

# HOME LIFE

## TABLE MANNERS.

In no other way is the home life and training of a person more readily revealed to strangers than in his conduct at the table. To know the use of the numerous forks and spoons at a ceremonious dinner requires experience in "high society," and an inexperienced person when placed at an elaborately prepared table cannot do better than watch the hostess and follow her example. "When you are in Rome do as Rome does" is a good motto for the table, to a certain extent. To eat like a millionaire and expect a fresh fork for every kind of food at the table of a day laborer shows as poor breeding as to eat in picnic style at a wedding. Some table manners, however, are always appropriate, and should be among the early lessons given a child in order that they may become "second nature" to him. Sometimes to watch the hostess is as embarrassing to that lady as to her guest.

It is always safe to eat with the fork and not the knife. When a boy is small it seems a matter of little consequence whether he shovels his food into his mouth with knife or fork, for shovel it he will. But in a short time when that boy enters the business world as a young man it is a matter of consequence whether he is familiar with the accepted customs of the country or not. He may have just as good a head for business as any other man, but the one who shows good home training is likely to be promoted a little more quickly.

It is appropriate at every table to take no more than one's share from the common dish, when the meal is served in ordinary family style. To fill one's plate with half the contents of a favorite dish gives the impression that the eater is selfish and thoughtless of the wishes of others. To chew the food well and quietly with the lips closed is never out of place. To begin with the others and quit with the others is another safe rule. In teaching table manners example is more powerful than precept. Not much is

gained by continually "doting" a hungry child. When he is not very hungry is the time to train him in the niceties of eating.

Table manners are beneficial physically as well as socially. In this land of overloaded tables it is a question if there are not more overfed than underfed stomachs. Let the children have plenty to eat, but they should have some regard for the feelings of others while taking that plenty. It is not much trouble to say "Please" and "Thank you," but the food tastes better to the majority of people if these little words are used during the meal.

## RECIPES

### Potato Soup

A very appetizing soup may be made without either the traditional "pot of stock" to draw from or even a soupbone. Boil potatoes until tender with enough sliced onion to just flavor them. Mash and put them through a sieve. Into a lump of butter size of an egg melted, stir a tablespoon of flour and let it thoroughly cook in bottom of kettle, but do not burn. To this add the quantity of milk required—three pints to four good-sized potatoes and the above flour and butter, is about the right proportion—stir until hot and add the mashed potatoes, with a seasoning of salt, and pepper if liked, boil up and serve. The flour and butter and milk should be made ready before the potatoes are quite done, so that they may be added while hot.

### Corn Meal Pancakes

These will be a change for the bachelor boys from those they raise with "sourings" or yeast. Stir into nice thick sour milk soda in proportion of a level teaspoon to a teacupful, and half as much salt, then add flour and cornmeal, two cups of the former to one of the latter, to make a batter just thick enough to bake and turn nicely on the griddle. Don't get them too thick. Next to maple syrup is that made by melting one cup white

sugar with two cups light brown sugar.

### Fried Onions

These are considered very nice for a change at our house. We first boil them ten or fifteen minutes, then drain and fry in pork drippings, or butter until they are transparent and begin to brown nicely, season to taste with salt and pepper and serve very hot. Fried turnips are also very nice, sliced a little less than half an inch thick, boiled until tender, and then fried in drippings to a nice brown.

### Welsh Rarebit

Melt up a half pound of mild cream cheese with two tablespoons butter until smooth like batter. Have a pint of milk boiling hot into which has been stirred a teaspoon of flour made smooth in a little cold milk and season with pepper and salt. Stir the hot milk into the hot butter and cheese mixture gradually stirring until it is smooth and thick, and serve on slices of hot buttered toast or crackers. A tiny bit of mustard may be liked.

## HAVE YOU TRIED?

Have you tried putting a few grains of rice in the salt shaker to prevent the salt from caking?

If a gasoline oven does not bake well on top, have you tried spreading newspapers or several layers of cloth on the top of the oven to retain the heat?

Have you tried a hot water bag for keeping the bread warm?

For a fresh grease spot on a waist or skirt, have you tried rubbing on flour? Rub on plenty, brush it off, then rub on more and brush off, until the spot disappears. The flour absorbs the grease.

Have you tried a child's sprinkling can for dampening the clothes before ironing?

As it is almost time for the spring sewing, have you tried making some of the summer working dresses with rouch neck and short sleeves? They are comfortable in the warm weather and save the washing.

Have you tried inverting a pan over the flatirons to make them heat more rapidly? One bright woman uses an old tea kettle with the bottom removed. As it has a handle it is more

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## HINTS BY MAY MANTON



5280 Misses Coat and Skirt Costume 12 to 16 years.

Misses' Coat and Skirt Costume 5280.

The jacket suit has come to be an accepted costume for girls from twelve to sixteen as it is for their elders and some very charming and attractive models are shown. This one is quite sufficiently simple to be really girlish in effect while it is absolutely smart and suits almost every seasonable material. In the illustration it is made of ruby red chiffon broadcloth with trimming of banding, but with the coming of spring such lighter colors as blue in its varying shades, green, gray and the lovely tan and champagne shades may be looked for, while again there are mixtures galore that are, perhaps, a bit more youthful than the plain cloth.

The suit consists of the coat and the skirt. The coat is made with the fronts and back that are fitted by means of shoulder and under-arm seams and is finished with a flat collar and is closed by means of buttons and button holes worked in the fly. The sleeves are in coat style but generously full at the shoulders and finished with roll-over flare cuffs. The skirt is made in three pieces and is laid in inverted plaits at the back.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (14 years) is 6 3/4 yards 27, 4 3/4 yards 44, or 4 3/4 yards 52 inches wide with 3 1/2 yards of banding.

The pattern 5280 is put in sizes for girls of 12, 14 and 16 years of age.

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