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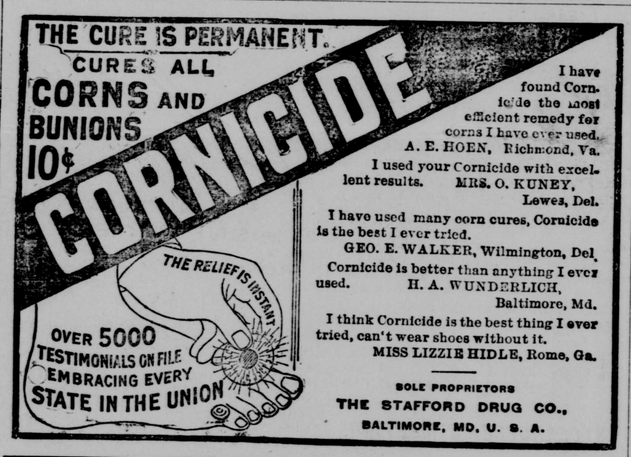
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FLOWERS ON THE FARM.

It Does Not Take Much Time and the Results Repay One for All Trouble Fourfold.

There are many women who point out the impossibility of having flowers on the farm for three or four reasons. Some say, "I have no time for such things," while others declare that the chickens scratch out everything, and that is the only reason they have no blossoms. It is hard to keep chickens out of the dooryard or garden unless tight board or wire fences are used to enclose them, but it is better to shut up the chickens during warm weather than to try to enclose the small fruits, vegetables and flowers It takes less wire fencing, and the chickens are not injured by confinement unless they are crowded too much.

Even if you have only a few minutes a day to work in your flower beds have a few posies. Get some old lady to divide her hardy chrysanthemums with you, plant some hollyhocks and twine morning glories abouty our kitchen windows. The trouble lies in buying novelties or plants hard to take care of, and then condemning the whole race of flowers as "too much bother,' if you fail with the hothouse pets.

Even if you have to put your flower beds in the vegetable garden, with a little work, you will have plenty for yourself and plenty to give away. The buds for the tiny coffin, and the bright blossoms for the living cannot be passed lightly by. Have you never envied the lady who could go to the house of mourning with her hands filled with flowers and soothe the stricken family with her kindly gift? If you have, why don't you begin now to make plans for the coming summer? Start geranium slips in old tin cans, sow pansy and verbena seeds in shallow boxes to be ready to transplant when warm weather comes, look up your seeds and order what new ones you want in time, and in every way be prepared for the early sunny days.

If your time is limited stick to a few favorites like marigolds, nasturtiums, pansies, geraniums and snapdragon. These require little care and will give an abundance of bloom all summer. In the hardy flowers your friends will supply you with golden glow, lilacs, hardy phlox, crysanthemums and peonies, for there never was a true flower lover who did not like to spread cheer and comfort by dividing her treasures. Do not make the mistake of undertaking too much. Summer brings many cares for the house-mistress, and it is better to have one small bed well cared for than a dozen weedy ones.—Prairie Farmer.

ANTICIPATING WANTS.

Suggestions to Younger Folk as to How They Can Make Life Pleasant for Elders.

Most young people are willing to do trifling acts of courtesy and kindness when they are asked for; even when it is at a cost of some sacrifice on their part, they generally make the secrifice with agreeable promptness. But there is special grace to be given the favor that is done before it is asked or without any previous knowledge of the recipient.

It is such a pleasure to find things and without having to beg some one to do them that the timely thought of somebody is gratefully appreciated; and, although the thought may not be easy to give at first, it grows by practice.

Suppose as some older person enters the room where the feather-hearted younger person sits, the most comfortable corner of the room is found vacated, the relief of not needing to turn some one else out adds greatly to the zest of occupying it.

Suppose the eyes find it harder to thread needles that they used to do found needles threaded in the work baskets, what a delightful surprise!

Suppose the stockings, the nightmare of the busy mother, were suddenly seen to be sorted, folded, and put away; those to be mended laid in order, although the invisible worker might not be able to darn well enough to mend the rents—another delightful surprise.

Suppose heaps of such little things of the sort which are always waiting to be done were silently accomplished, with a loving wish for the comfort of somebody's tired body and mind. It is well worth while for mothers to undertake the work of "line upon line and precept upon precept," which will train their little ones into habits that will later on prove of solid comfort.—Albany Argus.

A Refreshing Bath.

A warm salt bath is very refreshing to anyone suffering from exhaustion of travel or a long shopping expedition, which is as trying to mind and body as anything that can be undertaken by a woman. Away from the seashore, a very simple substitute for sea water is a cup of rock salt dissolved in warm water and added to the bath. When the salt is irritating to the skin, take a warm bath and sponge off with a mixture of violet or lavender water and alcohol, about half and half, and rub briskly with a warm friction towel. Such a method prevents the exhaustion and dangers of cold which follow a warm bath.

Poverty Luncheons.

Poverty luncheons represent a favorite form of raising money for church societies. For a group of six persons $1.50 is all that the caterer is permitted to expend and the success of the luncheon depends upon the excellence and variety of the menu that can be arranged for this sum. Half a dollar a ticket is the usual price for such a luncheon.

Convenient Holders.

Asbestos pads incased in gingham or denim are a convenience for the cook when handling cake, pies, meat, etc., in the oven. The pads are attached to the cook's apron by long strings.

Legitimate Mail Order Business Protected by Rigid Enforcement of Orders.

"A large part of the mail order business of the city," said an attorney who has defended many postal fraud cases, reports the New York Sun, "has been destroyed by the rigid enforcement of the government's fraud orders. I think in some cases the authorities have applied the rule too strictly. For instance, a merchant bought a lot of chip diamonds for 56 cents apiece. Including a fair business profit, one dollar was not too high a price for one of the stones, but a man could advertise diamonds for one dollar apiece until the end of time and get no customers. No one would believe they were genuine diamonds. So the merchant sent out circulars informing the addressee that he had been successful in some contest and the diamond would be forwarded on receipt of one dollar to pay the expense of expressage, etc. In five out of seven cases those who received the circulars, though they knew well they had taken part in no contest, forwarded the money.

"The point is that the people who bit on the circular were more dishonest than the merchant for he gave pretty close to value received. But the postal authorities held that he was doing business under false pretenses and denied him the privilege of the mails. All such clever schemes for selling cheap jewelry—there were many hundreds of them in operation—have been upset by the government."

FOR THE VEGETARIAN.

A Few Recipies For Those That Deny Themselves Meat on Principle and Those That Do Not Care for It.

At the present moment vegetarianism is an almost universal (may one say) fad, and it behooves every housewife entertaining her friends to make sure that her menu shall comprise a sufficient number of vegetable dishes to satisfy her guests. How long the fancy will last who can say, especially as doctors disagree enthusiastically as to the merits of a meat or vegetarian diet. It is probably perfectly true that we not only eat, most of us, a great deal too much generally, but that up to the present time meat has occupied far too large a position in our diet. Under these circumstances, perhaps, the following recipes may help to give a cachet to the menu without unduly increasing the consumption of meat. It must be remembered that vegetable cookery, to be a success, requires quite as much attention and care as any other cookery, a point which is, however, only too frequently overlooked.

Curried Lentils.—For cold weather this is an especially acceptable dish. Put three large tablespoonfuls of good lentils into a pan with enough salted water to cover them nicely, cook them in this till perfectly tender, but not broken, when you strain them from any liquid that may be left. Fry a large minced onion in an ounce of butter till quite tender, then in the same pan fry half a teaspoonful of mild curry powder for a minute or two; next add three sliced tomatoes (canned ones will do), a heaping teaspoonful of flour, and half a pint of boiling water, any of the water in which the lentils were cooked there may be, and lastly stir in a teaspoonful of good curry paste, being careful to get it all smooth. Stir to this the lentils with a knob of loaf sugar, the juice of half a lemon, and one ounce of butter, and stew it all till thick. Make a wall of nicely-boiled rice on a dish, pour the lentils, etc., in the center, and serve very hot. Where liked, a drop or two of tabasco or a good dash of tamarind juice is a great addition.

Dry Vegetable Curry.—Take some remains of cold cooked vegetables, cut these into neat pieces, and let them heat gently, without actually boiling, in some good curry sauce; when these are quite hot and well flavored lift them out with as much of the sauce as adheres to them, and fry them in a buttered saute pan very gently over a slow fire till the gravy is mostly absorbed, and the vegetables are covered with a powdery kind of sauce. Have ready some fried square croutons well dusted with grated Parmesan and coralline pepper, pile the vegetables on these, and serve very hot.

Salsifi, au Gratin.—Put a pound of salsify (the black or scorzanera is the best for this) into a pan, with rather more than a pint of water, half a teaspoonful of salt, a dessertspoonful of lemon juice, and about two ounces of butter. Bring this all to the boil, draw it to the side, and let it simmer slowly but steadily for half an hour when you lift it out and leave till cold. Now butter some gratin shells, or dishes, and dust them with breadcrumbs seasoned with freshly-ground black pepper and salt; have ready a rich bechamel sauce lightly flavored with essence of anchovy. Peel the scorzanera, slice it down, and pack the shells with alternate layers of the salsify, bechamel sauce, and seasoned breadcrumbs, repeating these till the dishes are full, and finishing with the breadcrumbs, on which you dot little pieces of butter. Bake in the oven till it is thoroughly hot and the surface is nicely browned, and serve at once.—The Queen.

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES.

Zealous young housekeepers sometimes make the mistake of cleaning paint with sand soap. Don't! It only scratches the paint; the other soap will do the work.

Take your carpets, and even your oilcloths, up once a year.

If you put matting down, be sure the floors are thoroughly dry before it is laid.

Year-old matting gains new life by being wiped up with salt and water.

Clean springs and woodwork of beds carefully, going over joints and ends of slats and every crevice with corrosive sublimate, by way of guarding against possible dust creatures.

Clean out closets and bureaus with turpentine and water and use generous proportions of the turpentine. It's a good ounce of prevention against moths.

Don't shroud picture and mirrors in netting—if they're too much trouble to keep right, put everything you can away.

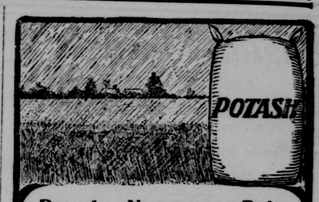
Lining bureau and chiffonier drawers and closet shelves with heavy white paper keeps the contents fresh, and should be renewed from time to time to be always perfectly clean.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Corn Bisque.

Chop fine a can of corn, add a quart of water, salt to taste, and simmer for an hour. Rub through a colander and return to fire with some more water added. Rub two tablespoonfuls flour with two of butter, and a teaspoonful sugar, and when this is smooth add slowly a pint of hot milk. Pour into the corn soup, add two beaten eggs, and serve at once.

Old-Time Molasses Cookies.

Beat three eggs and add a cupful of sugar, one of molasses and another of butter, one of sour cream or half a cupful of boiling water in which is dissolved a teaspoonful of soda. Mix soft and roll thicker than ordinarily for cookies. Use whatever flour is necessary.



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