Women's Page

EY A WOMAN

A WOMEN'S KINGDOM



MADAMS MAINTENON

Madame Maintenon is an example where steadfastness of purpose, and virtue stood out in the midst of intense worldiness and many temptations. In the days when debtors were imprisoned, her father and mother were thrown in prison for debt and there in the year 1635 the little Francoise was born. Her mother died when the child was very young and she was left penniless in the care of an aunt who treated her as an inferior and put her out to take care of the poultry. Scarron, a noted wit and beau of society, noticed the girl and offered to send her to a convent to be educated. She was so grateful to him for his kindness to her that when he asked her to become his wife she consented though he was many years older than she and was by no means an attractive lover. Scarron was gifted in many ways and his writings were always sought by his publishers, but he spent much of his time in going out with his boon companions and getting into all kinds of mischief and he was always in debt. To his household his wife came and made his home the centre of the literary people of Paris. And while she could not prevent Scarron from all of his excesses yet she kept him fairly respectable. In 1660 her husband died leaving her without means. A friend and admirer recommended her to Madame Montespan, who was the mistress of Louis XIV of France, to be governess to her children. So Madame Maintenon came to the court which was noted for its sensuality and corrupt pleasures. The children grew to love her, and to the place where she taught the children, the king would come to see them. He was so pleased with her modesty and her bright mind, that he found himself visiting the school room very often. At last he gave her a fine home and he made her Marquis de Maintenon, giving her a good income. In spite of the jealousy of the queen, Madame de Maintenon acquired and maintained a very good influence over the king and conducted herself in such a way amid the frivolities of a dissolute court as to win the respect of all who knew her. It is said she favored the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. In 1685 two years after the death of the queen, Madame Maintenon was married to the King privately. While he did not acknowledge her as the queen yet it was well understood that she was for many years the power behind the throne. According to all accounts, she did whwat she could to restrain the debauchery of a licentious court and exercised her influence always on the side of decency. Although she held the position she did with the king it may be truthfully said that she came through it all with her reputation unblemished.

She survived the king four years. She spent the latter part of her life in a school for girls at St. Cyr. This was a school that she, ever mindful of the bitter trials of her girlhood, had established in the days of her prosperity, for the daughters of good families that found themselves in greatly reduced circumstances.

HEALTH

In our little health talks we find ourselves always eager to read and hear what noted physicians say about the different diseases which visit us from time to time. Today we are going to talk about prevention of colds. Of course we know that fresh air is one of the best things. When one goes out it is a fine thing to fill the lungs with fresh air by inhaling it through the nose, holding it a minute and then exhaling through the mouth. If one feels a cold coming it is well to do this a number of times. Another good remedy isi to take a spoonful of soda in a cup of hot water. If one has sore throat a gargle of weak salt and water is very effective.

This, too, is good for a cough. Another gargle which is very good is equal parts of tincture of Myrrh and spirits of camphor, diluted in water This is excellent for clearing the throat of huskiness.

THE VOGUE

Is there ever so rigid a mistress as Dame Fashion? Some time ago we declared that we would not follow her dictates this winter in having skirts so much longer and short waists. Now the corsetieres are having their innings and smaller waists are coming in. Will the wasp like figures come in again? Let us hope not.

TAILORED TWEEDS

And who is this coming down the boulevard looking awfully tailored but at the same time inexorably womanly? None other than the Parisienne in her new featherweight tweed, with its tiered skirt made up chiefly of tiered, flat flounces, its wide leather belt and its somewhat more than hip-length coat. Black and white tweed is a favorite.

The latest evening silhouette is tight to eight or ten inches above the knees and then the skirt becomes hugely voluminous, giving the effect of being worn over several tulle or chiffon petticoats. Often this full lower skirts is of tulle or mousseline, while the upper part of the dress is in satin or taffeta, and Lelong, Worth and Maggy Roux are actually featuring petticoats.

RECIPES

Tuna Salad, Serving 6.—1 cup tuna, 2 hard cooked eggs, diced, 1 cup diced cucumbers, 2 tablespoons chopped pimientos, 3 tablespoons chopped sweet pickles, 1-2 teaspoon salt, 1-4 teaspoon paprika, 1-4 teaspoon celery salt, 1-2 cup salad dressing, mix and chill ingredients. Serve on crisp lettuce.

Rice and Cheese Escallop.—(Suitable for luncheon, supper or dinner.) 4 tablespoons butter, 4 tablespoons flour, 1 cup milk, 1 cup rice stock (water in which cooked,) 1-2 cup cheese, 3 tablespoons chopped, cooked green peppers, 2 tablespoons chopped, cooked celery, 1 tablespoon chopped onions, 1 teaspoon salt, 1-4 teaspoon paprika, 2 cups cooked rice.

Melt butter and add milk and rice stock. Cook slowly until creamy sauce forms Add rest of ingredients and mix well. Pour into buttered baking dish and bake 20 minutes in moderate oven.

Baked Rice and Giblets.— (Bureau of Home Economics.) One cup of cooked giblets. Two cups of cooked rice, two cups of gravy, one teaspoon salt, one-quarter of a teaspoon pepper.

Chop the giblets fine, mix them with the other ingredients, pour the mixture into a greased baking dish, and bake it for 20 minutes. A little finely chopped celery or green pepper may be addded if desired. This dish will make eight to ten ordinary servings.

Pork Chop Goodies—Take as many pork chops as desired—prepare your favorite dressing (baking, egg, seasoning—sausage meat if desired, but not necessary) and put a spoonful of it on each chop that has previously been browned lightly in a frying pan. Then put the chops with dressing in a roaster and bake with a little water so that they do not burn.

Chocolate Pudding.—Cream together one-half cup sugar, butter the size of a walnut, add one well beaten egg, one-half cup milk and one cup flour, into which have been sifted one and one-half teaspoons baking powder and three tablespoons coooa or two squares melted chocolate. Lastly add vanilla to taste. Steam one and one-half hours or until done.

Custard Sauce—Put two cups milk in double boiler to heat. Mix two heaping tablespoons of sugar, one level tablespoon flour and one-fourth teaspoon salt. Beat white of one egg, add yolk and then beat again, add the dry mixture. Mix all together well and stir into hot milk. Stir constantly and cook until it thickens like cream.

Baked Date Pudding.—1 cup flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1-2 teaspoon salt, 1 cup (1-2 package) sliced dates, 1-2 cup nut meats, 1 egg, 1 cup sugar, 1-2 cup milk, 1 teaspoon vanilla.

Sift the flour, baking powder and salt. Mixed the sliced dates and chopped nuts through the flour with the finger tips.

Beat the egg; continue beating while adding the sugar gradually. Stir in milk and vanilla. Add dry ingredients, dates and nuts. Mix thoroughly.

Spread the mixture over the surface of a well-oiled or greased shallow baking pan to form a layer about one inch thick. Bake in a moderate oven (350 degrees Fahrenheit) for one hour.

Cut in squares when cold and serve with whipped cream or a tiny ball of vanilla ice cream.

Mashed Potatoes with Peas—Boil and mash potatoes. Boil peas until tender, season to taste. Form mashed potatoes into round balls—make an indention in the potato and fill with peas. Fill the hole in the potato and roll in cracker crumbs—then in beaten egg and again in cracker crumbs. Fry in deep fat until lightly browned. Serve.

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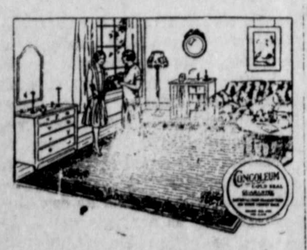
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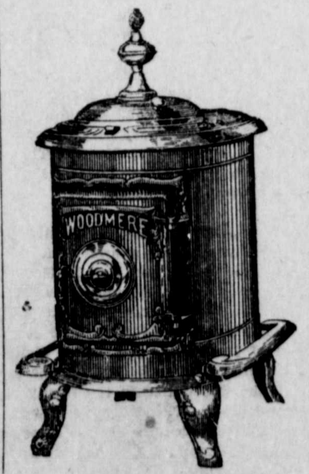
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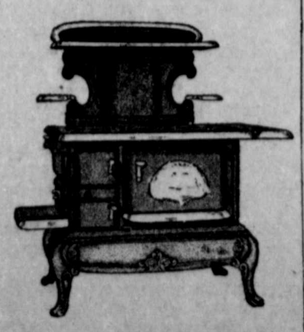
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