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Children's Pleasure Column

Home Decoration

KAISER'S SISTER SECRETLY IN U. S.

Special Recipes

HINTS FOR THE MODERN HOUSEWIFE

Edited by Mary-Ann
This department is for our younger readers. We want you to write freely, telling of your experiences, adventures and of interesting happenings in your neighborhood. Tell of your favorite books or authors, favorite flowers, etc. Original poems and stories will also be appreciated.
Write with pen and ink on one side only of the paper. Do not use pencil. Help one another to make this page both interesting and instructive. Address your letters to Mary Ann, care Mail Tribune, Medford.

This department on Home Decoration is for the benefit of all women who have household problems to solve. Queries pertaining to problems of this kind may be addressed to Miss Suedtlor, care of Women's Department of the Mail Tribune.



New York reporters aren't very often outwitted by visiting celebrities, but they admit they didn't even know the Princess Victoria von Schaumburg-Lippe, sister of Kaiser Wilhelm, and her young husband, Alexander Subkoff, had arrived on this side of the Atlantic. The couple admitted their identity in Quebec upon their arrival from New York. They plan to tour Canada.

- AFTERNOON TEA
MEXUS
Tea with Shred Orange and Lemon
Toasted Muffins
Pressed Chicken Sandwiches
Salted Nuts
Candies
Tea with Lemon
Cinnamon Toast
Toasted Cookies
Stuffed Dates
Candies
Tea with Lemon
Open Faced Pimiento Cheese Sandwiches
Fancy Cakes
Candied Orange Peel
Salted Pecans

Handy and Attractive Uses for Flour Bags



ENTERPRISING housewives have been taking up the case of the discarded flour bag and some have suggested that it might be saved and made to serve some further useful purpose, and the number of attractive and valuable things they have found it fitted for is amazing. A flour bag, unripped, measures about 24 inches by 42 inches and is made of an excellent grade of cotton, sturdy and able to give a lot of wear. These bags can either be procured from the baker who has little use for them, or can be saved at home. The first thing to do is to remove the stamping by covering the inked spots with kerosene or soaking them overnight in lard. Then wash the bag in lukewarm water and you are ready to begin.
Aprons, pillow tops, a cover for baby's crib, luncheon sets, little dresses for the junior members of the family, card table tops, shoe bags, curtains, dusted animals, scrap books, dish towels, dusters, broom covers, tubs for the baby, laundry bags—and many more articles, their number limited only by the need of the imagination of the woman of the house, can be made.
One of the most attractive things to take, perhaps, is a simple smock useful for general wear around the house, for gardening, and sometimes in the morning to take the place of a dress. Three bags are usually needed for a smock and the garment is made more attractive by using green or blue cotton for the collar cuffs and patch pockets. A smock made this way will not wear out in many years, if given any sort of care.
Perhaps the easiest thing to make is a curtain for the kitchen, or bathroom or nursery. For the average kitchen window, a single will do. For a window that needs both curtains and it is always possible to put a two inch fold or border of gingham around one side and the bottom in some bright color, which will not only add to the decorative value of the curtain but will also lighten it over necessity.
Certainly the most practical and most durable use for the bag is to turn it into a laundry bag. You can embroider or embellish it any way you like, but as a container for soiled clothes and likely to undergo much abuse in over-crowding, putting and hauling by the smaller members of the family, nothing is better than a flour bag, which has served its original purpose.



Cakes and Pies
In the dough! In the dough!
This is the way we make it go!
Roll it, roll it smooth and thin;
Found it with the rolling pin;
Cut with thumbtacks and it makes
Just the nicest dolly cakes.
Dolly now must have a pie:
We will make it you and I.
Here's a cunning little tin:
Roll and roll the piecrust thin.
Spread it smoothly now within;
Cover some bits of apple in.
Lay nicely; let it bake;
That's the way our pies we make.
Dolly may not eat it all;
But it playmates chance to call,
We will give them a surprise
With our little cakes and pies.
All we make is good to eat;
For our hands are clean and sweet.
And we have such funny ways,
Our dear mother often says
That she thinks by all the looks,
We shall soon be famous cooks.
Dorothy Buchter, Medford.

Query: How should pictures be hung? Mrs. T.
Answer: If small then hang them with a concealed cord and small brad. If large use two cords on each side of the picture, each cord extending in a vertical position from the frame to the picture molding. Never use a cord which goes at an angle to the hook forming a tent over the picture.
Query: If one has but one good old piece of furniture, can that piece be used in a room with other more modern pieces? Mrs. R. J.
Answer: Often time such a piece becomes the center about which the whole room is furnished. Usually such pieces are of dark wood and good imitations may be found which will feel perfectly at home with your really old piece. But do not use such pieces by putting them into a room where all the other pieces are painted.
Query: What material do you suggest for upholstering a piece of furniture which has constant family use? Mrs. V. E.
Answer: Mohair comes in a great variety of colors, patterns and weights. It does not fade, wears exceptionally well and cleans perfectly.
Query: Do you advise a mantle over a fireplace? Mrs. B.
Answer: All depends upon the room and the style of fireplace which you are having built. Some require mantels for instance, the old colonial ones. The Spanish and stone ones are often much better without a mantle.
Query: Will you please suggest a color scheme for our new bath room? Mrs. H.
Answer: Green and cream bath rooms have become almost as common as the old time white ones. A rose tone with gray, a salmon color with touches of black or dark green would be pleasing.
Query: Is monk's cloth good for draperies? Mrs. T. S.
Answer: Monk's cloth is one of the most inexpensive of the heavy materials but it is so very neutral in color that it needs bright colors near it. However, they are beginning to make the same weave in color combinations which are pleasing. For instance a blue and linen color in a small check was used recently with delightful results.

MORNING WORSHIP IN THE GARDEN
Early this May morning, while the heavy dew was peared on the leaves, and cascades of diamonds flashed to the rising sun, a whole chorus of song burst into lively strains from tree to tree.
Presently, after wetting his whistle in the strawberry patch, a slim and graceful mocking bird vaulted to the top of a telephone pole, and after pouring out a catchy prelude, he sprang straight up into the air some ten feet or more, turned a complete somersault and alighted once more, landing again with airy grace on the pole, all the while in full song of rarest ecstasy. Again he dropped to the ground for another strawberry crush, and once more, following the orchestra, delivered a potpourri of melodious mimicry truly astonishing.
A brown thrush nesting in the rose trellis, answered in a low sweet, semi-clamorous full of pathos and prayer.
All was still. Morning worship was over; men were beginning their jarring notes.
Geo. W. Borden, "The Flower Garden."

- Toasted Muffins
1/2 cup butter, 1/2 cup sugar, 1 egg, 1 level teaspoon salt, 1 cup milk, 2 cups flour, 2 level teaspoons baking powder.
Cream butter and sugar, add egg well beaten. Sift flour, baking powder and salt together twice and add alternately with the milk. Bake in greased muffin tins 25 minutes in a moderate oven (350-400 degrees F.). When cold split, spread with butter and toast. Serve hot.
- Cinnamon Toast
Cut bread in 1/2-inch slices spread with a mixture of butter, sugar and cinnamon mixed together. Cut in strips 3-4 inch wide and toast in hot oven. Serve hot.
- Lead Cakes
1/2 cup butter, 1 1/2 cups sugar, 1/2 cup milk, 3 cups pastry flour, 3 level teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, 1/4 level teaspoon almond extract, 1 level teaspoon salt, 3 egg whites.
Cream shortening, add sugar gradually. Sift together flour, salt and baking powder three times and add alternately with milk. Beat in extracts and carefully fold in the beaten egg whites. Bake in layers in a moderate oven or bake in tiny muffin tins. Use on all sides with boiling icing. Roll some in chopped nuts, and some in cocoanut and chocolate decorations.
Open Faced Pimiento Sandwiches
Cut brown and white bread in thin slices, then with fancy cookie cutter cut in various shapes. Mix pimiento cheese with a little cream until it can be easily spread. Spread generously on the bread and sprinkle the top with minced parsley.

HOW WE TAUGHT OUR LITTLE LAURA

By Beatrice Curt.
"Laura," called her mother, as the clock struck half-past eight. "Are you ready for school?"
Laura came into the room with her shoe laces untied, and a button off her coat. She looked a wreck. She had caused her mother many a sigh as she did not seem to care whether she was tidy or not. Mother had enough to do with the twins, and baby brook, who could not walk yet, and grandmother too, who was scarcely able to go upstairs alone.
"Come here, Laura," called grandmother, who tied the shoe laces and sent her for a needle and thread, so she could sew on the missing button.
"Where are my books, mother. I can't find them," complained Laura.
"Now then, that is three cents off your allowance," returned her mother. "Where did you leave them last night?"
"How do I know where I put them?" pouted Laura. Last week she had only five cents left of her twenty-five, as in order to cure her of untidy habits, her mother had commenced deducting one cent out of her allowance.
That night Laura came bustling into the living-room. There had been great excitement at school.
"Oh, mother, can I have a camera?" she asked. "There's going to be a prize given for the best snapshots taken by the pupils, and these are going to be put upon the wall, with our names under them."
Laura was excited at the prospect of possessing a camera, and seeing her name under a picture in school.
"Well, I don't know," answered her mother. "I think you should save some of your own money for it."
"I'll never be able to save any money! Last week I only had five cents," pouted Laura. The idea of saving herself did not suit her at all. It would take a long time and the other children would have ever so many pictures taken before she could save enough to buy one.
"Laura," called grandmother from the kitchen. It was rather a bulky little girl who went to see what her granny wanted.
"Did I hear you say you wanted a camera?" asked grandmother,

WASH-DAY HELP



"Pin, pin, who has the pin?" is all right as a children's game but it is not so funny when wash day comes around and the elusive clothespins keep you playing hide-and-go-seek with them. Here is a clothespin bag that will keep them altogether and do away with the necessity for stooping down to pick them up a couple at a time.
It is made out of a used flour bag and three yards of red bias tape. The linked stamping is first removed by larding it or soaking the material in kerosene overnight and then washing out in lukewarm water. It is not necessary to buy a pattern as one can easily be cut out of wrapping paper. Cut on the left so as to have the two sides alike. The depth of the bag from the lower edge of the belt to the bottom is about 17 inches, and the greatest width 16 inches. The top edge of the pocket is four inches.
Any decorations, such as the clothsopins worked in red outline stitch, should be done before the bag is assembled. Then bind the curved sides of the bag. Next baste the edges of the bag to the sack and bind them all the way around. The bag is then ready for the belt which is made from a three-inch strip of the flour bag material. The ends may be ironed or have a bow tie.
This bag costs but a few cents and is very popular for basins or make a good gift for a bride's kitchen shower.
Children may be kept happily busy on long train trips or on rainy days by playing some of the indoor games in which the whole family can take part, such as guessing games, competitive tests, cross-word puzzles and the like.

Jackson County Fair

By Jane Suedtlor, Gen. Supt.
Since the premium books went to press it has been discovered that a great many ladies are intensely interested in doing tapestry pieces for wall hangings, chair seats or foot stool covers. Recognizing this demand for another entry, classification in the premium books, the woman's department of the Mail Tribune is offering a six months subscription to the person entering the best piece of needle point or tapestry, and the Handicraft will give a piece to be completed, as a second prize.
Each year has seen a very marked improvement in the standard of exhibits and in the co-operation of exhibitors in living up to the requirements of the different departments. We cannot stand still for we must go forward or backward. This year's efforts must be better or poorer than last year's, and those in charge cannot do it all for we must have the hearty support of each and every woman in the county.
Class 118 has been put in this year in place of one which did not meet with support from exhibitors two and three years ago. Many of the community clubs have been doing some very clever things with the common flour sacks, hence Miss York's suggestion that others would like to see these articles. We are offering a prize for the best collections of articles and for the most clever one. After the flour sacks have been carefully washed and boiled until the original dressing has all been removed, they may be most attractively dyed. Try some of the fancy which you will be surprised at the delightful oriental effects which may be secured.
We are providing better and far more extensive space for exhibiting flowers this year and we are sure that the floral division will be as interesting and quite as large as the last flower show was.

Shopping Tours for Housewives

How many busy housewives take an afternoon off from their regular duties and go on a shopping tour? You will find an afternoon spent in this fashion a most enjoyable and profitable occasion.
Perhaps you do not intend to buy one article, but the time is well spent in seeing new devices which are on the market for the purpose of lightening the house work.
By window shopping or visiting the various household departments you obtain new ideas which you can carry out in your own home with the expenditure of a small sum of money. Remember it is not only the most expensive article which is often of the greatest value or the home in which the most money is spent in elaborate and costly draperies which displays the greatest home atmosphere.
So much depends upon the ingenuity of the housewife and the way in which she carries out the ideas which she receives from her last shopping tour. Don't come home discouraged and feel that your home is no longer desirable because you saw so many new things which you wanted to buy but could not afford. But feel that you went for the purpose of receiving new ideas and not so much to buy ideas which you could carry out in your own home and make it more attractive.
Restoring Lemons—Lemons that have become hard, or that can be bought cheaper because they have dried, can be restored to excellent condition by placing them in a pan of water a day or overnight. They have even a finer flavor than when they are fresh, because they are ripier.

SALAD SAVERS



The secret of appetizing salads is mostly having the vegetables fresh and crisp. As soon as they are delivered, lettuce, celery, radishes, parsley and the like should be put in cold water and allowed to freshen. Then remove any withered leaves and cut out imperfections. Put them in refrigerator bags such as are shown here and set them on the ice. When you are ready to make the salad, they will be delightfully crisp but not dripping wet as they would be if you waited till then to prepare them.
A single used flour bag will make a set of four refrigerator bags. Remove the stamping by covering the places with lard or kerosene. Let it stay overnight and then wash in lukewarm water. Sew the bags up the side and turn down an inch and a half hem. Stich this around again, half an inch from the edge to form a casing for the tape. The lettuce bag should measure about 10x13 inches when finished, the celery bag, 7x18 inches and the parsley or radish bag 7x10.
They may be made more attractive by some simple design worked in outline stitch, or with the name of the article worked in cross-stitch.
The bags should be thoroughly washed after each time of using but ironing is superfluous.

MORNING

From out the darkness of the night,
A sweet bird's note is heard,
And then a rustling of the leaves
By softest breezes stirred.
Again a brooding silence falls,
Until these bursts from unseen throats,
Called by the wild bird's first faint song,
A dozen twittering notes.
And now the sweet glad murmur grows,
Out of its sleep profound,
The needed birds awake,
To light and life and sound.
Ma M. Thomas.

Russia

My own Russia, always a land of mystery to the western countries, adds another unexplained secret in the disappearance of the marvellous collection of sterling which belonged to the Czar.
So far as we know, it has gone completely, perhaps to pay the expenses of changing governments in that troubled land.
And what a loss! For incredible as it may seem, the Czar's collection of English sterling surpassed the enormous collection in Windsor Castle, England. A reason for this was that throughout royal history in Europe, sterling silver has always been a favorite gift from one monarch to another. Apparently the Great Bear of Russia, in those romantic and exciting days, inspired the giving of tokens of good will, for we know that Elizabeth, James I. and Charles II of England all sent many gifts of sterling to the Czar. In 1594, Queen Elizabeth gave two tankard flagons to the Czar Ivan IV (known as "The Terrible"), which, the last we knew, were in the Kremlin.
Richer Than England
As in these days, decorative pieces for the homes and palaces were frequently wrought from silver of sterling fineness. The most sumptuous examples of old English sterling were to be found in Russia before the revolution. For instance, nothing in England could approach the two sterling silver leopards, which were three feet in height and with bases one foot square, which used to adorn one of the palaces of the Czar. I have seen a formal yet gay assembly of lords and ladies of the old Russian court surrounding an enormous silver wine cistern which was nearly four and a half feet wide and three feet high.
In the winter palace at St. Petersburg there was another great English wine cistern wrought from sterling silver which, so the story goes, took twenty years to make. This may have been another of the gifts sent to the Russian court. It held sixty gallons.
Riches of the Court
Other items in the palaces of the Czar which contributed to the splendor and beauty of all court entertainments, were wonderful chandeliers of great weight, all of sterling silver and with nearly a four foot spread. Then there were many beautiful examples of sterling which were used at important court banquets, service plates, and innumerable massive goblets, tankards, bowls, salt-cellars, etc. There was one beautiful sculptural piece, a massive centerpiece of solid silver, displaying the figures of cupids almost life-size amid an intricate design of flowers, leaves, and bunches of grapes.

Still another centerpiece, which was reserved for the most important and exclusive of functions, was the sterling representation of Bacchus and Eros, said to be valued at 500,000 gold rubles.

There was a great deal of French sterling in the Winter Palace. In fact one of the principal services was known as the service of Paris and, besides the knives, forks, and spoons, contained candelabra, clocks, plates, and platters, all in the same design as the custom in America today where the silver service is all of the same pattern. Catherine the Great added much to the royal Russian collection, employing the well known French artist, Auguste. This gentleman was kept pretty well employed, for he not only made the service for Catherine's table and her own apartments, but was directed to make toilet sets for her lovers. This was just one of the exquisite attentions of that remarkable woman.

Our First Glories

But these past glories and, if I may be permitted to say it, the worthwhile beauties of an era now gone. We heard in 1922, that the famous Catherine Hall in the Senate Building of St. Petersburg was looted by robbers and the sterling status of Catherine the Second, valued at 500,000 rubles taken away. The silver statistics taken from Catherine Hall alone were valued at 1,500,000 rubles. The value of the total collection of Russian royal sterling, which has probably gone the same way, is incalculable.
Although sterling silver pieces inspired by Russian originals (except in the case of jewelry) are not exceedingly common in America, much of the art of the magnificent Russian royal collection has been reproduced by way of its English prototype. England, after all, is the mother of modern silversmith, but her attainment to this rank would not have been possible without the patronage of the royalty of Russia and France.
Leftover Cereal—This is the time of the year when leftover cooked cereal tastes very good if thin slices are sauted until a golden brown, then served with syrup or honey. It can also be used in making muffins and hot cakes of various kinds.