Starch Affects Cloth Stiffness And Strength

Best Starch Forms Coating; Penetrating Sort Of Less Value

The kind of starch used in finishing a cotton fabric not only decides its stiffness but also may affect its strength, reports Miss Margaret Furry, textile chemist of the Bureau of Home Economics who has recently made a series of starch investigations.

To learn whether starching makes fabric more durable, Miss Furry tested the breaking strength of plain-weave cotton materials of different weights which had been finished with starch made from potato, sweetpotato, corn, rice, wheat, canna, and dasheen as well as with four commercial or modified starches. She found that potato, canna, and sweetpotato starch gave fabric the greatest strength and that next in order were corn, rice, dasheen, and wheat starches. Modifed starches did not affect the strength of the fabric. Miss Furry found that starch that penetrates the fabric well gives the least strength and the most stretch, whereas those that form a coating over the fabric gave the greatest strength and the least stretch.

In her study of stiffness, Miss Furry found that canna starch had the greatest stiffening power, with dasheen ranking second, and wheat, rice sweetpotato, corn, and white potato following in order. Each of these starches gives a characteristic finish. Potato starch gives a smooth soft finish; cornstarch a stiffer, harsher finish; rice starch a soft thick finish; and wheat starch a softer, more pliable finish. Cornstarch is the most commonly used starch in this country and can be modified to give different effects. Many of the commercial starches on the market are cornstarch treated with heat or acid or combined with borax, wax, soap, or some softening oil or fat. Miss Furry finds that borax makes starch paste thicker, gives it greater siffening power, and also helps prevent its browning under the iron. Fat, soap, or wax added to starch helps the mixture penetrate the fabric and makes a softer, smoother finish, easier to iron.

THE SPOTLIGHT

Many-colored Spring is here, but it has little influence on the color choice of automobile buyers . . . Nation-wide survey showed black still preferred color of more than 50% of Studebaker buyers . . . Plaque unveiled in Springfield, Massachusetts, in honor of Chipper Charles E. Duryea, first to put a workable car on the road . . . As an industry, we're still cutting teeth (and how!) . . . Washington rules that car owners are liable for damages to borrowed car . . . as Polonius didn't say, loan oft loses both the fender and the friend . . . Peterboro, N. J., to be renamed Bendix, in honor of the $3,000,000 aviation corporation plant being located there . . . all 25 voters were unanimous . . . Lee Oldfield, racing oldster, plans rear engined car for Indianapolis race . . . 16-cylinder special Marmon engine . . . Traffic accidents, due to mild and skiddy weather, were 25% greater in February than last year . . . It looks like slow down or mow down, my frans. . .

Shearing Does Not Help To Fatten Lambs

Results of feeding different rations and of different methods of management on six lots of thin native lambs during a 98-day period were shown to sheep growers of Maryland at the First Annual Livestock Feeders' Day at the University of Maryland.

A summary of the results of the test, states: Corn, when supplemented by peanut meal, was somewhat more efficient, pound for pound, than barley when similarly supplemented. Barley alone slightly exceeded corn alone.

Addition of peanut meal increased both the rate of gain and the profit, whether the grain allowance was made up of corn or barley.

There was no advantage, so far as the rate or economy of gains were concerned, in shearing, even though the weather was unusually mild much of the feeding period.

Results of this experiment show that fattening thin native lambs may be a profitable undertaking in Maryland even with high prices for feeds.

Though the average daily per lamb was somewhat lower in the barley and penaut meal lot than in the corn and peanut meal lots, some of the most rapid gains were produced by barley-fed lambs.

Though good results were secured from methods used in htis experiment, it may be that more profit would have resulted if the lambs had been purchased earlier and pastured for a time before the beginning of grain feeding.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

"Adam and the Fallen Man" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon in all Churches of Christ Scientist, next Sunday. The Golden Text will be from I Corinthians, 15:49—"As we have borne the image of the earthy, we also shall near the image of the heavenly."

The Grand Rift Valley in Africa is the largest valley or canyon in the world.

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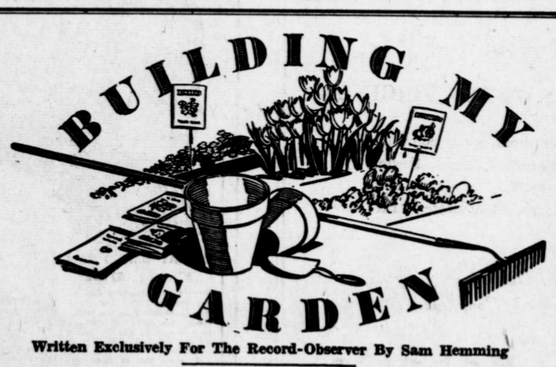
IT'S TRUE!

By Wiley Padan

New York, N. Y.—"IT'S TRUE! that Joseph Calleia is wearing a gold emblem in his buttonhole of which he is very proud," says Wiley Padan. "It is the symbol of the Knights of Malta, and was sent to him as a gift from a group of friends on the famous Mediterranean island, his birthplace."



Written Exclusively For The Record-Observer By Sam Hemming

WILD FLOWERS FOR THE GARDEN

In a previous article I expressed the wish that you wouldn't try to transplant Traling Arbutus into your garden. There are, however, numerous wild flowers that can be brought into your flower garden or into your wild flower garden. The wild flowers may be classed in three groups from the standpoint of cultivation. Most numerous are those with inconspicuous or uninteresting flowers; least numerous are those whose scarcity and difficulty of transplanting makes me hope you will enjoy them in the wild (unfortunately some of our most beautiful wild flowers belong to this group). Between these two groups are a fairly large number of species of wild flowers which transplant readily and whose flowers are desirable in the garden. The commercial horticulturist has overlooked a good many of our wild flowers and on the other hand, has hybridized and improved many of the species.

To the group which are best enjoyed in the wild belong most of the Orchids and Lady Slippers, the Gentians, the Wild Blue Lupines, true Lilies (not to be confused with the common Day Lily that grows along the roadside), Wild Columbine, the Anemones, wild Azaleas and the Trilliums.

Of the many that can be transpalnted I will confine this article to those with water associations. These plants are best grown in boggy places or, in some cases, in ponds. Several years ago I went to the Transquaking River near Cambridge with the idea of getting a root of the American Lotus. Much to my chagrin I found that the "bunch of banana-like" roots grow in the mud several feet deep. Later we succeeded in getting one of the nut-like seeds to germinate after its thick coat was cut nearly through on an emery wheel. Common in wet pastures and along streams are two species of wild Iris that can be dug up in clumps and really planted alongside your pool. Also native in our swamps are the red Cardinal flower and its blue relative; best luck can be had by raising them from seed. Along salty shore lines is often found the Sea Lavender, a plant listed in most horticulturists catalogues. Common in this section are several types of Marsh Mallows, with their big beautiful white, pink and red flowers blooming 4 to 6 feet above the salty marsh.

Not in water, but in shady moist places, grow a group of wild flowers that are most desirable in the garden. The twenty or more species of Violets transplant easily and readily form nice large clumps and patches. Wherever the name "shrinking" Violets came from, I don't know, for even when neglected they hold their own against weeds. With cultivation they are apt to be even a little coarse.

RAISIN PUDDING

1½ cups flour
1 cup seedless raisins
1 teaspoon soda dissolved in 1 tablespoon water
¾ cup sugar
¼ cup butter
½ cup raisin water in which raisins were cooked
1 egg, well beaten

Wash raisins well. Place in a saucepan, cover with water, and cook until plump. Drain and reserve the water. Dry the raisins on a towel and sprinkle with flour. Cream together the butter and sugar until smooth. Add the well-beaten egg, the flour, soda dissovled in water and the raisins, and ½ cup of the raisin water. Mix well and place in greased baking pan 8 inches square. Bake in moderate oven, 375 degrees F. until firm to touch, or, steam 1½ hours. Serve hot with Brown Sugar sauce and a dash of whipped cream.

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HOLLYWOOD STAR-LITES

By Chuck Cochard

Movie-making continually creates new jobs, new businesses, which mean livelihoods for many.

One that grew out of a difficulty in producing Goldwyn's new film "Stella Dallas" is the duplication of rare license plates from all the forty-eight states and many foreign countries. They are much needed by the studios, getting old ones involves great difficulty and expense, and ten dollars a day rental for a pair makes a lucrative little business.

"We needed Massachusetts plates of the year 1917," explained prop man Jack Caffee. "Not a prop house in Hollywood had them, or even a picture of one. We spent four weeks airmailing letters to various Massachusetts sources to get a pair, which could not be done. In the end we got an official description of the 22-year old plates and made our own."

"Hardly a day passes in which something is needed by one of the studios here in Hollywood that starts a new business for somebody and naturally creates new jobs."

Recently M-G-M- had to find certain types of grasshoppers for the picture, "Good Earth" and from the result of this a new business was started—that of furnishing studios with every conceivable type of insect available to mankind."

Your correspondent takes his hat off to the producers for being precise in their use of props for pictures because it not only helps make the picture more perfect but also gives someone a job.

—o—

Lucky Figures:

If Hollywood's screen stars could realize just how lucky they are, there wouldn't be a single swelled head in the motion picture business, declares John Trent, B. P. Schulberg's accredited "star find of the season."

Figures compiled by Trent reveal that the chances of becoming a celebrity are but one in 448,449.

Opportunity to become a leading man or woman is but once in 149,483. Trent's figures are based upon reports that are 50 stars and 150 leading men and women in Hollywood against 22,422.490 youths in the United States between the ages of 19 and 25.

—o—

Off the Set:

It took practically all of three days to shoot sequences for "Vivacious Lady" showing Ginger Rogers and Jimmy Stewart dancing together in a night club. The night after the sequences were finished, Ginger and Jimmy were seen dancing at the Trocadero—all of which would seem to come under the heading of—Romance . . .Eleanor Whitney has another new diamond wrist watch and it's not from Johnny Downs. Her escort, however, to night spots while Johnny has been vacationing in Honlulu has been the wealthy William Roosevelt, Jr., of Chicago.

—o—

Roaming Town:

Hollywood has a new night club which is based on the 'five and ten' plan. Each item is either five or ten cents . . . W. C. Fields is house-hunting having recovered from his recent illness and left the Sanatarium . . . Marlene Dietrich will go to Europe as soon as she finishes "Angel." She is sending her daughter to a school in Switzerland . . . Mae West always makes appointments to meet strangers on Friday because it is on that morning when she goes to the beauty shop and gets the works.

—o—

It's True:

One of the few non-smokers in Hollywood is young Phillip Morris in "High, Wide and Handsome". . . . Ida Lupino can sing 100 London street songs.

—o—

The Casting Files:

There is to be another "Thin Man" picture. This will be good news to the thousands asking for a third in the series of adventures off Nick Charles, his charming wife, Nora and the pup, Asta. William Powell and Myrna Loy will be co-starred again in "The Thin Man Returns". . . . Carole Lombard's next opus will be "True Confession."

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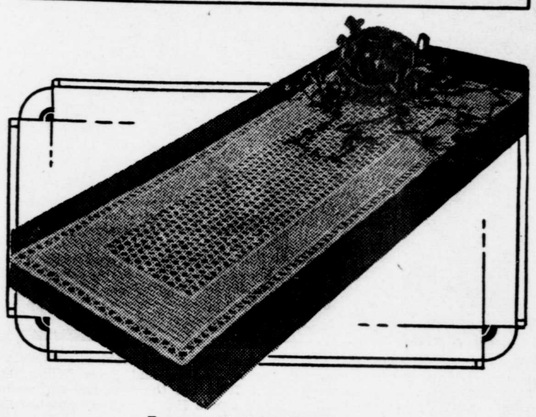

Lacet Table Runner

This simple table runner will do double duty as a bureau scarf if you are so inclined. It is crocheted of knit-cro-sheen, which has a soft lustre, and it will wash beautifully. Fifty cents will cover the cost of the thread. Complete detailed, illustrated instruction sheets for making this article may be obtianed free by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope to "Make It Yourself," the Record-Observer.

(Note: Instruction sheets for the Juliet collar, Turnabout sweater and Colony Club table cloth previously shown may be obtained free by enclosing stamped, addressed envelope as above.)

Marines Are Colorful Defense Arm

A more glamorous atmosphere surrounds the United States Marine Corps in the mind of the ordinary American citizen than surrounds any other arm of the national defense. The Leathernecks are first to be thrown into action when a crisis arises involving the United States, whether that be in Central America, China, the Philippines or other distant place. Yet the public knows little of the important activities of the Marines regular routine.

The Marine Corps is the oldest arm of the United States national defense. Organized in 1775, it actually antedates even the Declaration of Indedependence and the Constitution.

Marines are trained in all duties of a soldier and many of the duties of a sailor. They are what Kipling called "Soldier and Sailor Too." Their motto is "Semper Fidelis," or "Always Faithful", and their emblem is the globe, eagle and anchor, worn as a distinguished device on the cap or collar or emblazoned on the Standard of the Corps.

A marine's pay is the same as that of a soldier of the same grade. He is clothed in blue, white, forestry green or khaki uniform, depending on the duty he is required to perform or the season of the year.

Marines ashore perform duties as infantrymen, artillerymen, machine gunners, signalmen, motor transport and occasionally as mounted infantrymen. They guard our navy yards and mobilize quickly when called upon for immediate service at sea or in the tropics.

In the Fleet they man the secondary batteries, or tropedo defense guns, and anti-craft guns, perform guard duties, and when landing parties are necessary, are first ashore when trouble threatens.

Marines are aviators too, and when assigned to this duty are trained as airplane mechanics, motor experts, pilots, observers, bombers, riggers, or signalmen, and maintain their own flying fields.

Besides the numerous garrisons on the seaboard of the United States, marines are stationed in the Philippines, Guam, the Hawaiian Islands, and China, guarding American interests and cooperating with the Navy. The marine is usually detailed for not more than two years at sea or in a foreign country in order that his enlistment will offer variety.

The Marine Corps Institute gives instruction through the correspondence method. Every Marine, if he so chooses, may learn a trade, art or science with a choice from more than fifty subjects.

Many officers of the Corps have risen from the ranks. Promotion depends almost entirely upon the ability of the

Bran Griddle Cakes

1 3-4 cup milk
1 cup whole bran
1 1-2 cups sifted flour
3 teaspoons baking powder
2 teaspoons sugar
1 teaspoon salt
2 eggs, well beaten
1 tablespoon melted butter

Pour milk over bran. Sift flour once, measure, add baking powder, sugar, and salt and sift again. Add butter. Bake on hot, well-greased griddle. Serve hot with butter and maple syrup.

Frozen Crumb Cake

2 cups sponge cake crumbs (any left-over cake crumbs can be used.)
1 cup whipping cream
¼ cup chopped English walnuts

Whip cream and combine with cake crumbs. Add nuts and pour into freezing trap of refrigerator. Freeze without stirring. Slice and serve.

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Points To Look For In Buying Bath Towels

A wide plain border on a bath towel narrows down the terry cloth or looped surface which is the real drying area. If two towels measure the same in length and width, the one with the narrower borders will give the greater absorbent surface. The pile loops determine the drying value of the towel, but they must be attached to a fairly firm foundation fabric, or the towel will not wear. Loops about one-eighth of an inch long seem to be the most desirable.

Small light-weight towels are often a better choice for family use than large heavy ones, especailly if there are children in the family. Smaller towels are more easily managed and much easier to handle on wash-day. Like any heavy-weight articles, heavy bath towels increase laundry bills if washing is done by the pound.

Before buying colored towels, inquire about their colorfastness to washing, suggests the Bureau of Home Economics. Borders, both white and colored, sometimes shrink if they are corded or embroidered. If the part between the hem and the border puckers, the towel will not hang straight on the rack, although it will dry just as well. If a contrasting border is stitched on, it is likely to tear off quite easily and make the towel very thick and clumsy to put through the wringer.

Bargain towels are sometimes made in off sizes, cut short or woven narrow. If compared with regular towels of the same quality they may prove to cost just as much or even more by the square yard. They may be seconds. Not all "sale" towels are defective, however. Sometimes they are sold below the usual price because they are surplus stock.

Good selvages on both sides of a bath towel increase durability. Good hems,securely fastened at the corners wear well.

Rice Pudding Like Grandmother Made

Remember what a treat it was when grandmother used to make that grand cream rice pudding. It was probably so popular with us because she cooked it slowly but here is the recipe:

OLD FASHIONED RICE PUDDING
½ cup rice
1 quart milk
½ teaspoon cinnamon or nutmeg
4 tablespoons sugar
½ teaspoon salt

Wash the rice thoroughly, add the other ingredients and pour into a greased baking dish. Bake for three hours in a slow oven stirring several times during the first hour. The mixture should not boil. Serve either hot or cold. One half cup of raisins may be added if desired.

BROWN SUGAR SAUCE

¾ cup brown sugar
¼ cup water
½ teaspoonful vanilla
2 tablesponsful chopped walnuts
2 teaspoonsful butter

Boil sugar and water together for 5 minutes. Add butter, vanilla and nuts. Serve hot on the hot raisin pudding.

The largest black birch tree in the state of Maryland is growing on the property of William B. Steel, near Port Deposit, Cecil County. This tree is 80 feet high and has a spread of 87 feet.

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