Second Section
Eight Pages

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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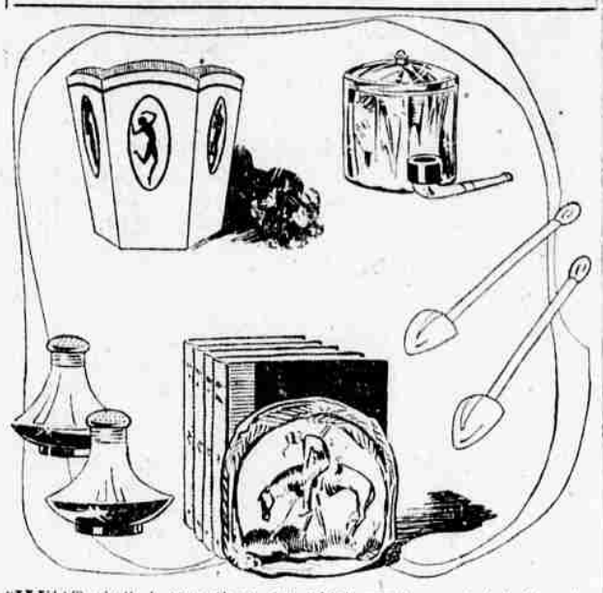
For Women

Irene DeLosh, 325 South Holly St.—Phone 390-L or 75

Some Colorful Gifts For Xmas



"WHAT shall I give them for Christmas?" That is the subject most bewildering at present, because the gifts we make ourselves are always most valued and seem to carry the spirit of the season the best. With this thought in mind, one of the most attractive ways is to give one's friends vases, lamp shades, baskets, picture frames, desk sets, shoe trees, book ends, screens, trays, or whatever seems appropriate, that have been colored and decorated by the giver. With duco, the lacquer finish so widely used on furniture and automobiles, the coloring is easy.

The "pour" finish is perhaps the easiest and quickest. One color is poured over the vase or book end, the residue dripping into a pan beneath. And, while the first color is still wet, the second in a contrasting shade is poured over it. The result is unusually beautiful. A variation is to pour the second coat from a medicine dropper which can be manipulated to give very unusual color schemes.

A "stipple" effect is secured by letting the first coat dry and then, when the second wet coat is put on, dabbing it with a crumpled piece of cheese cloth which allows the first coat to show through in a mottled texture. Another delightful effect can be had by dabbing on the contrasting color with a piece of torn sponge. The more variegated the effect desired, the more shades should be dabbed on.

Then there is another way that produces appealing results particularly with glass and metal objects. It is to dip part of the article in the duco and let it dry and then dip the other part in a contrasting color, allowing the second color to run and merge at the line of demarkation. This gives a lovely two toned look. A pottery effect is secured by daubing on the second coat while the first is still wet.

Guiding Your Child

PETS

By Mrs. Agnes Lyne

Having pets is among the happiest and most valuable experiences of childhood. The child who grows up on a farm and who has a dog for his constant companion and is given a calf or a litter of pigs to raise, is lucky indeed.

For a little child, perhaps a kitten is the best pet of all. From intimate and loving observation Peter learned that a kitten has four feet and that he only had two. He found that cats drink milk by lapping it up with their pink tongues. He discovered that their paws are now tender pads and now sharp needlelike claws. From play with his kitten he learned to be gentle or suffer a penalty. His daily task of giving her a dish of milk was his first experience with responsibility.

Later on when kitty grew and was soon to have kittens, nothing could have been more wholesome than Peter's interest in the matter and his care of her lest he hurt his kitty and her babies. The sight of the kittens, tiny and helpless, cared for by their mother in their soft, warm nest which he had helped to make, was an experience which fixed with its proper associations of tenderness and protectiveness a fundamental human value.

Peter would not have had so much joy of his kitty nor would he have learned so much from her had not his mother influenced his attitude by the example of her own. For almost any experience can be spoiled for a child if the grown up by whom he is guided gives it the wrong valuation. Peter's mother was careful always to treat the kitten kindly, to show interest in its play and in its marvelous little body. She always made Peter feel that the responsibility for feeding his pet was entirely his. She treated the matter of the coming kittens in a perfectly natural and candid way, making no mystery of it and taking the opportunity to give her child important knowledge in a sane and happy manner.

Thus, properly handled, a single experience with a pet will give early lessons in responsibility and kindness and will provide endless opportunities for the observation of natural facts.

When our faith and trust in God are quickened, we shall find that we can be patient and refuse to doubt—in spite of appearances. However great the delay may seem, we can "possess our souls in patience."

Pointers for Parents

A careful study of many of the instances of light or disturbed sleep in infancy will show that such disturbances are frequently solely due to hunger. A great deal of nonsense has been taught about the limited tolerance of babies for their food; with the result that underfeeding of babies is common, whereas overfeeding, against which mothers are solemnly warned, is very rare. The baby who is offered proper food, at reasonable intervals, may be trusted not to overeat. It follows that the idea that a baby should always be made to "cry it out" (whatever that means), when he wakes up at night crying from hunger, is anything but a sound one, from the scientific point of view. This crying indicates a need for food, not for discipline. Such a baby should be allowed to take as much as he will of one night feeding, until such time as he shows that he has no further need of it. This he will eventually do, when he has reached the proper point, by taking sufficient of his last day feeding to carry him through the night.

To avoid constipation children should be given fresh fruits in the form of orange juice, two hours after breakfast, or stewed apples, prunes, figs or dates at supper time. Course cereals, whole wheat bread, vegetables with a good deal of bulk, such as spinach, string beans or carrots, are all foods that prevent constipation. Excessive milk drinking in the older child will cause constipation unless it is very rich in cream. Over-feeding, hurried eating and irregular hours for meals should be avoided.

The sandbox is, without doubt the most popular play equipment for children up to ten years old. The cost of a sandbox is so slight that no child need be denied it. A box 4 feet by 6 feet and 1 foot high is large enough for two, three or even more children. A shelf built at each end of the box will serve as a seat and a "counter" for displaying sand pies. Approximate cost $2.00. Add to this one load clean sand at the approximate cost of $3.00.

Wooden Shelf Edging

One of the newest shelf trimmings is a wooden edging, carved in several attractive patterns, some of which are almost lace-like in effect. This is to be painted in keeping with your kitchen color scheme. The difference in cost between this wooden trim and oilcloth or chintz edgings is, of course atoned for by the fact that it wears almost indefinitely.

Even the misers gold will break down and his soul find freedom if we can get him and keep him in a garden.

Selecting Your Holiday Fowl

Selecting the Thanksgiving or Christmas fowl is as exacting and painstaking an event as the buying of a new dress. The price, the style, the size and the color are all factors to be considered in purchasing of both types.

While looking for a turkey bargain remember that there will be a difference in buying the live and dressed weight. This will vary according to the size of the bird, too. The smaller the bird, the more weight of bones he will have.

Difference in the method of feeding will affect the cost.

Milk fed poultry is the best type. These birds are characterized by fine white flesh, clear white fat over the breast and a distribution of fat over the muscles. There is much oil in the flesh which makes for tenderness. Birds fed on corn have a good flavor, but a darker, tougher muscle. They have yellow fat and thick layers of it under the skin.

Age in ducks and geese is determined by the windpipe. As age advances the windpipe becomes hard and the neck long. A young windpipe may be broken easily in two fingers.

A bird that is hung in position for picking before killing will bleed during the picking process and so is better bled. When poorly bled, the flesh is dark and flabby with blood filled veins.

The best purchase is a dry picked chilled, unwashed, unwet and undrawn bird.

Home Decoration

By Jane Snedicor

Housewives having problems on interior decoration will find this column interesting. Queries may be addressed to the editor of this page, care Mail Tribune.

Query.—Are small scatter rugs better in a living room which has hardwood floors, than one large rug. Mrs. H. L. M.

Answer.—This is just a matter of personal choice or perhaps it is making the most of what one has.

Query.—Are lace curtains necessary? Mrs. N. B.

Answer.—No, it may be a matter of securing greater privacy or of softening the light from a window, or possibly the type of room which you have demands full dress for the windows.

Query.—What is the newest material for card table covers? Mrs. H. G.

Answer. — Glazed chintz card table covers are perhaps the most popular this fall. They are simple and easy to play on.

Query.—How are hooked rugs cleaned? Mrs. L. D. B.

Answer.—Turn them face down and beat them. Then with care they may be cleaned with a vacuum cleaner and sponged off with gasoline.

Query.—What colors may be combined in a room where we are obliged to use blue draperies? Mrs. T. P.

Answer.—Orange and black in small areas. Yellow and violets for larger areas. Gold works out well too.

Household Hints

A wet umbrella should be closed and stood with the handle down. This prevents rusting of the point where the ribs join, and also prevents stretching of the cloth.

Place an egg in a pan of water. If fresh it will lie on its side. If a few days old it will tilt upwards. If stale, it will stand on end. If very old, it will float.

If four rubber-tipped door stops are screwed into the legs of an ordinary chair, it makes an ideal high chair for kitchen work, or for a small child.

Pour hot water over onions, allowing them to remain for a few minutes, then drain and pour cold water over them. Then the skins can be removed easily.

Cut the strips containing buttons and buttonholes from discarded garments and use them under a fly in new garments. It saves time and labor.

A solution of peroxide of hydrogen containing a few drops of ammonia will remove ink stains from the hands.

If food is too salty, place a wet cloth over the top of the vessel which is cooking. The steam will draw the salt into the cloth.

Try binding the forehead with a linen bandage soaked in equal parts of alcohol and the white of an egg, allowing the bandage to remain over night, for wrinkles.

Helping the Homemaker

Freshen baking powder biscuits corn bread and muffins by brushing them over with cold water on all sides and rebaking in a moderate oven for 5 or 10 minutes.

When you have to cover that cake in a hurry, but cover it properly, it would be well to use the following recipe:

Seven Minute Icing. 1 unbeaten egg white, 7-8 cup granulated sugar, 3 tablespoons cold water, ½ teaspoon vanilla.

Place egg white, sugar and water in top of double boiler. Place over boiling water and beat with beater for seven minutes, during which time the hot water underneath is slowly cooking the icing. Add vanilla and beat once again. Spread on cake. This icing is of a good consistency and will not run while spreading.

Cleaning Rice. Put rice in a coarse wire sieve and you can hold it under the faucet and rub until water runs clear. This is much easier than taking from pan to pan to wash.

Prevent Plant Blight. Do not keep your house plants where it is too warm, 60 to 65 degrees is a lot better than 75. They need sunlight and fresh air, but should not be exposed to draughts. Watch out for diseases and pests, spray or syringe them before it is too late. Prevention is much better than cure.

If you want to be happy, begin
where you are;
Don't wait for some rapture that's
future and far;
Begin to be joyous, start now to
be glad,
And soon you'll forget what it
means to be sad.

Which Cheese? When choosing the cheese to serve on the important occasion.

"Sharp cheeses are especially suitable for serving with a heavy meal. Old English, or any well cured cheese of the cheddar type, and the pineapple cheeses are excellent examples. The semi-soft cheeses because of their sharp distinctive flavors are very good. There are three kinds—English Stilton, French Roquefort and Italian Gorgonzola. Camembert and Swiss Gruyeres are two important types that are used extensively at this time of the year. It is also possible to obtain a holiday assortment of several varieties of cheese packed in a box much the same as candy of confections. These are American manufacture, distinctive, delicious, and attractively packed.

Winter Flower Stands. A good type of winter flowerstand, very simple to make, is the stair case type. Stair-tread lumber, rounded on one edge as it comes from the mill, is stout, ornamental and ready to make into shelves by merely cutting three of four planks of a length equal to the width of the sill. Having provided the shelves, it is only necessary to cut twelve-inch boards into lengths for the sides.

Place a paper towel in the sink strainer to prevent grease clogging the pipes.

Cottage Puddings. The choice of a dessert sometimes depends upon the time the housewife has to spend on this particular food. In the case of making cottage pudding a different sauce served on the same pudding makes an entirely new dessert.

A sauce gives the most simple pudding a festive air; so learn to make a variety of good sauces. They are either hard or liquid. The liquid variety have as a basis fruit juice or milk, egg chocolate or caramel.

TO-DAY and TO-MORROW In The Feminine World

Lingerie of New Lines and Material

By EMMA LOU FETTA

"THERE was a time when all those marvelous little garments so dear to Madame's coquettish heart were made of thinnest linen," begins an article for the fair and the chic in a recent issue of one of New York's smartest club-table magazines—one of those magazines which the well-dressed banker, the beautiful actress, the smartest woman's club president and any number of other modish people read. It made us stop and think.

What would our grandmothers have thought in their youth of a magazine for both men and women which boldly described the intimate garments of Madame's coquettish heart? The less worn in such matters the more talk, seems to be the maxim! And the melody lingers on, not because lingerie in itself is such a fascinating subject—tho perhaps it is—but because lingerie today—these modern days—is made with purposes all its own and out of the most modern of modern fabrics. In the first place lingerie is today a form-fitting base—not a fulfillment in itself but the slim, compact base over which Madame's clothes fit as if built on a statue. The day of ruffles is so far away that we have to look the very word up in the dictionary.

Then, too, much water has run under the bridges of the world since linen was the one and only undergarment fabric. Today all but one of the basic threads including linen, cotton, rayon and silk are used. Wool is the only outsider. Chief among the smart lingerie materials are, of course, rayon and silk. Rayon, that lovely scientific yarn, used to be thought of as synonymous with "cheap". Today the smart woman finds it in $25 and $30 pieces of lingerie handmade, sheer, beautiful. Also the smart woman has discovered it in ready-to-wear and yards goods departments of all her favorite "Fifth Avenue" stores in every city of the land. Rayon velvets—those that are panned and those that are called transparent velvets—are the leading materials of the day selling from $9.75 a yard to $22.50. During a recent tour of the shops we discovered that rayon dresses may be had from $35 for example crepe frocks to $300 for imported evening gowns. Well—the world moves on.

A Man's Hands Need Good Grooming, Too

Men are curiously inconsistent creatures. The same man who would blush to be seen unshaven at breakfast, has no hesitancy in appearing at dinner with hands that make others blush for him. Most men give as an excuse that their jobs, or their automobiles, make nice hands impossible, but usually they say it without having given their hands a chance.

Tinkering with the family car and digging in the vegetable garden do soil the hands and nails, but just a few minutes spent in removing the grime will restore them to a presentable appearance. A stiff nail brush, warm water, and soap will remove the dirt on the hands and under the nails, and an occasional use of a hand lotion will keep them from becoming hard and rough.

A manicure improves the looks of any hands. Any man can file his nails and push back the cuticle in a few minutes. He will not only please the ladies of his family by his attention to these manual details, but in his dealings with men he will have the satisfaction of knowing that he can put his hands on the desk without embarrassment. Good grooming, right down to the finger nails, is an asset to a man as much as to a woman in business or in social intercourse.

Bulbs That Bloom in the Night Need More Attention

By Mrs. P. K. DUNNING

'Now the summers' ended,
Winter's drawing nigh,
Earlier each evening
Stars appear on high.'

. . . all of which isn't very good verse, it's just my own quaint little way of saying that the days are getting shorter. 'Well what of it?' say you. 'This of it,' say I. 'You're going to be turning on the lights earlier, and using your lamps longer, and you ought to give the bulbs in them a good, thorough washing.' And if that strikes you as an odd idea it's a mighty good thing we happened to meet just now.

Lighting authorities, in their own sly way, have investigated the matter and discovered that a simply tremendous lot of good light is wasted every year because the light bulbs in the homes and public buildings of the nation are not sufficiently bathed. Some people lose still more light because they don't dust even the lamp shades—but, of course, that couldn't apply to you, could it?

They're So Inconspicuous

Somehow lamp bulbs get tucked away so cozily inside their shades—and it seems such a nuisance to unscrew them back in again—that even the most meticulous housewife will forget all about them. It's hard enough to find time to clean all the things which get up and shriek if you don't give them all the attention in the world. BUT if little particles of dust are permitted to found colonies on your light bulbs, they spend every illuminated hour absorbing light light as fast as they can—which means that a certain percentage of the money you spend for electric light turns out to be just as much fun for the dust!

Light Bulbs Must Be Washed

To get your full money's worth of light from our electric bulbs, dust those bulbs almost as regularly as you do your furniture and knick knacks. And every six weeks or so wash those bulbs in lukewarm water to which a little ammonia has been added, being careful to wet only the glass part. Dry the bulbs thoroughly, and dry your hands well before screwing the bulbs back into their sockets. The whole process doesn't take long, and you will be well repaid for your trouble in the increased illumination clean bulbs will furnish you.

Baths for Brushes

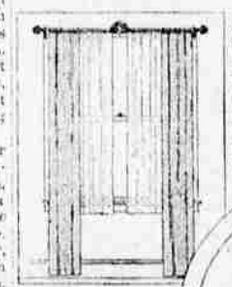
Household brushes require as much care as the objects they clean. If clogged with dust and dirt, they cannot be expected to give satisfactory service. In cleaning any sort of brush, first remove all threads and hairs by cutting with a scissor and pulling them out. Then prepare a pail of hot soapsuds and dip the brush in and out several times. Never leave a brush to soak lest the bristles become loosened.

Replace the sudsy water with a fresh supply when it seems too dark to absorb any more dirt and continue the process until the water is left fairly clean. Rinse in clear, warm water to which a few drops of ammonia have been added. Hang in warm place to dry.

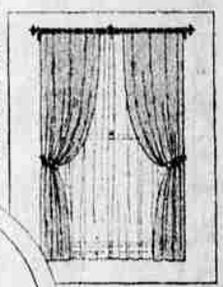
A smooth safety pin for thin or lacy material makes an excellent fodkin. The pin holds the material securely.

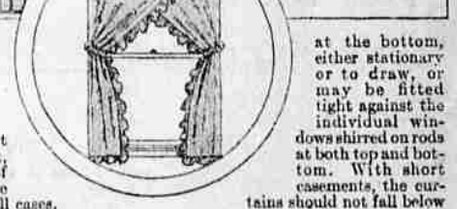
Beautiful windows

BY C. W. KIRSCH



Answers to your individual window and door draping problems can be obtained by addressing the Editor of the "Beautiful Windows" Department. Enclose a self-addressed envelope with your questions. . . We urge our readers to cut this series of articles out for future reference. The suggestions will prove useful.





THE style and length of glass curtains is determined by considering the size and type of window, the amount of light entering through it, the dimensions of the room and the view outside. In all cases, inner-curtains should be hung close to the window.

When it is advisable to shut off the view, or soften the light, glass curtains of closely woven materials are hung to draw to cover the entire window when desired. When the view is interesting and only a moderate light filters through the window, lighter curtains are necessary. Sheer curtains are especially appropriate when draperies are hung over them.

Short and small windows always appear best without over-draperies. Moderate-sized windows can be made to look longer by hanging curtains from the top of the woodwork, or above it, then draping them or permitting them to fall in straight, unbroken folds. Wide windows appear narrower when a part of the frame is allowed to show at the sides and the glass curtains reach within a few inches of the floor.

High windows can have curtains either straight or draped. The height of the window can be cut down by the use of a valance of the same material as the curtains or a decorated wood cornice of liberal depth.

Glass curtains on casement windows may be hung straight from a rod and free at the bottom, either stationary or to draw, or may be fitted tight against the individual windows shirred on rods at both top and bottom. With short casements, the curtains should not fall below the sill.

Glass curtains can be made very interesting by the use of ruffles or bandings. Ruffles and bandings may be of the same material as the curtains or of more colorful material if color is needed to brighten up the room. When contrast is required, plain colored ruffles should be used with figured curtains, figured ruffles with plain curtains.

The various styles of hanging glass curtains are as follows: Dutch-hung, with the upper half in one piece or split at the center and the lower half always in two pieces and drawn back, leaving part of the window exposed; a pair of curtains hung straight or, one framing the window on each side tied back at heights proportionate to the length of the windows; or criss-crossed, two full widths being hung on two rods, then tied back as illustrated above.

When window curtains are hung on draw cord equipment, it is extremely easy to regulate the amount of light entering into the room. This type of equipment offers a further advantage of allowing the curtains to be taken off and put up again without disturbing the drapery hardware. It is always advisable to sew lead weights in the lower hems of glass curtains to make them hang straight.

Do You Know?

For a family of two make the usual amount of pie crust and filling but bake only half of it, and in a large pan. Put the remainder in the refrigerator and two days later have tarts.

It easier to measure shortening for cake or pastry by partly filling the measuring cup with water. That is, if one wants ¼ cup of shortening, fill the cup ¾ full of water and add enough shortening to fill the cup. It's more exact and saves time.

Place lemons in a coffee can and cover. If kept in a cool place they will keep indefinitely.

When a color scheme is desired, use for green and gold a round dip of pistachio ice cream and on each side put a half of a yellow peach. When not particular about the color, add whipped cream, nuts and cherry.

The new vitamine discovered in lettuce and in liver is just another reminder that they are both good foods in more than one way.

Baking Fruit Cake Art of Yuletide

Add to the fine arts of the housewife during the coming holiday season that of producing the perfect fruit cake!

Discussing fruit cakes large and small, fruit cakes plain and fruit cakes turned out to resemble handsomely embroidered pillows the Woman's Home Companion says:

"The baking of fruit cake," is of great importance. Toomuch heat gives a burned taste to the fruit and too short a time in the oven prevents a perfect blending of the flavors and the complete cooking of the center of the cake. The pans should always be lined with heavy wax paper or manilla paper. One piece should be cut to fit lengthwise and come up over the ends and another piece cut to fit crosswise coming up to the top of the sides.

"Oil the paper with cooking oil or unsalted fat, using a pastry brush. Since fruit cake rises very little, the pans may be filled almost to the top. If your oven has a heat regulator you may bake it at a low oven heat. Without the regular it is advisable for a very rich fruit cake to be steamed until it is cooked and then dried out in a very slow oven."

One's Own Youth

The best way to advance in understanding of the problems of childhood is to remember one's own Youth.

Use More Pineapple

Pineapple either fresh or canned is one of the most popular fruits on the market. It is popular from the standpoint of the many possibilities which it has for furnishing variety in the diet. To many housewives fresh fruits mean serving just a dish of it for each individual with sugar and cream. This is one of the most delicious ways of serving fresh fruits, but there are many other possibilities for using them to vary the daily meals.

Pineapple can be used for breakfast, dinner, or supper. For an appetizer, salad, dessert or an accompaniment for meats of various kinds. It is just tart enough to create in one an appetite for other foods.

Because pineapple is richer than most foods in certain acids it deserves special consideration in our daily diet.

Pineapple juice is often recommended for throat trouble and it has proved very successful.

Pineapple is at its best now and they are reasonable in price, therefore, more of this rich fruit should be consumed. For immediate use select those which are a rich golden brown. The fragrance is one of the best tests to detect if the pineapple is good and ripe. If the pineapple is thoroughly ripe the whole crown of leaves can be easily pulled out by twisting.

Every drop of the juice is valuable. Even the parings should be covered with water and allowed to boil in order to extract every bit of juice. This can be used for flavorings, or made into a honey which is very good. The cores should never be thrown away, but added to the parings and the juice extracted.

No fruit can be more highly praised than pineapple and a can of fresh pineapple can be used in many ways and in combination with other fruits since its flavor permeates the others.

Warm Water for Plants

A good way to water the plants from the florist is to set the pots in a tub of warm water and leave them there until the air bubbles cease rising to the surface. A deluge of cold water is such a shock to a plant as to affect its growth. To get the best results, water should be practically of the same temperature as the air in the room.

Unsafe for Husbands

One husband declares that the most malign invention of the modern day is the one which has made the world unsafe for husbands, the invention being retail credit.