

## HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

To glaze pastry, brush over with yolk of egg just before putting in the oven. To destroy moss on trees, paint with whitewash made of quicklime and wood ashes.

To make a good fish sauce, take some plain, thick, melted butter and add a teaspoonful of mushroom ketchup with the same quantity of pickled walnut, chopped finely.

Rings set with valuable stones should always be taken off when washing the hands, for the constant soaping discolors the gems, and also in many cases loosens them from their setting.

To keep a kettle clean put a cleanyster shell or a large marble inside. These attract all particles of earth and stone with which the water is impregnated, and thus save the inside of the kettle from becoming coated with them.

A delicious orange drink is made as follows: Slice three oranges and a lemon into a jug with two ounces of sugar candy. Pour over this a quart of boiling water; stir at intervals till cold. This will make an excellent drink for your children at a small cost.

To keep the baby's little crocheted or knitted booties on his restless feet fasten them with small safety pins to his stockings. These in turn being fastened in the same way to the napkin, and this to the band, keeps all in place.

If you find your salt in the salt bag as hard as the proverbial "nether millstone," don't attempt to pulverize it with the hammer or potato masher, but, lifting the bag a foot or two from the table, drop it down solidly several times, turning it from side to side until the contents are again reduced to crystals.

To perfectly cook pork chops put in the pan a tablespoonful of lard, and when hot lay in the chops and then keep them turning constantly; reduce the heat as soon as they are browned on each side, and cook slowly until thoroughly done. Do not salt them until just before serving.

Onions boiled in milk and eaten in the form of a soup are an excellent remedy for a cold if taken just before retiring, while onion poultices are invaluable in all cases of internal inflammation, as well as in attacks of sore throat, bronchitis and pneumonia.

Lovers of whipped cream—and they are many—will rejoice in the statement that this delicious froth is more easily digested than is plain cream. So let there be whipped cream for the strawberries and the chocolate and the puddings. Whipped cream will cover, sometimes, a multitude of sins. Strawberries which are small and in appearance somewhat inferior, can be served advantageously in a large bowl with an abundance of sweetened whipped cream upon them.

When the hands are very dirty it is better to rub them thoroughly with cold cream before washing them. Then wash in warm water, using pure soap and a nail brush, rinse in cool water and dry thoroughly on a soft towel. Two-thirds of all women dry the hands very imperfectly, and then wonder why the skin is rough. A few drops of a good hand lotion should be rubbed all over the hands and allowed to dry in after they have been in water for some time, as so many housekeepers' hands must be so often, and always at night. The hands should not be exposed to cold air for some time after they have been washed.

### FEMINE PERSONALS.

An International Congress of women is to be held in London in June.

Boston has a school for the training of nursemaids. Applicants must be between 18 and 30 years of age and must agree to wear a uniform.

Mme. Nevada, the prima donna, who was a Miss Wilcox of Nevada, and is now Mrs. Palmer, is a god-daughter of Mrs. Mackay.

Mrs. Rudyard Kipling, who was Miss Carolyn Balestier and a sister of Wolcott Balestier, was born in Rochester, N. Y., where her family lived many years before moving to Brattleboro, Vt.

An American girl, Miss Burdett by name, hopes to make a good thing out of the coming Paris exposition. She has bought the Pompeian house built about forty years ago by Prince Jerome Napoleon. The house is on the Cours la Reine, and Miss Burdett proposes to transform it into tea and refreshment rooms for weary sightseers.

Lavinia Dempsey, the rich New York woman who incurred some ridicule at the time she was crowned "queen of the Holland Dames," has written a play called "Neutral Ground," and at her own expense will produce it at a Broadway theater. She will personally superintend rehearsal and presentations, and the proceeds, if any, will go to charity.

Miss Christine Bradley, daughter of the governor of Kentucky, who christened the battleship Kentucky, and who is still in her teens, is studying law under her father's direction and hopes when his term expires to become his law partner. The governor is tired of politics, and when he goes out of office, in less than a year, will leave Kentucky and open an office in New York, Cincinnati or Los Angeles.

The Mothers' Congress expects a boom in its membership owing to the experience of Mrs. Dubois of South Dakota. Last year Mrs. Dubois attended the congress, but she was then unmarried. While in Washington she met Senator Dubois and a romance began which ended in a wedding. One

of this year's delegates proposed that mothers bring their unmarried daughters to future meetings and form them into a Junior branch of the congress.

Mrs. Archibald Little, an English woman, who lived in western China for eleven years, says there is a growing sentiment against the practice of crippling the women's feet. While she was there they held drawing room meetings to discuss the subject, and about 200 of the best families in Chun King and 1,500 families in the adjoining district agreed to discourage the custom. Men are responsible for the practice, for the first question they ask in regard to a possible fiancée is about the size of her foot.

The late Empress of Austria did very many things which appeal to the unconventionality of American women more than they did to the formalists by whom she was surrounded. At the first state dinner after her marriage she horrified the court women by taking off her gloves. One of them remonstrated because it was a deviation from the rules. But the empress promptly settled that objection by saying that the deviation should henceforth be the rule. The court women had another blow when the empress insisted on wearing a pair of boots a month or more. The rules had required an empress to wear her shoes only once. "Just think," said an American girl, "of being always in a state of breaking in a new pair of shoes! No wonder the poor woman rebelled."

### VALUE OF EGGS.

Eggs can be used as a substitute for paste or mullage to seal a letter or a jar of jelly.

The white of an egg will allay the smart of a burn if bound upon it immediately, excluding the air.

Half a dozen eggs given immediately after an emetic will render corrosive sublimate harmless.

The white of an egg beaten and swallowed will dislodge a fish bone from the throat.

When a mustard plaster is mixed with the white of an egg, instead of water, no blister will follow its application.

The shells of the eggs should be saved at this season for Easter decoration.

In testing eggs remember that a good egg will sink and a bad egg will swim; if it is difficult to remember which is which, just stop to think that a fresh egg sinks because of the water in its own composition.

Another test of a thoroughly fresh egg is the distinctness with which the yolk may be seen when the egg is held up to the light.

### COOKING IN CUBA.

Frying pan and coffee pot are the only kitchen cooking utensils known to native Cuban housewives. Roasts are unknown; even stews are rare. Soup is as uncommon as in a New England farmhouse. This is the more strange, as most Southern Europeans make great use of soups.

Cuba is a hot place, which may account for the fact that no native will eat fat meat, though it is commonly fried in lard.

The common vegetables are yams, okra, rice and bananas.

### FEATHERS IN MEN'S HATS.

If you chance to see a small feather showing from the bow of the ribbon band around a man's hat these days it does not necessarily follow that the wearer hails from the country.

This is the up-to-date fad among hat manufacturers, and they say that the idea is going with a swing. Young, middle-aged and old men appear to favor the feather, and many of the representative producers are using the feather in order that their names will become identified with the exterior of hats, and thus the feather will serve as an advertisement.

### LEMON ICE.

Put three pints of water into a saucepan with one quart of cutloaf sugar and let it simmer over a slow fire until it is reduced to a generous quart of syrup. When cold, add the strained juice of five lemons and the whites of four eggs beaten to a stiff froth. If the syrup seems very thick a little water may be added. Stir the ingredients well together and pour into freezer to be treated like ice cream.

### PRILLS OF FASHION.

Shirt waist pins in gold and silver, studded with semi-precious stones, are shown.

Shell combs, the edges of which are set with colored stones of different kinds, are popular.

Wide-striped silks covered with polka dots are made up in shirt waists, and so are large plaids.

Light silks and thin French materials of silk crepe or some fleecy material, are found in hat trimmings.

An exquisitely wrought brooch in the shape of a dragon fly has its wings studded with brilliants and emeralds. An opal serves for the back.

Polka dots are everywhere—on our parasols, in the millinery and scattered over the new dress goods, in all colors and sizes, woven in or embroidered, as the case may be.

In cipient bustles are worn with the newest spring costumes and toilets. In cases of extreme slenderness they seem imperative, when the dominating sheath-skirt models are adopted.

Picturesque hats of chip and leghorn are to be worn. In big hats there are strings and the hat itself is bent down into all sorts of shapes, as they are most becoming to the wearer.

Many of the new silk shirt waists are made in the true Garibaldi style with no yoke at the back, a few plaits at the belt and tucks forming a partial yoke on either side of the box plait in front.

## AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

### THE QUINCE A VALUABLE FRUIT.

From American Agriculturist: There is evidently a profitable field open for orchardists, as for farmers, in growing quinces. One thing about fruit growing of any kind is that too many trees for home use or for the local market and not enough for shipment under contract with city dealers is an unhappy medium to strike. Take into consideration what use is to be made of the fruit and plant trees to meet that end.

Quince trees are very hardy, take up less room than any other trees, unless it be the plums, and are easy to propagate. Yearling trees are best, but two or even three-year-olds bear transplanting admirably. Trees fruit the fourth year. Well-rooted scions, or side shoots, may be taken off and set out each year. They will make fine trees. This self-propagation is decidedly in its favor, as from a few quince trees bought from the nursery an orchard may be established.

Quince orchards are comparatively rare, when they should be given a place upon farms in all sections. Even a few trees are profitable, small and large orchards proportionately more so. The fruit has ever been considered one of the most valuable of all kinds for jelly making, preserving and canning. In fact, the quince is an ideal fruit for housekeepers. It ripens at the close of summer and beginning of autumn, when the rush of summer work is over. Housekeepers have time to handle quinces then, and, as the heat of summer is over, the preserves, jellies and canned fruit are sure to keep well. The edible qualities of the quince are not so much to speak of in the uncooked state, but the flavor and quality when cooked cannot be surpassed. It is sugary and sweet.

### HORSES WITH HEAVES.

There is no cure for heaves, as the disease is caused by structural changes in the air cells of the lungs, but indigestion very frequently accompanies the disease, and that can be relieved by proper feeding of sound, clean oats, good, coarse whole wheat bran and fine upland meadow hay chaff, which should be free from dust, dampened and sprinkled over with table salt. Once or twice a week, says Farm, Stock and Home, a mash should be made of the feed and a pint of flaxseed meal added to it. This will soften the contents of the bowels and tend to prevent indigestion before it becomes chronic as well as the heaves. Watering is another item to be attended to in these troubles. Water should be given half an hour before feeding, never on top of breakfast, dinner or supper. When you do this you wash the food out of the stomach before the gastric juices have prepared for the first process of digestion. This produces indigestion. Affected horses should not be allowed loose hay, only hay chaff of fine quality mixed with bran and oats and given dampened. This diet often brings so much relief as to seem to effect a cure, and is one that is sometimes recommended by the sellers of heave remedies, and the alleged cure gets all the credit.

### TRANSPLANTING TIME.

From Farmers Voice: If trees are long and slender or are rather large for transplanting, it will nearly always pay to set a good, stout stake by them to prevent the wind from swaying them around and loosening the roots. The tree should be wrapped with some soft material when it is tied to the stake, in order to prevent the cord from injuring the bark. The best time to attend to this is when the tree is set out. Be sure that the stake is set firm, so that it will be a support to the trees rather than make the tree a support for the stake.

So far as can be avoided trees or plants should not be left out of the ground with the roots exposed to wind or sun. The drying of the roots by such exposure is very injurious to the vitality of the trees. If the trees come and cannot be set out immediately, the better plan in every way is to heel them in carefully so as to keep the roots moist, and then when ready to set out take up but a few trees at a time, and even then it will not be a bad plan to have an old piece of carpet or a tow sack kept wet and spread over the roots so as to protect them until they are put in the ground. If by any means in shipping the trees get delayed, so that when they arrive they are dry, the safest and best plan is to bury the whole tree under the ground, covering completely, letting remain two or three days. If, after doing this, they do not resume their natural condition, it is a waste of labor to set them out. Another plan is to immerse in water, but this plan is not so good as burying them. The better plan is to have them as fresh as possible and to keep them out of the ground as little as possible, and while they are out of the ground protect the roots as much as possible.

### TEST THE SEED CORN.

It is not difficult to test seed corn. A good plan—we think the best plan—is to take a grain from each of one hundred ears at random and plant them in a box or two or three crocks filled with good earth. Keep the earth moderately moist—using only tepid water and keep the box where the temperature is agreeably warm—in the kitchen is a good place. Put the box near the stove at night or in the oven when the stove has cooled off. If less than 96 of the 100 kernels germinate the seed should not be used.

It is the seed that was thought to be good that fails to make a good stand. It seems easy to be mistaken about seed corn. Corn that goes into winter quarters in apparently first-class condi-

tion may have a little moisture lurking about the germs, though the outside of the ears are quite dry; and if this corn is subjected to much freezing weather the germs will be injured. The only safe plan is to test the corn before it is planted. To plant a field with poor seed is a serious matter. With even the most favorable conditions the loss is not small, and circumstances may easily make the loss a serious one.

### RAISING CALVES.

The poorest disposition that can be made of a calf is to sell it to the butcher. The man who makes a practice of selling his calves for veal is injuring the whole country by destroying a possible source of considerable revenue. The calf that is sold for veal is forever lost to the world, so far as the improvement of stock is concerned, and because so many have been thus sold within the last six years the stock of cattle in Illinois is much lower than it might have been and the improvement in herds now on hand has been in the wrong direction.

A calf should be raised on skim milk, giving it seven or eight pounds at a feed. This is the natural and best feed for the first weeks of its life and after that it may be fed grain, the weight of opinion being in favor of whole corn. This is put into the calf's mouth at first and it soon learns to chew it and look for more.

To teach a calf to drink a little milk should be put into the bottom of the pail at first, as it is easier to handle than a pailful and the calf learns to drink sooner if it can get its nose on the bottom of the pail.

Cows should be bred so the calves come in the fall. Then it can be fed on milk through the winter and learn to eat a little grain, and when summer comes it is ready to wean and turn on pasture, the most natural feed it can be given, and will continue to grow and make a larger growth than one that comes in the spring and must be weaned at a time that it goes from dry pasture to drier hay and grain. As it is best for the dairyman to have his cows come in in the fall, this works well both for the profit of the dairy and the growth of the calf.

Where a herd is built up from a selection of calves born to it improvement is made more rapidly than it can be when the calves are sold for veal and the herd kept up by purchasing the cows some other man wants to sell, for no man wants to sell his best cows.

### HORTICULTURE IN NEBRASKA.

From the World-Herald: The fruit growers of Nebraska are greatly encouraged in the prospect of the passage of the bill providing an annual appropriation of \$2,500 to the State Horticultural society in carrying on the work of horticultural improvements and display at the annual exhibitions. It is a fact that the influence of the work of the State Horticultural society has been the means of bringing thousands of good settlers to the state that otherwise would have located elsewhere. It is not alone evidence of the adaptation of our soil to produce big crops of corn that influences immigration, we must have the other requisites necessary to home building. A great agricultural district of country rich in soil properties, with climatic influences suited to general agriculture, is the demand of the present day. The time of special crops has passed by, that is, conditions of soil and climate that direct the tiller to one line of production. Such districts of country are regarded as the uncertain lands, because failures must come to all soil crops at some time, and when this happens the special crop district suffers a hardship that is difficult to recover from.

The general character of production on Nebraska farms, especially that comprising such a wide scope in horticultural interests, makes the Nebraska farm one of the most desirable properties to be possessed for a home. Independence in the work of soil production is the great incentive to man in choosing the occupation of farming.

The fruit orchard is one of the greatest sources of profit and pleasure that the common farmer can enjoy. The horticultural society is doing much to bring the attention of home seekers to this feature of production in Nebraska.

### NOTES FROM THE FARM JOURNAL.

All root and fruit pits should have good drainage provided, if they are not on a naturally drained site.

In burning all weeds, trimmings and other rubbish in and around the berry patch, many insects and fungi are happily disposed of.

A mulch of manure on the raspberry patch is good for next season's crop, but it should not be so heavy near the plants as to furnish a harbor for field mice, beneath which they can dig down and eat the roots.

### CHINESE TELEGRAPHY.

The Chinese, owing to the multiplicity of the characters of their written language, have solved the problem of telegraphy by using numbers instead of characters for transmission over the wire. The numbers have to be reinterpreted into characters when received. To facilitate the operation types are used. On one end of each type is a character; on the other end is a number. By reversing and imprinting the types upon a sheet of paper the change is readily effected with a high degree of accuracy.

### EFFECT ON LEECHES.

Leeches, when applied to persistent cigarette smokers, drop off dead, distinct traces of the dangerous empyreumatic oil given off by tobacco being found in them. Strangely enough, the same experiment tried upon excessive pipe smokers resulted in no apparent injury to the leeches.

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