



The Home Department

All Saints' Eve

Why blowest thou not, thou wintry wind,
 Now every leaf is brown and sear,
 And idly droops, to thee resigned,
 The fading chaplet of the year?
 Yet wears the pure aerial sky
 The summer veil, half drawn on high,
 Of silvery haze, and dark and still,
 The shadows sleep on every slanting hill.

How quiet shows the woodland scene!
 Each flower and tree, its duty done,
 Reposing in decay serene,
 Like weary men, when age is won;
 Such calm old age, as conscience pure
 And self-commanding hearts insure;
 Waiting their summons to the sky,
 Content to live, but not afraid to die.

Sure, if our eyes were purged to trace
 God's unseen armies hovering round,
 We should behold, by angel's grace,
 The four strong winds of heaven, fast-bound;
 Their downward sweep a moment stayed,
 On ocean, cove and forest glade,
 Till the last flower of autumn shed
 Her funeral odors on her dying bed.

—John Keble, of the 19th century.

Hallowe'en Pastimes

These are a few of the "charms" to be tried on Hallowe'en:

Melt lead and pour through a wedding ring or key handle; the lead will assume suggestive shapes as it cools.

Go into the garden and pull cabbage. A straight, shapely stalk is a good omen, while a stalk, the roots of which bring up a good deal of earth, means riches.

Bid all guests come prepared to tell a ghost story; have an open fire, if possible, and let each guest throw a small bundle of fagots on the fire, telling the story while the fagots burn.

Put a few raisins in an earthen dish and partly fill it with water; pour on the water a little alcohol and set it afire and try to snap the raisins out of the flame.

Walk backwards down the stairs, alone, carrying in one hand a light, and in the other a mirror; it is promised that you shall see the face of your future mate in the mirror.

Bobbing for apples will never grow old. Name several apples and put them in a tub or bucket nearly full of water, and try to catch them with the teeth.

Look at the moon through a silk handkerchief that has not been washed, and count the moons you see. The number of moons seen indicate the number of years that must pass before you marry.

Hide a ring, a bit of money and a thimble; the one who finds the ring will marry first; the one who gets the money will marry rich;

the finder of the thimble will not marry.

Hide an army button, a pen, a palette, a medicine bottle, a needle, and a bit of earth. The finder of the button will marry an army man; the pen foretells a literary mate; the palette, a painter; the needle, a seamstress or a tailor; the medicine bottle, a doctor; and the earth, a farmer.

Put into envelopes pictures cut from magazines, or drawn, representing different industries, and let them be drawn from a tray by the guests. The pictures will suggest characteristics of their future mates.

Place three dishes on the table; in one, clear water; in another, greasy water; the other, empty. Blindfold a guest, turn him about until he has lost his locality, then lead him to the table to choose the dish. The clear water indicates a happy marriage; the dirty water, an ungenial mating, and the empty one, a single life.

Grease some needles; fill a dish with water, lay a piece of tissue paper on top of the water and place the needles carefully on the paper; the paper will sink, leaving the needles floating on the water. Each person should name one needle, and the amusement is watching the motions of the needles, which motions are prophetic of the future of the one who claims the needle.

Hallowe'en Favors

Pumpkins and sunflowers may be made of tissue or crepe paper. Paper caps made in the form of half a pumpkin, with the stem of green paper, may be made of crepe paper. These are to be worn by those who serve.

Make tiny pumpkins of crepe paper, and fill with candy. The table decorations should be yellow and green and big sunflowers are in order for table center pieces, wall decorations and mantel bouquets.

Corn tassels and ripe corn ears may be used wherever needed to give color, and the yellow corn ears can be made into very handsome ornamentation by cutting and tastefully arranging the pieces. The pumpkin masks and "Jack-o'-lanterns" are too well known to need specifying. Small pumpkins can be made out of card-board, and either painted yellow, or covered with yellow cloth. Tiny tapers may be set in these for illumination.

Some Helps for the Housewife

Butter-hands are small grooved paddles of wood, and the grooves may be either coarse or fine. They are used for shaping the little pats of butter for individual plates.

To get onion juice, peel the onion and quarter it. Have a wooden lemon squeezer to be used only for this purpose, and squeeze the onion lard in this. There should be two table-spoonfuls of juice to each large onion. If less is wanted, squeeze one or more of the quarters.

To clarify butter for cooking, put it into a porcelain lined stew pan and set on the back of the range where it will heat slowly; when melted, a clear, oil substance will be on top, with a cloudy sediment at the bottom of the pan. Lift carefully and pour off the oil, allowing none of the sediment to pass off. The oil will be clarified butter.

All drippings, or fat that has been used, should be clarified before put-

ting away. If the used fat has a dark color, put it into a kettle with six times its bulk in water, boil for half an hour, turn into a pan to cool, when the fat should be on top of the water in a hard cake, while the sediments will fall to the bottom. It may then be clarified and used again.

To clarify fat, put the fat on the stove in a frying pan as soon as it is skimmed from the stock, heat slowly, and when melted, set where it will just bubble; let it stand at this heat until no bubbles arise, and there is no motion to the grease; the fat may then be either carefully poured off of the sediments, or allowed to get cold and hard, and the sediments scraped from the bottom. If drippings or skimmed fat is left without clarifying, the moisture and objectionable bits of food will cause it to spoil.

Cockroaches and Fleas

"A Reader" sends in the following for ridding the place of fleas, but says he has not tried it: Make an emulsion of 80 parts of crude petroleum oil and twenty parts of whale oil soap. This combination should be well mixed, and will form a jelly which mixes freely with water, and is generally used as a 3 per cent solution. A ten per cent solution is said to destroy fleas with certainty; apply it to floors, walls and cracks with a garden sprayer. Wash animals with the solution to relieve of fleas.

Farmers' Bulletin 51, Bureau of Entomology, gives this as a means of destroying cockroaches: Mix plaster of Paris, one part, with flour, three or four parts, in one saucer, and place it where the roaches abound. Remove everything eatable from the room. Nearby set a flat dish, covering the bottom with water, and lay little sticks across connecting the saucers, to serve as bridges, and in the water lay two or three thin bits of wood, floating on the surface and touching the margin of the dish. The insects are expected to eat the mixture, become thirsty and drink of the water, when the plaster sets and clogs the intestines. There are seldom any dead roaches seen, as the survivors eat the dead. No matter what is used, eatables must be kept out of the room infested, and all damp corners, or cloths be dried. Damp kitchen closets are ideal places for the propagation of these pests.

Remember that "village and farm improvement fairs" are "catching," and where one home shows care and beauty, another will soon follow suit. Once started on a village street, the fever spreads, until there are many beauty spots along the way. It is the same with the farming community, and if the woman has her way, there is no end to lovely things growing, and the waste places are soon filled with vine and flower and fruit. Shall you be the first?

Odds and Ends

The "weekly wash" is accountable for many "weakly" women, and every means possible should be employed for robbing the work of its dangers. Soft water, plenty of safe detergents, fuel at hand, labor-saving machinery, and proper facilities for laundry purposes should be provided. The woman who toils over tubs of steamy water should not go out into the open air of winter with nothing

around her shoulders, or with thin shoes. Many women owe their ill health to their own carelessness in risking exposure on wash days.

To wash woollens properly, remember to avoid either too hot or too cold water for washing, and do not hang in great heat, as on a line over a range, or too great cold, as out in the frosty air. Hand-hot water is about the right temperature, and all waters, both for washing and rinsing, should be of the same temperature, while the heat for drying should be about the temperature of the living room. Woollens should never be allowed to freeze.

In hanging blankets to dry, do not put them on the line doubled over. Have the line high enough so the blanket can be pinged on it by the edge; if wanted as wide as possible, hang it by the side edge; if length is needed, hang it by the end edge. Shake frequently while drying, and do not iron when dry, but fold evenly and lay some heavy weight upon it.

Keeping Canna Roots

As soon as the frost blackens the leaves of the canna, while the soil is wet, dig the roots of the canna, and let as much wet soil as will, stay on the roots. If the ground is not wet enough, water, well, to soaking, before digging. The soil drying on the roots, prevents the air from reaching them, and when dried hard, the roots may be laid upon some frost-proof shelf to rest for the winter. Or they may be dug, leaving what soil will adhere to them, thoroughly dried, and packed in dry sand; but the sand must be perfectly dry. Dahlia roots may be kept in the same way, but the tubers must not be separated from the stalk. Of course, the tops should be removed when the roots are dug. A cellar that will keep potatoes will be about right.

ASTONISHED THE DOCTOR

Old Lady Got Well with Change of Food

A great scientist has said we can put off "old age" if we can only nourish the body properly.

To do this the right kind of food, of course, is necessary. The body manufactures poisons in the stomach and intestines from certain kinds of food stuffs and unless sufficient of the right kind is used, the injurious elements overcome the good.

"My grandmother, 71 year old," writes a New York lady, "had been an invalid for 18 years from what was called consumption of the stomach and bowels. The doctor had given her up to die.

"I saw so much about Grape-Nuts that I persuaded grandmother to try it. She could not keep anything on her stomach for more than a few minutes.

"She began Grape-Nuts with only a teaspoonful. As that did not distress her and as she could retain it, she took a little more until she could take all of 4 teaspoonfuls at a meal.

"Then she began to gain and grow strong and her trouble in the stomach was gone entirely. She got to enjoy good health for one so old and we know Grape-Nuts saved her life.

The doctor was astonished that instead of dying she got well, and without a drop of medicine after she began the Grape-Nuts." "There's a Reason."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read, "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.

AN OLD AND WELL TRIED REMEDY
 Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children 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.