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### HOMEMAHERS' COLUMN.

Correspondence on topics of interest to the ladies is solicited. Address: **EDITOR, HOMEMAHERS' COLUMN**, Oxford Democrat, South Paris, Me.

#### Keeping Silver Polished.

HOW TO PREVENT DISCOLORATION—THREE WAYS TO KEEP IT BRIGHT.

"All the table service was of silver and gold." Winifred was reading aloud from the society columns an account of a dinner, and as she read the last item her voice was full of awe. "Think of it, Nan; plates and everything, solid silver."

"I am thinking of it," said Nan, the practical one; "and I'm thinking also that I'm glad I haven't on my hands the cleaning of all those solid silver plates and everything." The flat silver that was given Jack and me when we were married is more than a plenty for me when cleaning day comes around. I like housework, but I do detest cleaning silver."

Many women feel as Nan did; but if silver is cleaned regularly, little time or effort is required to keep it bright and lustrous. The Office of Home Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture gives the following directions on the care of silver:

#### CAUSES OF TARNISH

The tarnish on silver is silver sulphide, and is due to the sulphur compounds in the air where coal and gas are burned, and also in many foods, in wool, in rubber, and in some bleached and dyed materials.

This is the reason silversmiths rarely, if ever, use white cotton flannel for their cases for silver. Dryness prevents tarnishing somewhat; so camphor, which absorbs moisture, is sometimes put into the silver drawer. Silver may be cleaned by the use of certain powders, pastes, and cloths, which clean by friction, by boiling it in a strong alkaline solution, or by a process known as electrolysis.

The materials which clean by friction are fine whiting, jewellers' rouge, and commercial pastes or powders. The non-commercial powders are mixed to a paste with water, ammonia, or alcohol, rubbed on the silver, allowed to dry, and then polished off with a soft cloth, chamol, or a brush. The result is bright, lustrous silver. Prepared cloths, sold under various trade names, also clean by friction. They are usually cotton flannel treated with a cleaning mixture, and are convenient but sometimes relatively expensive.

The alkaline solution for cleaning silver is made by dissolving four teaspoons borax, three teaspoons washing soda, or two teaspoons lye (caustic soda) in one quart water. The silver is placed in an old kettle or pan, covered with this solution, boiled for 10 minutes, and cooled in the water.

#### THE ELECTROLYTIC METHOD

One method of removing the tarnish from silver by electrolysis is the following:

Put an enameled or agateware kettle partly full of water in which has been dissolved one teaspoon of either washing soda or baking soda and one teaspoon salt to each quart of water. Rest this solution to the boiling point, put in strips of aluminum or bright zinc, add the tarnished silver, and boil it. The silver must be covered by the water, and each piece must be in contact with the aluminum or the zinc, either directly or through other silver. When the tarnish has disappeared the silver should be removed from the kettle, washed, and dried with a clean, soft cloth. An aluminum kettle may be used, but it soon corrodes and must be cleaned, as only a clean, bright kettle serves the purpose. The zinc also grows dull and then is less active. It may be cleaned, however, in water containing a little hydrochloric (muriatic) acid, which is very poisonous and must be handled with extreme care.

Silver cleaned either in an alkaline solution or by electrolysis lacks luster, which cleaning by friction gives. It may be made bright, however, by a little rubbing with a soft cloth or chamol.

#### Many Cooking Uses for Fruit Juices.

The juice of such fruits as the grape, currant, blackberry, strawberry, raspberry, elderberry, and cherry makes delicious, wholesome drinks. Fruit juices also may be canned and made into jelly when it is wanted during the winter. Winter jelly making relieves the pressure of work during the hot and busy fruit season. Sugar need not be added until the juice is served or until the jelly is made.

The following directions are given by the United States Department of Agriculture: Extract the juice by boiling the fruit with a very little water and strain through a jelly bag. To prepare the juice for canning pour it into bottles or jars which have been boiled for 15 minutes. Put these on a false bottom in a hot-water bath. This may be a commercial canner or a container large enough to hold sufficient water. The water should reach the necks of the bottles and the shoulders of the jars. A cotton stopper may be pressed into the neck of the bottle and left during the processing period, or a cork, after being boiled, may be put in tightly. If jars are used as containers put boiled tops in place and half seal. Process for 30 minutes at the simmering point. Remove, put stoppers of bottles in tightly, and when cool dip the top of the bottle into melted paraffin or sealing wax. Equal parts of rosin and beeswax make a good wax. Finish tightening the tops of the jars soon as they are removed from the bath. Test for leaks and store in a dry, dark, cool place.

Aside from their use in making jelly and as a base for home-made drinks these fruit juices are excellent for use in gelatin, sauces, ice creams, sherbets, and other desserts. Those which are to be used in this way will have a better flavor if sugar is added before they are bottled.

#### Use Peas and Beans at Times.

Beans and peas contain more protein than other fresh vegetables. This protein, however, is not the same as the proteins of meat, milk, or egg, food specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture say, and should not be used to the exclusion of the others. When, however, beans and peas are freely used, less meat, milk, and eggs are needed. The following foods or combinations of foods supply as much protein as one fourth pound of beef of average composition:

Eight or nine ounces of shelled green peas or beans. A large dish of green peas may be used in place of meat for dinner occasionally. Many persons like peas cooked with mint or served with sauce.

One egg and 4 or 5 ounces of shelled green peas or beans. An omelet with peas (1 egg and 1 cup peas per person) or a baked pea or bean soufflé may be used as a meat substitute.

One cup skim milk and 4 ounces of shelled green peas or beans. A Lima bean shepherd made with skim milk is a good lunch or supper dish.

#### Keeping Aluminum Bright.

Aluminum does not tarnish easily in ordinary use, but one caution should be observed in cleaning. Alkaline discolor aluminum; therefore it should not be washed with strong soap, nor should scouring powders containing free alkali be used on it. Discoloration on aluminum may be rubbed off with whiting or the steel wool (grade 00), or dissolved by the acid in vinegar, or by dilute oxalic acid. These acids must be thoroughly washed off the aluminum. Some special preparations for cleaning aluminum are on the market.

To Wash Colored Fabrics: In order to preserve the delicate colors in wash fabrics, select a warm, sunny day. After the dress has soaked in salt water, if this is its first wash, I quickly wash it, hang it on a wire coat-hanger, and stretch it to the shape of the dress. The dress may be pulled into shape, and if stretched downward will shrink very little. The warm breeze soon dries it.—Miss N. M., Ky.

He who can win and keep the love of a little child must be much to worry about in this world or the next.

# Which Business Would You Build?

Suppose a man came to you and said:

"I will pay you 8 per cent on your money if you will invest it with me. I want to enlarge my business in Pennsylvania and help Pennsylvania to prosper. Will you invest with me?"

And another man came and said:

"If you will invest your money with me, I will give you a fair rate of interest on it—6 1-2 per cent, and with it will enlarge my business right here throughout OUR OWN STATE. The enlargement of our business will help OUR STATE to prosper, lower your taxes, bring factories and shops here and will help YOUR TOWN to prosper and thus will put money in your pocket."

## WITH WHICH ONE WOULD YOU INVEST YOUR MONEY?

If the building up of Maine and your town and your business interests you, why not invest in Central Maine Power Company 7 Per Cent Preferred Stock, issued to finance the development of water powers and the extension of lines. This development should increase the commercial and industrial prosperity of Maine.

The price of the stock is \$107.50 a share. The yield is 6 1-2 per cent net.

If you are interested in the future prosperity of Maine, why not send the coupon?

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### WILL BE BOON TO INVALID

Independence, Comfort, and Exercise All Provided in New Chair Proposed by Electricity.

A new era of independence, comfort and exercise is promised to invalids in an electrically-propelled chair that is now being made by a firm of surgical engineers in London.

In appearance it is little more than a very comfortable, luxuriously-upholstered bath chair or invalid's carriage. The propulsive motion is electricity. It is silent, travels a distance of over twenty miles on a single charge and has four speeds, ranging from a crawl up to five miles per hour.

The control is said to be so simple that any person, no matter with what disabilities, can sit in the carriage and start right away, and it is fitted with reverse on all speeds. It is only necessary to hold the steering lever with the left hand and gently push over the controller handle with the right hand. The use of the carriage renders an invalid independent of chair man or attendant, and the cost of upkeep is said to be trivial.

One Millionth of an Inch. Steel gauges accurate to the incredible fineness of a millionth part of an inch are now being made in quantities at the United States bureau of standards. So extraordinarily precise is the method of manufacture, simple as it is, that in one instance 31 finished gauges out of a lot of 38 were absolutely accurate to .000,001 inches, and the balance all within .000,002 inches of precision, says Popular Mechanics Magazine. The gauges are steel disks.

Maplewood Sympathy. Many a wife dusts the billiard chalk from her husband's coat and sheds tears of sympathy because of the late hours he must spend at his desk close to a whitewashed wall.—Exchange.

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**To Clean Dark Paint.**  
To make shabby dark paint look like new, mix equal parts of linseed oil and vinegar together, then rub evenly over the woodwork with a soft rag, and polish with a soft duster. If linseed oil is not obtainable, ordinary salad oil is very good, but it should not be used for white paint.

**Genius Always Envyed.**  
Such is the destiny of great men that their superior genius always exposes them to be the butt of the enviousness of darts of calumny and envy.—Vintagers.

**Not So Wise.**  
Neither is it the wise guy who makes the wise buy.—Dallas News.

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Can use all kinds farm produce in small quantities. Early apples in barrel or barrel lots, also some live poultry. Making regular trips to Berlin every Tuesday and Friday. Write or phone. J. W. S. COLBY, South Paris.

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Man to work on farm for seven months. Small rent could be furnished if wanted. Address A. B. C., Democrat Office, South Paris.