

process until the spots disappear, but work quickly and lightly. Dry with a perfectly clean cloth, otherwise a slight stain may be left. Brush the velvet with the pile.

C. L. S.—Journalism is a profession, to be learned by hard study and experience. It is not a "pick-up," and cannot be taken up successfully without preparation, any more than medicine, or law, or teaching; yet not one in ten who propose to try their hand at it has any serious idea that it takes hard work, and hard study and a strong sense of responsibility to learn to write for magazines, or do satisfactorily the conducting of a department on any line. To make a living by such work, one must devote their whole time to it, as to other businesses or professions.

#### Using the Surplus Apples

It frequently happens that apples do not keep as well as we would like them to, and here is a way to use them up, beginning as soon as they show "specks." Select such apples as will cook up nice and white, but other kinds will do; peel, quarter and drop into water to prevent discoloring, and when enough is prepared, cook quickly, and rub them through a colander. Then take nice cranberries, cook to a pulp, rub through a colander and add to the apple pulp, one part of cranberries to five parts of apple sauce, and cook thoroughly, stirring it well to keep from scorching, then add two cupfuls of sugar to about five quarts of the mixture when nearly done. If a sweeter sauce is desired, use more sugar. When the mixture is stewed down very thick, remove and pour into half gallon jars, and when cool

#### GOT IT

##### Got Something Else, Too

"I liked my coffee strong and I drank it strong," says a Pennsylvania woman, telling a good story, "and although I had headaches nearly every day I just would not believe there was any connection between the two. I had weak and heavy spells and palpitation of the heart, too, and although husband told me he thought it was coffee that made me so poorly, and did not drink it himself for he said it did not agree with him, yet I loved my coffee and thought I just couldn't do without it.

"One day a friend called at my home—that was a year ago. I spoke about how well she was looking and she said:

"Yes, and I feel well, too. It's because I am drinking Postum in place of ordinary coffee."

"I said, what is Postum?"

"Then she told me how it was a food-drink and how much better she felt since using it in place of coffee or tea, so I sent to the store and bought a package and when it was made according to directions it was so good I have never bought a pound of coffee since. I began to improve immediately.

"I cannot begin to tell you how much better I feel since using Postum and leaving coffee alone. My health is better than it has been for years and I cannot say enough in praise of this delicious food drink."

Take away the destroyer and put a builder to work and Nature will do the rest. That's what you do when Postum takes coffee's place in your diet. "There's a Reason."

Read the little book, "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.

pour over the top of each melted paraffin; when quite cold, cover well and set away, closing any little vent in the paraffin caused by escaping steam while cooling, by a drop or two of paraffin. This resembles jelly, and the blending of the flavors gives a delicious taste to the sauce.

#### Sweet and Bitter Almonds

In reply to the inquiry of our patient California reader whose address has been misplaced, the following is given: For toilet purposes, both the sweet and bitter almonds are used—the sweet more than the bitter. In making milk of almonds, the sweet is used. The oil of sweet almonds is used for toilet purposes. The bitter almonds are used where flavoring is indicated; where a quantity of almonds is called for, as in cake-making, the sweet almonds are used. Where essence or extract of bitter almonds is called for, it is made by dissolving oil of bitter almonds in alcohol, about one-half ounce of oil to ten ounces of alcohol, using only a few drops of this extract to each pound or pint to flavor, as only a suspicion of this flavor gives the best results. We have been unable to get the method of pressing the oil from the nuts or kernels for home use, and if any of our California readers, or others, have had experience, will they please let us have the method. The Querist has an almond orchard, and would like to use her own fruit.

#### Care of the Hands

"A Reader" tells me that she has read frequently in the toilet department of magazines, that "any one can have nice hands, even though doing housework," if a little care is taken, and asks how it is to be done. She says she lives in a city where there is a great plentifulness of coal soot, and the water is hard; rain water, if caught from the roof, is full of a creosote smell, and ruins the hands even more than the hydrant water, and she is constantly forced to wash her hands to keep them from being "quilted with black seams," the washing making them "like sandpaper."

As I did not make the assertion, I cannot tell her how it is to be done, and I hardly think it can be, under conditions such as she describes. I have found it very difficult to keep hands nice and smooth, even without the housework, where the fuel is coal, and where the house is heated with stoves, instead of furnace; but where the woman must be maid of all works, chore-boy, general roustabout, as well as "stoker" for one or more heating stoves and the kitchen range, one can only approximate. It is best to try to do all the dirty work at one time, and use some kind of gloves for the handling—even home-made hand-covering will answer; but woolen gloves will not do—the hand-covering should be of cotton, or leather. A very good grade of toilet soap must be used, and as little of that as may be; corn meal is a good cleanser, and the oatmeal or bran-bags should be used freely. Borax should be used to soften the water. At night, the hands and face and neck should have a thorough cleaning with soap and water, well rinsed with clear water, and a toilet vinegar used to kill the alkali; common vinegar is very good, and always at hand. Five cents worth of cocoa-butter will last a long time, and this is good for rubbing into the cuticle to restore the natural oil removed by the soap. As this is a vegetable oil, it can be rubbed into the skin of the face without fear of superfluous hair. As with many

other conditions in this work-a-day world, "eternal vigilance" and constant care are the only things that will avail.

#### The Art of Spelling

One of our readers asks why it is that, with our boasted school system, there are so few really good spellers among educated people. She says if she had to rely upon the dictionary to get at the meaning of the words as they are spelled by many professional people, she would never know what was meant, as there are no such words as they write them. Another reader says: "There is no great merit in being a good speller; but it is an awful disgrace to be a poor one, just as it is disgraceful to be ignorant when the world is full of opportunities for learning. I have no patience with those people who continually tell us, 'I never had a chance to go to school,' thus trying to excuse their lack. The very best school is the midnight oil and perseverance. If one would find the gold of knowledge, he must dig, dig, dig, and keep everlastingly at it."

#### Fancy Work

Really handsome effects in the way of trimming can be obtained by the artistic blending of colors in ordinary herring-bone stitches in silk. The yoke, belt and cuffs of a fine wool blouse in dull greeny-blue were made very handsome by the superimposing of clear green and ecru on blue herring-bone, all done in heavy silks in these shades. As a finish, an edging or bordering line was finely herring-boned in deep old rose silk. Down the center of the pointed yoke was a band of em-

broidery inlaid with cut jet squares. —C. L., South Dakota.

By the use of colors blended in Persian embroidery one can get a Persian trimming effect at small expense of time and money, and this trimming is very much worn. Beads, paillettes, spangles and the flat, so-called jewels will work in beautifully with this herring-bone work, and no end of lovely results may be attained. This work may be done as decorations for table scarfs, curtains, etc., and is quickly done. —Mrs. F. E. F.

A very simple way to make a very pretty hood of ice-wool is to knit two wide, long strips, one in white and one (for the lining) in pink. Fold the narrow ends together, laying the long edges even, and join by sewing together from the fold for five inches; gather the front at the top to form a hood, and place a bow on the gathers; also, place a bow at the back, where the sewing together ends. Finish by a pretty crocheted edge all around, and when pretty ribbon ties are on, the hood is finished. Knit with small wooden needles.

For the woman who writes, a very great convenience is an over-sleeve. Make this of calico, or cambric, either old or new stuff; have it long enough to reach from the middle of the arm between the elbow and the shoulder down to the wrist, fitting easily, but not too tight. A hem may be made at the bottom end, and a piece of elastic run in it, to keep the sleeve close at the wrist. The top end may be finished the same way. This will save the sleeve of the dress, where it lies on the desk or table.

## Latest Fashions for Readers of The Commoner



8826

8803



8837

#### 8803 — LADIES' CORSET COVER AND DRAWERS

Sizes: Small, Medium and Large. Requires three and one-half yards of 36-inch material for the medium size.

#### 8826-8803—LADIES' COSTUME

Waist 8826 cut in sizes: 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 inches bust measure. Skirt 8803 cut in sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 inches waist measure. The entire costume requires seven and one-half yards of 44-inch material for the medium size. This calls for two separate patterns which will be mailed on receipt of 10 cents for each pattern.

#### 8808—LADIES DRESSING SACK

Sizes: 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 inches bust measure. Requires two and one-half yards of 36-inch material for the 36-inch size.

#### 8837—LADIES' ONE PIECE WAIST

Sizes: 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 inches bust measure. Requires one and five-eighths yards for the tucker and one and three-fourths yards of 44-inch material for the 36-inch size, for the blouse.



8808



8603

THE COMMONER will supply its readers with perfect fitting, seam allowing patterns from the latest Paris and New York styles. The designs are practical and adapted to the home dressmaker. Full directions how to cut and how to make the garments with each pattern. The price of these patterns 10 cents each, postage prepaid. Our large catalogue containing the illustrations and descriptions of over 400 seasonable styles for ladies, misses and children, mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents. In ordering patterns give us your name, address, pattern number and size desired.

Address THE COMMONER, Pattern Dept., Lincoln, Nebraska.