



The Home Department

Conducted by
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"Pay as You Go"

A word of good counsel we ne'er should forget,
Is that which forewarns us to keep out of debt;
For half of life's burden the man overthrows
Who starts out determined to pay as he goes.
'Tis folly to listen to those who assert
That a system of credit does good, and no hurt;
For many have squandered their income away,
And homes have been wrecked by a promise to pay.

A man to be honest, as merchant or friend,
In order to have, must be willing to spend;
Is it love, or affection, or faith they bestow?
Return their full value, and pay as you go.
He loses the sweetest that life can impart
Who locks up a treasure of wealth in his heart,
To reap a rich harvest of pain or regret,
When too late he discovers how great is his debt.

No loss like the losing that comes of delay
In binding the wounds that are bleeding today;
For where is the comfort of tears that are shed
On the face of the dying, the grave of the dead?
A good word of counsel we ne'er should forget;
To keep out of danger is to keep out of debt!
If peace and contentment and joy you would know,
Don't live upon credit, but pay as you go.

—Josephine Pollard.

"Making Money at Home"

There are legions of ways to make money—that is, to make something to sell; but the hard work comes in trying to find a market. No matter what you can make somebody will want it, if you only can reach the second party; no matter what you can do, somebody wants it done. But the getting together of the supply and demand requires business abilities and a persistence that will pocket one's pride and advertise the fact that she "has the goods," and wants to sell them. If you can do any one thing well, and can work up a market for it, there are few things that will not net you at least a "living." It is often surprising to find how many places an ability to paint or sketch may be of use. Many plain articles can be made very lovely if one can use the pen, pencil or brush. Real artistic talent is not required; it is more knack, patience, a steady hand and a good eye for colors. Many girls could do this, if they set about it determined to succeed. One should copy from nature. Take a pansy, for instance; and draw its outlines until it is accurate enough to fill with paint. Have the pansy before your eyes all the time. "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again" until you do, and when you have the outlines, begin with the paint, having the flower before you, to match your colors by. It is better to spend time perfecting one than to practice on half a

dozen, every one of which you will have to label to know what they represent. Sketches, designs, flowers drawn with a fine pen in India ink, are as lovely as colors, if well done. If you live near a summer resort, or a large town, you should find a sale for these, and they make charming pillow tops, or for other decorative uses. The great trouble with both women and girls (and men and boys are just as bad, only I am not talking to them, now), is that they have not persistence, perseverance and determination to do well any thing attempted. Every success costs in some coin, and to succeed, one must work for the success, and time generally helps them.

What You Want to Know

For Mrs. C.—To make a feather comfort, save all the feathers you can, if only chicken feathers; but they must be from old fowls, with no pin feathers with unripe ends. If chicken feathers, they must be well washed and scalded to get them perfectly clean, then well dried and beaten with switches to make them fluffy. All the soft seamless feathers can be put at once in the sack, but all with stiff quills, no matter how small, must be prepared by stripping the sides from the quill. If this is done, they will answer very well; but they will be heavier than duck or goose feathers. Make a sack of closely-woven goods, like a good quality of ticking, the size you want it; this to prevent the feathers from working out. The firmer and thinner the goods, the better, so it will hold the feathers. If you have down, which is the ideal filling, one and one-half, to two pounds will be sufficient, and the sack may be quilted as any other quilt. To keep the down from lumping. Feather quilts are not used as much as formerly. A sheet of wool wadding, which can be had of almost any department store, will make a better quilt, lighter and more serviceable.

If you have plenty of old tin cans, here is a use for them: Punch some small holes in the bottom—not too many, or too large, fill the can with water and set beside the young plants, with the "leaky side" near enough the plant to keep the soil moist. This will make the plant grow, no matter how dry the weather. The ground must be kept moist. Some do not make holes in the can, but put a strip of cloth, long enough to reach from the bottom of the can to the soil about the plant, and leave this overnight beside the plant. In the morning take the can away and lay the wet rag over the roots of the plant. This will prevent the evaporation of the moisture.

Query Box

J. M.—Thirty-five dozen filled cans are the usual allowance from one ton of fruit, in the canning factories.

L. C.—The Harvest moon is the full moon nearest to the autumnal equinox; the Hunter's moon is the next full moon after this.

C. L.—The old style broom is slowly being superseded by the brush, the carpet sweeper, and the hand vacuum cleaner; large houses may employ the power vacuum cleaner.

V. L.—The small dishes used in restaurants are not now used in the

home, but small, or different-sized plates are used when there is need of extra dishes.

L. L.—Where there is no fire kept up, and the meal is delayed, have the dish or vessel as hot as possible, wrap closely in several folds of newspaper, and put into a close vessel, covering tightly to keep in the heat. The food will keep piping hot for an hour or two.

Mrs. J. L.—Soap bark, used by housewives for cleaning woolens, is said to be used by some dealers to adulterate soda water and pie-filling. The filling for most pies passed over the counter is a problem in itself, being in many cases, "fearfully," if not wonderfully made.

Mrs. Housewife—In nearly all states, the woman who owns property jointly with her husband, no matter what her possessions, dies a pauper, if her husband survives her. She can not make a will, because she has nothing to leave; nothing is hers, no matter how hard she has worked, or how much she has earned. Under the present statutes, the husband is the owner; the property is his, to do with it as may please him.

Mrs. Haynes asks what to do for stomach trouble. The first thing to do is to find the cause, and whether it is stomach or intestinal trouble, and only a good physician can locate the trouble. Self-doctoring is all right, if you know "where you are at," but not to be recommended in all cases.

What We Are Asked For

Glue to be impervious to water, and used as a "size" for ceilings to whitewash on, or for lining walls for paper hanging, should be allowed to dry after putting a coat on the surface, then rubbed over with a decoction of one part powdered nutgalls in twelve parts of water, reduced by simmering to eight parts, and strained. The glue or "size" will become hard and solid after the application.

Coal ashes are not valuable as fertilizers; but they may be used for walks about buildings, or, sifted and scattered over grass lands, or put around trunks of fruit trees. If dug into the soil they act as a loosener of the soil. If sifted, and the half-burnt pieces of coal gathered out and returned to the fire, there will be quite a saving of fuel. The "slag" or cinders should be used for walks.

An excellent sealing wax to be used where such thing is used, is made of one ounce gum shellac, one ounce of beeswax, and eighteen ounces of rosin. Melt over hot water, or on a cool place on the range. When well mixed, it is ready to use. As it cools instantly, it must be applied to the jar or can lids boiling hot. If bubbles arise, on pressing the cover, drop a little more of the wax where the bubbles are, and it will effectually seal.

For a clothes cleaner, as well as for other uses, fuller's earth is much used. The powder comes in packages containing about a coffee cup full, and costs five cents. It is not inflammable, has no odor, will not injure colors, or damage materials; will remove all traces of dust, grease, or grime, and also is recommended for ice-cream stains. Directions for use are given on the pack-

age. The powder is applied dry, and the garment can be rolled up and laid aside for a short time, then the dust brushed out of it. It does as good work as gasoline, with no fear of getting burnt, or the goods destroyed by fire.

Helpful Items

If you have no canning outfit, or patent steamer or cooker, the old fashioned way is "just as good," if you are putting up only a supply for the home consumption. It takes a little more labor, but the same results are obtained. A wash boiler, ham boiler, large preserving kettle, or suitable-sized tub can be used. The bottom of whatever you use should be flat, and there must be a close-fitting cover for the top. A wooden rack, made of narrow slats, or anything that will keep the jars from contact with the bottom of the vessel, should be used to stand the jars on to prevent breaking. It is well to have some material between the jars to keep them from touching each other.

The cans or jars must be sterilized before using, and this is done by putting cans, covers, and any other glass vessels to be used, into a kettle of cold water, and gradually bring to the boiling point, allowing them to boil for fifteen minutes, then take out, one at a time and fill. Before sterilizing, the jars and tops should be fitted to each other and proven to be air-tight when closed. New rubbers should be used for canning. The old rubbers will do where the need of closing tightly to keep in juices, syrups, and to keep out any insects, but exclusion of air is not necessary.

Everything to be used in putting up the foods should be carefully cleaned, and only the freshest fruits and vegetables to be had are to be used. It is better to put the foods up in small lots, if you are a busy housewife—even a glass of jelly, or a jar of fruit from small left-overs is a good plan. Get everything ready now.

Cleaning Silverware

Some time since, Mrs. E. P., of Madison, Wis., sent us a new method for cleaning silverware, and we are asked to give it again. Lay two small pieces of zinc in a solution of soda, salt and water—one teaspoonful of soda, and one tablespoonful of salt to a quart of warm water. Place your silverware in this solution so that it will touch the zinc, and the tarnish will all disappear as if by magic. Gold may be cleaned in the same way. Oxidized silver (silver with tarnish artistically applied) should not be put in this solution, or it will come out just plain silver. No polishing is necessary. This is the same "secret" that has been selling for twenty-five cents to one dollar for the package of powder and the zinc pan included at the higher price. It is claimed that if you have an aluminum kettle, and put your silverware in this and boil, it will have the same cleansing result.

For Cleaning Brass

A correspondent sends us the following: For cleaning brass, dampen a cloth with ammonia, rub it briskly over a piece of pumice soap and then over the brass; this mixture acts like magic; it will clean the blackest articles. It is necessary only to dampen the cloth with ammonia, and with a little pumice soap rubbed on the cloth, with a little work the matter is done. The pumice soap can be had of the grocer or druggist. To clean gilt frames, the best thing is ammonia, one teaspoonful to a pint of water, warm, not hot. Rub on the frame lightly with a piece of old flannel, then polish with a damp wash leather.