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A particularly beautiful form of espousal ring was known as the "gimmel" or linked ring, which was made in parts, which, when brought together, assumed the appearance of the ring shown with clasped hands.

Courtesy Shown Women Prisoners.

In many English prisons the women are addressed by their first names, instead of by numbers, as the men are.

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AS TOLD IN PLAIN ENGLISH

Real Truth About Young Man With "Excelsior" Banner, and That Lamb of Mary's.

"Excelsior" is a poem about a young man who walked one winter evening through a village in the Alps. The hotel keeper stood in his door and told him the rooms were all taken, but anyhow the young man knew he didn't have enough money for tips. So he went on. He carried a banner reading "Excelsior." One theory is that he was a drummer for an upholstery house and the other is that he was a demented breakfast food inventor. He was found next morning near the top of the mountain and his relatives were notified.

Mary had a lamb that she spoiled by overfeeding and cuddling. She took it to school with her one day and the lamb bothered the spelling class, so the teacher kicked it out of the front door. Not having any sense of direction, it blatted around the schoolyard until finally the teacher sent Mary home with it and told her if she ever brought it again there would be trouble. Next spring Mary's father sold the lamb on the rising market.

Who Knows?

A boy in a Chicago school refused to sew, evidently considering it beneath the dignity of a ten-year-old man. George Washington sewed," said the principal, taking it for granted that a soldier must; and do you consider yourself better than George Washington?" "I don't know, time will tell," said he, serenely.—Popular Education.

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CARE OF THE BROOM

MAKER TELLS HOW TO PROLONG ITS LIFE.

It Should Be Swung Back and Forth From a Point Back of Sweeper to a Place at an Equal Distance in Front.

"It makes me sad," said a broom maker, "to see the way people use brooms. The life of a broom could be twice prolonged by proper usage, and used properly it would be vastly easier to use."

"You've seen people sweeping ahead of them, pushing stuff with a broom? Why, the best and most perfectly seasoned broomstock that ever was put into a broom wouldn't stand such treatment as that."

"With such handling splints will break off. The splints remaining, jagged and uneven, bear unevenly on the surface. You never can sweep clean with it after that."

"Then you know the majority of sweepers always sweep with the same side of the broom to the front, and in this way they soon get the broom lopsided, so that they can't use it any other way. There couldn't be a worse way."

"Used in this manner the points of the splints get bent all one way and then they meet together at their ends. They don't bite, they don't take hold of dust as they are meant to do, they don't sweep clean, and when a broom has come to this condition the sweeper is less careful of it, for then it is not so good a broom. Such a broom the sweeper feels that he may push ahead of him; and when he does this with it the broom is finally and irretrievably ruined."

"Of course the correct way to use a broom is with the handle, in its initial position, held vertically, so that all the splints in the face of the broom will take hold at the same time and evenly. In sweeping the broom should be swung back and forth from a point back of the sweeper to a point at an equal distance in front. That is the proper way to use a broom, and then every day the sweeper should turn the broom around, so as to sweep with a different side daily. Used in this manner and turned daily the broom wears down evenly."

"I have seen—a delight to the professional eye and a comfort to everybody who likes to see any implement used to the best advantage, thoughtfully and considerably—I have seen brooms that had been so used that they had worn down almost to the binding threads, but that still bit beautifully. I am perfectly well aware that brooms carelessly used, as commonly they are, wear out faster, with a corresponding benefit to broom manufacturers; but still I do really hate to see anybody misuse a broom."

Pineapple Cream.

Beat the yolks of three eggs slightly, add the juice and grated rind of one lemon, a pinch of salt and half a cupful of sugar. Let simmer on the fire slowly, stirring all the time until it thickens. Then remove and stir in a cupful of canned pineapple grated fine and one and a half tablespoonsful of gelatin which has previously been soaked in half a cupful of cold water. When the mixture begins to jell stir in half a cupful of cream beaten to a froth and the whites of the three eggs also beaten stiff. Turn into a mold and chill thoroughly until time to serve.

To Clean Algrettes.

The easiest and best way to clean algrettes is to lay algrettes on a towel and take a soft complexion brush, wet with warm water and white soap; rub lightly, the way of the feather, until feather is clean, and rinse in warm water and hang in a cool breeze. It will take from two to four hours for them to thoroughly dry.

Plum Butter.

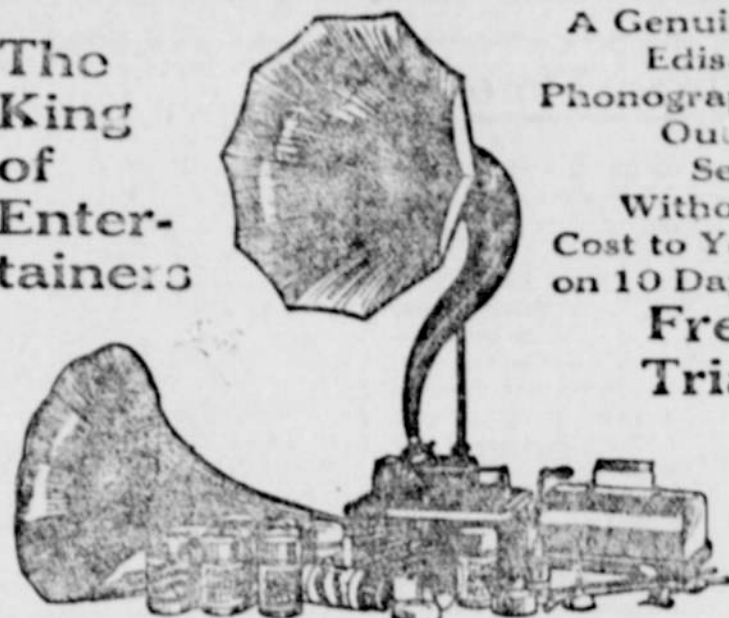
Wash the plums well, drain and cook without water, until soft; use an equal amount of sugar to the amount of plum. Cook very slowly on the back of the stove until thick and rich. Many object to plum butter on account of its being too strong, but to remedy that one-third apple sauce, which has been put through a sieve, may be added to two-thirds plum, thus making the plums go farther and also getting rid of that sharp taste. Boil the plums till the skins crack in water with a spoonful of soda, to remove the tang.

Coats of All Lengths.

Considerable variety is shown in the new suit coats. The shorter length is receiving the greater attention, but it is likely that the coats of half and three-quarter lengths will reappear later on.

Sardines and Anchovy Sauce.
Spread slices of fried bread with anchovy paste, lay a split sardine on each piece. Fill out the edge with chopped olives and pickles, sprinkle with lemon juice and serve either hot or cold.

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Cork Known in Ancient Times.

Cork was known to the Greeks and Romans, and was put to almost as many uses as at present, although there is no mention in Roman annals of linoleum, notwithstanding its Roman sound. Glass bottles with cork stoppers did not come into use until the middle of the fourteenth century.

Coroner's Verdict in India.

For quaintness it would be hard to beat the verdict returned in India on a man whose fate it had been to as sauge a tiger's appetite. "That Pand so died of tiger eating him. There was no other cause of death."



To Test Tinned Foods.

An infallible test for tinned fruit or vegetables of any kind is to open and plunge into the contents a very bright steel knife. Keep it there a few minutes, and if copper is present, even in the minutest proportions, it will be visibly deposited on the blade.

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