

MABEL'S CHITCHAT

The "Game" Garden Tea Latest Outdoor Social Amusement.

COMPETITION GREAT FUN.

New Touch That May Be Given to a Last Year's Belonging—Wild Flower Garden Made on a Half Dollar Scrap of Ground.

Dear Elsa—Summer tea parties are fascinating this season. Everybody dances at these little gatherings as much as I mean more than—they drink tea, punch, etc. The other afternoon I went to a delightfully "snappy" (by the way, this and "wonderful" are the slang words that are being worked overtime this summer) tea served in the garden of a friend's home.

It was given in honor of two girls who were staying in the house and who frankly owned themselves "utterly frivolous." So I am giving a tea party to match; my hostess whispered, as she hung round my neck a label bearing a large number.

"Just as if I am a motorcar or a thing at auction to be knocked down to the highest bidder," I laughed.

"That last is more or less what you are," Mrs. H. replied. And as a matter of fact, time proved that I was. So I carried off a very beautiful silver rose bowl, which was the first prize for ladies.

But I must explain the competition. It was both novel and original, and it isn't easy to find those two qualifications at "game" teas, is it?

After having been duly numbered each guest was given a little card, with pencil attached, on which was written: "If you had to choose between instant annihilation or marriage, which girl or man in this room would you take for your life partner? Please put down the number of the candidate you select. N. B.—It is against the rules to vote for annihilation."

Each card bore the number of the person holding it, and it would surely have been discovered if guests voted for themselves, which of course would not be fair, since the lucky owner of the highest number of votes took first prize. What a mean insinuation this is, but it would spoil the appearance of the page if I erased it, so let it go as an expose of my really true self.

To come back to the competition, a lot of pleasure was given to a dear old bachelor colonel of seventy-three, who easily headed the men's poll, and was presented with a charming leather blotter. The popularity of the girl who got the most number of votes was easily accounted for because she was going to be married the next week, and the men felt they could vote for her without compromising themselves.

Another story:
If you have a summer parasol that needs rejuvenating try Katherine L.'s latest scheme. You know how Katherine loves pretty things, and this parasol idea of hers is really worth while. The sunshade was originally a beautifully embroidered one of white linen with a design of roses, and after carefully washing and bleaching the parasol she fastened the flowers in rose shades and the leaves with water colors.

This gave an entirely new touch to a last year's belonging. Katherine, the immaculate, as we call her, always uses a little water color paint the correct shade of yellow on the extension part of the soles of her russet shoes in order to keep them looking like new.

With apologies to Mr. Kipling—another story:

I know how fond you are of wild flowers, so a garden I saw recently immediately suggested your bright bonny self to me. It was a wild flower garden, and, as the owner explained, she had made it from a scrap of ground "as large as a half dollar," and it certainly does blossom like a rose.

"The best way to make your garden," said the woman who knew, "is to transplant your flowers from the woods. It is almost impossible to gather wild seeds. The wind and the birds get ahead of one. And the forests have very few of the seeds needed. Some of the wild plants that come from bulbs can be procured from the nurseryman. Many of the violets and hepaticas, but practically all of the plants, must be taken from the woods.

"Begin your garden," cautioned the flower enthusiast, "by transplanting a bit of the soil as well, for few of the flowers will thrive in ordinary garden soil. Dig out a space of fourteen or fifteen inches deep and fill it with leaf mold and loam from the woods. If you can't do this mix a little sand and much fertilizer in with the garden soil if it is heavy; if it is light and sandy enrich it thoroughly with manure.

"When the bed is accomplished begin to transplant the flowers and plants. In a moist, shady corner pile some stones. It is here that the ferns and moss can be placed."

This garden is going to be lovely all summer, and I am sure the advice is reliable. The results so far surely prove it in a most satisfactory way.

Why don't you start a garden of this sort on your half dollar plot? Time's up; so, with all good wishes and a pleasant month of roses for you all, devotedly yours,

MABEL.

Sugar Rolls.

The next time you are making rolls try putting a lump of sugar in the middle of each before the last rising. When the rolls are baked the sugar will partly melt and will make a delicious roll.

HOMEMADE SCREENS.

Easy For the Home Carpenter to Construct.

Many people deprive themselves of the comfort of screens because the bought screen is more or less expensive. Few things, on the contrary, are cheaper if made at home.

Apart from the protection from drafts which a screen provides, its presence insures a degree of semiprivacy, and, not only that, it is decidedly ornamental, a quality not to be overlooked when furnishing the living rooms for the summer campaign. An ordinary clotheshorse—it may be a two, three or four fold horse—is the framework, and it can be colored to taste with enamel paint. Art muslin is very inexpensive, and this should be nailed along the top in full plaits, leaving a little beading, securing the bottom edge in the same way. A good plan is to cover one side of the screen with plain or self color material and the other side with figured stuff.

For example, the wooden frame may be painted a bronze green, green muslin in a pale shade would cover the inside of the screen, while the outside might be a delicate pink and white muslin; pink figures on a white ground.

To hide an empty grate in summer a small towel horse is useful. It should be covered in corresponding manner, but an eye to the general coloring of the room it will occupy is essential. For the cost of \$2 a room can be furnished with these convenient adjuncts.

The easel cabinet pictured is a convenient piece of furniture that the home carpenter can make with little trouble. For holding prints and loose music it is ideal.

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FOR YOUNG FOLKS

Bathing in the Surf Is Popular With Little People.

A YOUNGSTER'S FIRST DIP.

The Initial Plunge In Old Ocean Not Always a Joyous Occasion—Things of Interest to Boys and Girls—Some Good Games.

Bathing in the surf is the popular diversion of all both great and small. In ocean, lake and river, when skies are bright and Old Sol is turning on the heat with scorching intensity, every one who can do so takes to the water. Children especially delight in playing on the shore, wading in the brooks and dipping in the surf.

Little folks, however, must be careful when playing in or near the water and should never do so unattended by some one old enough to exercise careful supervision. The ocean surf is decidedly unsafe for little folks. When a roller comes in it will overthrow the strongest, and sometimes strong swimmers are overwhelmed and drowned.

The small boy in the picture is in no danger, but he plainly shows a dislike for bathing. After a few dips he will get over his fear, and then he will need to be restrained. The picture was taken at Coney Island and is one that can be duplicated any day during the summer.

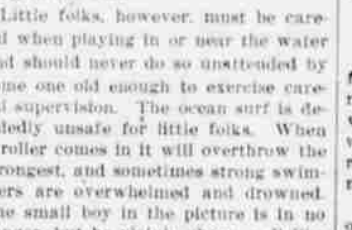


Photo by American Press Association.

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mer. The designs are posies of various colored blossoms in more or less gaudy colorings, some suggesting the futurist school, others as quiet and sedate as any mid-Victorian could desire.

The dress pictured is of this material, and it is as dainty, attractive a little summer costume as the most fastidious girl could wish.



Brook of flowered voile.

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"Did you hear me come downstairs that time, mother?"

"No, dear; you did beautifully. Now, in the future always come downstairs that way. Tell the ladies how you managed to come down so quietly."

"Oh," was the nonchalant though respectful answer, "the last time I slid down the banister rail."

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AN ASPARAGUS TIP.

Try This Very Satisfactory Way of Cooking This Vegetable.

Asparagus is too fine a vegetable to be carelessly prepared. Think for a moment how absurd it is to boil the delicate green tips for the same length of time as the solid stalks! And yet this is just what the average cook does.

With this in mind, hunt through your kitchen utensils until you find a receptacle that will hold a bunch of asparagus upright during the entire cooking process. An agateware pail is a good thing, and the inner kettle of a double boiler is often of a desirable height and narrowness for this purpose. One ingenious housewife always buys a big, new colander at the beginning of each asparagus season.

It is a common tip, one, such as campers use, but she claims there is nothing so well adapted to the proper boiling of asparagus. The heavy stalks have an abundant depth of boiling water, while the delicate tips extend above the water line and are steamed, rather than boiled, to a delicious tenderness.

Where many bunches of asparagus must be boiled at the same time the desired result may be gained by placing the bunches horizontally in a large vessel, with boiling water to cover and letting them cook for the first ten minutes in that position. Then prop the bunches against the sides of the kettle so that the tips shall be entirely out of the water for the remaining time. In this way the tips are not overcooked, as they would otherwise be and as they usually are.

An excess of water dissipates the flavor of asparagus. Strongly impregnated with this water is with the asparagus flavor. It is valuable in many ways. Slightly thickened and with the addition of milk or white stock, asparagus soup is an easy and economical possibility.

Where the asparagus is to be served on toast the flavor is increased by moistening the toast with a few spoonfuls of this asparagus water. It is also a desirable substitute for milk or cream in the making of a sauce. In such case any formula for white sauce can be used, simply adding to the blended butter and flour the water in which the asparagus has been boiled. The same suggestion applies to the making of Hollandaise sauce when it is to be served with boiled asparagus.

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Children's Corner

Crook County Children's League.

SEE SEE SEE
1st C.—See, fathers and mothers, that your boys and girls all send in their names and become members of our league. We especially want the children out on the country ranches to join.

2d C.—See, fathers and mothers, that your children have a Bible each of their very own. If they wish to earn one themselves, let them read their daily portions diligently and be ready to help in our league work at the county fair in September. Friends are contributing to a fund which will enable us to help the children to earn Bibles very easily.

3d C.—See, girls and boys, that you read your Scripture portion every day and that you learn by heart the weekly quotations to be ready for the prize competition by

Sunday, July 27—Luke 14,