

effect is really astonishing. In one bed may be a child with pneumonia, in the next one with scarlet fever, in the next one with measles. Cerebrospinal meningitis, diphtheria and other such diseases may be represented in the other beds, but since the installation of the glass partitions no child "catches" the disease that his neighbor has.

Physicians are revising their views about the spread of contagious diseases through the air. Some are even ridiculing the fumigation of rooms. The suggestion is that most of the pathogenic germs die very quickly in the air; that persons must come fairly close to the patients and be in almost direct contact with them if they are to "catch" the disease.—Ex.

The New Fashion in Dress

At the recent convention of the Chicago Dressmaker's club, it was disclosed that the present day fashionable attire consists of eight garments, for the donning of which only ten minutes are required. It would seem that we have at last arrived at simplicity. Here is a list of the necessary garments for complete dress:

One one-piece bit of sheer lingerie; one corset, extending almost to the knees, but not appearing above the waist line; one pair of silk stockings; one pair low shoes; one one-piece gown, slashed and draped, with two hooks and a single button, and a soft chapeau and a coat fastening with two buttons.

Answering Inquiries

Wash crepe does not stand tubbing as well as we were led to believe it would. White corduroy is nice looking, but it is warm, and as a wash fabric its value has not been thoroughly proven. White pique is not especially cool, but it keeps its shape very well, and is much better than most of wash fabrics. Linen home-

MORE THAN EVER

Increased Capacity for Mental Labor Since Leaving Off Coffee.

Many former coffee drinkers who have mental work to perform, day after day, have found a better capacity and greater endurance by using Postum instead of coffee. An Illinois woman writes:

"I had drank coffee for about twenty years, and finally had what the doctor called "coffee heart." I was nervous and extremely despondent; had little mental or physical strength left, had kidney trouble and constipation.

"The first noticeable benefit derived from the change from coffee to Postum was the natural action of the kidneys and bowels. In two weeks my heart action was greatly improved and my nerves steady.

"Then I became less despondent, and the desire to be active again showed proof of renewed physical and mental strength.

"I am steadily gaining in physical strength and brain power. I formerly did mental work and had to give it up on account of coffee, but since using Postum I am doing hard mental labor with less fatigue than ever before."

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

Postum now comes in new, concentrated form called Instant Postum. It is regular Postum so processed at the factory that only the soluble portions are retained.

A spoonful of Instant Postum with hot water, and sugar and cream to taste, produce instantly a delicious beverage.

Write for the little book, "The Road to Wellville."

"There's a Reason" for Postum.

spun has wonderful wearing qualities; it is not cheap, but will last a generation, and bears making over for the next. The constant changing of styles makes against good wearing qualities. Linens with a glazed surface wrinkle easily and stretch badly in washing, and because of this, is not so serviceable as the homespun linen, or so satisfactory to wear. Linen duck is an admirable fabric, does not wrinkle easily and wears as long as the garment is in style. It is much better looking than cotton duck, and shrinks less in washing. There are thousands of ill-looking white skirts worn through the hot weather, and there are some smartly cut and well made ones, but if the white skirts are not washed well, and ironed smoothly, the best of them show the lack of care.

Query Box

S. M.—Send to Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Farmers' Bulletins Nos. 383 and 345; these will answer your questions.

"Reader"—Witch hazel is excellent for inflamed eyelids, but be sure it is made with grain (not wood) alcohol, and is pure.

L. L.—Shaking hands with a guest is not obligatory on a hostess, but it is a cordial form of greeting, and gives a better feeling than a mere greeting by word.

Mrs. C. S.—Wetting the hair with strong sage tea and letting it dry on, it is claimed, will gradually darken the hair. It is not in any sense injurious, but is claimed to be an excellent tonic.

M. N.—Lanolin is said to be one of the best fats to use on the skin to keep it soft and velvety, and should be well rubbed in, and followed by a spraying with toilet vinegar.

Francis L.—Beef tea, or broths made of meat alone contain but little nourishment, but are used to stimulate the appetite; if vegetables are added, the soup has a small food value.

Ella S.—The senseless habit of going about in the hot sun with no head covering will ruin the best complexion. Heavy coats of tan are hard to remove, and in time will ruin the skin, literally "tanning" it.

Housewife—Why not have the frames for the screens made to fit the whole window opening instead of half? A screen for the top opening is better than for the lower half, as the bad air rises to the top of the room.

E. S. M.—To make the dustless dusters, take a square of cheesecloth and wash it in a mixture of one pint of coal oil and one-third of an ounce of paraffin oil, then hang up and let dry. You will have as good as you can buy. It will not grease.

Requested Recipes

Cafe au Lait—The best quality of coffee berry is none too good for this beverage. It should be made quite strong, a tablespoonful to a cupful of water. Put rich fresh milk in a double boiler and bring to the boiling point; then, half-fill the cup with the hot milk, and add to it six tablespoonfuls of the hot, strained coffee. The coffee should be kept hot by setting the pot in a pan of boiling water; the milk must be rich and fresh and kept hot, and the mixture made as it is to be used.

Curds and Creams—Cut a pan of freshly-clabbered milk into small sections; set the pan in a cool oven and leave the oven open. As soon as the whey separates from the sections, take from the heat and lift out the pieces of curd, taking care not to break them. Drain on a flat dish, then heap on a serving dish; serve

with cream, and if liked, with a little sugar and nutmeg. If the clabber is allowed to get too hot, the curds will be tough.

Cocoa and Chocolate—For cocoa, take four level teaspoonfuls of cocoa with about four-tablespoonfuls of hot water, and blend; add a large teacupful of boiling water, bring to the boiling point, and add two level tablespoonfuls of sugar and half a cupful of good milk. Stir constantly until the mixture is steaming hot, and, if liked, add a few drops of extract of vanilla when taken from the fire. Serve with whipped cream.

For chocolate, put four ounces of chocolate in a double boiler and let it melt over gentle heat, then add a quart of boiling water and stir constantly until the water in the outer vessel boils for five minutes; then add a quart of fresh milk and beat the mixture with a Dover's egg beater until thoroughly blended. When scalding hot, serve with whipped cream, or it may be served plain.

Floor Treatment

Some one asks if there is any filling that will stay in the floor cracks for any length of time. The loosening of the filling is from the fact that the cracks have not been properly treated before applying them. No paint, varnish, or filling, putty, or other kinds will stay on wood that is dirty. For the cracks, dig out all the dirt, and then dust out the remaining dust with either a brush, or a small

bellows; but get it all out. Then treat with some kind of "sizing," such as ground-in-oil paints, or white lead. If this is not done, the oil in the putty, or moisture in other filling not mixed with oil, will be absorbed in the wood, and when dry, the solids of the filler will crumble and work out. Just before the sizing is entirely dry, put in the filler, pressing down into the opening until it is entirely full; then smooth the surface, and let dry for three or four days, rather than less time. Every nail hole, or other opening should be filled on top of the nail head, even with the boards. The boards should be nailed down tightly, and every ridge, or warped-up place should be smoothed down, if necessary with the plane.

In attempting to oil, paint, stain, or varnish wood-work for the first time, the unskilled worker should try his hand on some closet, or other unimportant floor, as only practical experience will give perfect work. The work is not so difficult, but one must know how, experimentally.

Each coat must be allowed to dry, or "set," before applying a second, otherwise, the finish will be more than apt to "chip" off, under usage, and the only remedy will be to sand-paper it all over and make a new job of it.

Whether for oiling, staining or varnishing, the surface of the floor must be perfectly clean, free from dust, and all grease spots removed, as the dressing will not adhere to a dirty surface.

LATEST FASHIONS FOR COMMONER READERS

9474—LADIES' SHIRT WAIST WITH VEST

Cut in five sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches, bust measure. It requires 2 1/4 yards of 36-inch material for a 36-inch size.



9564—LADIES' HOUSE DRESS WITH CAP

Cut in five sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches, bust measure. It requires 6 yards of 36-inch material with three-fourths yard for the cap for a 36-inch size.

9541-9497—LADIES' COAT SUIT

Coat, 9541, cut in five sizes, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches, bust measure. Skirt, 9497, cut in five sizes, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inches, waist measure. It requires 6 yards of 44-inch material for the entire suit in a 36-inch size. This calls for two separate patterns, 10c for each.



9558—GIRLS' DRESS

Cut in four sizes, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years. It requires 3 yards of 36-inch material for a 10-year size.



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 is 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.

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