Holland Herring, per keg..... \$1	5 lb pails Swift's Silver Leaf Lard per pail..... 37c	Cracked Hominy, per lb..... 2c
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