



The Home Department

Conducted by
Helen Watts Meyer

"Don't You Mind"

Trouble? Don't you mind it; and don't you mind the care; Push them all behind you and dream of heavens fair. The sorrows and the shadows that fall across the way Will fade before the sunbeams and the blossomings of May.

Don't you mind the thunder, and the clouds that threaten low; Don't you mind the wind-sighs that keep a-wailing so; For every sigh we hear, dear, there'll come a lilting tune— For every bit of trouble there'll come the smiles of June.

Don't you mind the grieving—for grief must play its part; Tears must blind the sight, dear, e'er joy creeps in the heart. Don't you mind the thistles that wound the weary feet— We e'en must taste the bitter that we may know the sweet. —Will F. Griffin, in Milwaukee Sentinel.

'Tis strange how thoughts upon a child

Will, like a presence, sometimes press, And when his pulse is beating wild And life itself is in excess— When foot and hand and ear and eye Are all with ardor straining high— How in his heart will spring A feeling whose mysterious thrall Is stronger, sweeter far than all! And on its silent wing How, with the clouds he'll float away, As wandering and as lost as they! —N. P. Willis.

Work for March

With the first flurry of the March winds, the thoughts of the neat housewife turns to the possibilities of spring cleaning. Much can be done in the way of preparation before the weather admits of the final upheaval. This is especially the month in which to prevent the increase of the pests of the household. It is just as easy to oust them as it is to harbor them, and far more satisfactory. March and the mid-summer months are the breeding season of the little brown bug, and every hiding place should be thoroughly gone over with some of the many good insecticides. Where there is no fire, or where the fire is allowed to die out in adjoining rooms, gasoline is one of the best; but there must be no fire near where it is used. Choose this work on a warm, sunny day when all fires indoors may be dispensed with. Fill every crack, crevice, or rough place in the wood of bedroom furniture with putty, or even hard soap, and into every joint or joining pour gasoline, or one of the good embalming fluids to be had of the undertaking establishments. Into the cracks, crevices or open places, nail holes and splintery spots in the floors, around baseboards, window and door frames, pour a boiling solution of alum and water, or salt brine, but do not use this where it will ruin the paint or varnish.

Pour boiling alum water or salt brine over the slats, and such wood-work as some springs may have. Burn sulphur candles, or stick-brimstone in closets and closed rooms

for moths, as well as bugs; and if all the wood furniture could be gone over with a varnish brush, or fresh paint, it would soon free the house, as the ingredients of either paint or varnish are insecticides of themselves. Many insect powders, applied with a little powder gun made for the purpose, are very effective, but are not so clean as the liquid insecticides. After doing all this, keep a constant look out for the possible "last survivor," and show "no quarter." If these measures are carried out, there will be very little trouble from the pests during the summer. March is the month in which to do it.

What One Woman Has Done

Women are doing things all the time, all over the world—wonderful things, many of them, and they are seldom or never heard of; but a few women are doing a work that only a woman can do, and some of these are occupying the public eye today. One of the brightest of these stars is "the Little Mother," Maude Ballington Booth, of the Salvation Army, in her work for the convict. In an article in the March Delineator, this work is summed up as follows: Maude Ballington Booth has made it practically possible for the convict to reform by providing him with much-needed assistance during the trying days that immediately follow his release; she has brought about such changes in prison management that the convict is no longer treated as a ferocious beast whose spirit must be broken by cruel treatment, but as an unfortunate man who should be helped back to the paths of rectitude; she has been influential in securing new penal laws that aim to help rather than to oppress the convict; she has caused the public to understand that the convict is not its enemy, but its fallen brother, and finally, she has brought—for it is by this personal work that she brings to the convict, hope—the belief that one error does not condemn him to a lifetime of misery and degradation, and the saving realization that he has a friend. What this last means to the social outcasts behind the bars is well known by a letter written by one of them to "the Little Mother:" "You said that you love us," the letter began. "Nobody ever said that to me before in my whole life. I hardly know what it means. You spoke of home. The nearest approach to it I ever had was my time in the kitchen of one of the state prisons, where the officers were very kind to me. Now that I know somebody cares, I will try to be good."

Mrs. Booth claims that, with the proper support, she can save between eighty and ninety per cent of criminals now in prison. Of the 5,000 men that have already passed through the three Hope Halls, seventy-five per cent have turned out well; of twenty per cent, she has lost sight, and not more than five per cent have returned to prison, and of these, nearly every case is directly traceable to strong drink, and not wilful viciousness.—Delineator.

"The Woman Who Travels"

"S. S." asks for a book of etiquette for hotels, etc. while traveling. I do not think she will find one especially devoted to this subject. A woman should be well-bred on all occasions, living quietly, avoiding lounging in public places, loud talking, loud laughing, loud dressing.

She should not make confidants of the servants or strangers she chances to meet, though treating all with respect and kindness. There are always women at such places who have nothing to do but be amused, and if one is too friendly with these, she will accumulate much scandal and gossip, and have no seclusion or privacy which this class will feel called upon to respect: In hotel life or in traveling, one should do nothing to court notoriety, or to attract attention, and while treating all politely should carry about with her a reserve that will check ill-bred familiarity from whatever source. One can do this without being rude or ungracious. Just follow the golden rule on all occasions, and you can not go far wrong.

"Cold Sores"

These annoying blemishes are very disagreeable, but as soon as the slight swelling is noticed, moisten the spot and apply as much common baking soda as will stick. Repeat this from time to time, and the throbbing will soon cease, the swelling will subside. The cold sore will heal rapidly if the blood is in good condition, under the use of cold cream or vaseline. Spirits of camphor will overcome an incipient cold sore if frequently applied as soon as the soreness is noticed.

Don't forget the looking glass that is to be hung in the kitchen. The cause of many a woman going untidy is that she "never sees herself as others see her," and when at her housework does not really know how disreputable her appearance may be. Hang the looking glass where it may be looked into at every turn she makes. It will pay.

Fancy Work

Doilies, table cloths, scarfs, throws, and many things done in fancy needle work are decorated with a cross stitch done in fast color silk, linen or cotton threads on white materials, or the materials may be colored and the thread white. Large designs may be filled in with cross markings, and the amateur can easily follow the pattern. Blue or brown denims make durable pillow covers, and can be laundered as easily as white ones. Hand-made lace, crocheted, knit or netted, on the ends of scarfs, table covers, doilies, and many very handsome, as well as durable, finishes may be made of knitting cotton, either coarse or fine, to match the texture of the materials.

Learning to Save

During the past cold weather, the cry came from nearly every large city that the charitable associations could hardly meet the demands made upon them for assistance in the matter of fuel, clothing and house rent. Thousands of industrious people—people who would be glad and willing to work, were laid off, or discharged from their regular employment, just as the cold weather was approaching, while other thousands who had no regular work but lived a hand-to-mouth existence, had to be taken care of a little earlier than they otherwise would have been, but for the hard times. Many of these people received so little for their work that it had been impossible to save for the "rainy day," even with the most earnest economy, while the

greater part of them could not "get ahead" because they have no idea of economizing, no matter how much they make. One does not need a large salary in order to learn the lesson of saving, and the use of money is not always the main thing to study. One of the most necessary things to be done, in any case, is to suit your needs to your means, and if there is a balance left, one may look out for the wants. We all want a great deal more than we need.

Some Good Recipes

Fried Ham—To be tender should be cooked in this wise: Wipe the slices of ham with a cloth wrung out in cold water and cut off half of the outside layer of fat; put in an iron frying pan, cover with tepid water and let stand on the back of the range half an hour, not allowing the water to reach a higher temperature than at first. Drain the ham and dry on a towel; heat the frying pan, put in the ham and brown quickly on one side, then turn and brown on the other side, the time required being about three minutes. Remove to a heated platter and serve at once.

Ham Toast—Cut stale bread in even slices, about a quarter of an inch thick, and cut away the crusts. Toast six slices to a nice brown on each side. Melt four tablespoonfuls of butter, add three tablespoonfuls of flour and stir until well blended, then pour on it gradually while stirring constantly two cupfuls of hot milk. Bring to a boiling point and season with a little salt (half a teaspoonful), and take from the heat. Dip the slices of toast separately in the sauce, and when soft remove to a hot serving dish. To the remaining sauce add one-third cupful of finely chopped cold boiled ham, and pour this over the toast.

Carrots—Wash and scrape sufficient carrots, and cut in cubes or strips—about two and a half cupfuls; cover with boiling water and let stand five minutes, then drain and cook until soft in boiling salted water, to which has been added one-half tablespoonful of butter. Drain, and add to the following sauce which should have been previously prepared: Melt three tablespoonfuls of butter, add three tablespoonfuls of flour, and stir until blended; then pour on gradually, stirring constantly, one cupful of any good stock and half a cupful of cream. Season with salt and pepper, and just before adding the carrots add the yolks of two eggs and one-half tablespoonful of lemon juice (if liked).

Boiled or roasted beef or pork can be reheated nicely by broiling the slices. Meats should not be re-cooked, but are better barely heated through quickly as possible.

Fashion Notes

It is rumored that the "big hat, the huge pompadour, the frills and furbelows of the bodice, and the full skirt will soon be seen no more."

The new walking skirts will just clear the ground, and skirts for dressy occasions will drag on the ground.

Sloping, slender hips, tight, trailing skirts, fitted waists, and sleeves tight from shoulder to wrist, small hats and one-piece dresses will be worn. Shaped-to-the-figure skirts gored rather than plaited, the old-fashioned overskirt, and long gowns are in the near future.

The tunic effect is sometimes simulated by trimming, bands and braid, circular flounces, tucks, stitched bands and narrow folds of satin; if the tunic is real drapery, it is very scant.

One-piece princess dresses, cut low

AN OLD AND WELL TRIED REMEDY
Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children's teething should always be used for children while teething. It softens the gums, allays the pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

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