

FOR INFANTS' HANDS

GENTLE MASSAGE PREVENTS THICKENING OF FINGERS.

Simple Manicuring Should be Begun at Birth—Sharp Knives or Scissors When Used Injure the Nails—Filing at Least Once a Week. During the first week, or even the first month, it is difficult to treat babies' nails or fingers, because they are so tender that a slight pressure sometimes causes pain, says an authority in the New York Telegram, but the work should begin without delay, and by using warm water and soap, cold cream and cocoa butter the chances of bruising either is greatly lessened.

Wash the hands in warm water and soap and when thoroughly dry rub cold cream or cocoa butter around the sides, beginning at the right and working across, always with a downward pressure, so that the cuticle as well as the nails will be well covered. The cream should be put on with an old piece of soft silk or linen. If this is carefully done each night before a little one is put to bed, the nails should be strengthened and shaped to the fingers by the treatment.

As to massaging the fingers, it must be done very lightly. The skin should be covered with cocoa butter before the gentle rubbing is started. While the flesh is permeated with this oily substance stroke each finger several times from the tip down the palm of the hand, using the thumb and first or index finger. Begin from the top and massage downward on either side of the nails then repeat, smoothing the back and front of the fingers. The best time is just before the infant is put to sleep, so the oils will stay on all night.

When the tiny nails grow above the tops of the fingers break them off carefully to keep the infants from scratching and perhaps bruising their flesh. Teasing of the tender nails should be done slowly and gently, beginning at the right side and working across, following closely the shape of each finger. The nails are so brittle and delicate that it is difficult to prevent their splitting while working on them. Once a week is often enough to remove the ends that grow above the flesh.

Never cut babies' nails. A sharp knife or scissors will really ruin them by giving a coarse, heavy appearance that is not desirable, and once they become thick and broad, as "cutting" almost always makes them, they remain that way for life.

Hats of Distinction. It isn't the hats themselves that have air and distinction this season; it is the way they are worn. This applies always more or less, but never was it so true as now, when



tilts and angles must suit the face, or else they will be grotesque, and when each line means something.

As a matter of fact, the whole secret of a successful hat this season is in the tilt. To find one set squarely upon the head is next to impossible, but the precise angle at which it is set is not one about which generalities can be indulged in.

The illustration shows a chic French beaver cloth with trimmings of silver roses and white aigrettes.

HOUSEHOLD SUGGESTIONS.

To beat whites of eggs quickly, add a pinch of salt.

A few drops of lemon juice makes cake-foaming very white.

Sprinkle powdered clover about to drive away red ants.

Use alum water freely for chills.

A little flour put over the top of a cake will prevent the icing from running.

Sprinkle with hot water and whisk brown.

Bliss tomatoes will remove ink spots.

Molasses will remove grass stains.

Baths in rum and powdered alum to relieve poison caused by ivy.

Scrape a raw potato and place on burn.

For scratches use equal portions corn meal and red lead mixed with molasses and spread on plates placed in their burns.

For scorch-bling kerosene throw

the Modern Maiden.

Granny has been having a

time of it the last few years,

and the advent of cycles and the in-

DRAINING THE EVERGLADES.

Vast Areas in Florida Becoming Available as Garden Land.

The department of agriculture is especially interested in the project now on foot of draining the Everglades. These half-flooded swamps to the south of the huge pond known as Lake Okechobee are to be converted into dry and productive land by constructing dikes and pumping out the water—an achievement which, when carried into effect, will bring about the shipment, a dozen years from now, of immense supplies of tomatoes, new potatoes, cabbage, string beans and other fresh garden produce to northern markets all through the winter.

It has even been suggested that Lake Okechobee might be drained by connecting it with the Atlantic ocean by a canal 50 miles long, thus redeeming 600,000 additional acres of first class farming territory.—Outing Magaz., e.

Men Are in Majority in the U. S.

Taking it "by and large," the male sex is in the majority in our country by some 1,638,321, according to a recent census bulletin. In some of the states, however, the women exceed the men in number, notably in the District of Columbia, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Usually men are in excess in sparsely settled communities and women in thickly populated regions; cities, for example, as a rule have more females than males. In the later years of life the women exceed the men, which seems to indicate that they are longer lived. In the period from 16 to 26 years of age, also, the reports show them to be in excess.—Success Magaz., e.

King Alfonso's Body Guard.

King Alfonso is perhaps more securely and carefully guarded during the hours of darkness than is any other European monarch, except, perhaps, the sultan of Turkey. For four centuries the slumbers of successive sovereigns of Spain have been watched all night by the "Montañas de Espinosa"—a body of men to whom is relegated the exclusive privilege of guarding their monarch from sunset to sunrise. They must have an honorable military career, and be natives of the town of Espinosa. Ceremoniously, they lock the palace gates at midnight, opening them at 7 the next morning.—London Tatler.

Hospital Cars in Prussia.

The Prussian ministry for railways has placed at every important railway center throughout the kingdom a magnificent built and appointed car for the transport of sick persons. These cars have been specially fitted up from plans supplied by sanitary authorities. Spring seats and every medical device for the alleviation of sufferings during transit have been utilized. There are ice safes, gas stoves for cooking, rooms for attendants and ingenious devices for muffling the sound caused by the motion of the train. It is not intended to make these carriages pay; they have been instituted chiefly on the ground of humanity.

England's Best Known Church.

The name of St. George's, Hanover square, seems to be well known to every American who comes to England, says the London Chronicle, not so much because it is the fashionable "marriage church" in this country, as because President Roosevelt was married in it. A few years back an American dropped into the vestry and looked up the marriage register, in which, under the date of Dec. 2, 1886, he found the signature of "Theodore Roosevelt, 28, widower, ranchman," and that of "Edith Kermit Carow." Till then even the clerk, J. Molecy, did not know that the American President's signature was in the book.

Japs the Yankees of the East.

The Japanese traders, officials, soldiers and workers are pushing irresistibly into Manchuria, and now that the war is ended the Yankees of the east will guide and instruct the Chinese and dominate them and their markets. It seems likely that, without any Chinese boycott whatever, American industry will be put to the test to compete on fair terms with the Japanese before many years have elapsed.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Number of Feet a Second.

Few men could tell if they were asked how many feet per second they walk. A press photographer, whose work required him to know all manner of speeds, said the other day: "The average man walks four feet per second. A dog on its ordinary jog goes eight feet a second. A horse trots 12 feet a second. A reindeer over the ice makes 26 feet. A racehorse makes 43 feet. A sailing ship makes 14 feet."—Chicago Chronicle.

Large English Families.

A report of the awards made by the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society to farm laborers who bring up the largest families without having received parochial relief shows that eight men are fathers of 124 children. One of the men had 20 children born, brought up 17, and placed 12 out in the world.—London Tit-Bits.

London's Consumption of Ice.

London uses in one way or another quite 200,000 tons of ice a year. Although a great deal of ice is made artificially, most of that consumed here is natural and Norwegian. The Norwegian ice crop in an average winter varies from 500,000 to 600,000 tons. At least half of this comes to the United Kingdom, the rest going to the continent.—Tit-Bits.

If you tell a woman that a 50-cent article is worth \$1.50 she will cheerfully give you \$3 cents for it.

ATTENTION TO WARDROBE.

Makes Clothes Look Better and Last Longer—Hints on Cleaning.

Don't be careless in putting on and taking off or in putting away your clothes, as much of their beauty and life depends upon their care.

After removing a dress remove all extras in the way of beauty pins, jabots, flowers, etc., that are not a part of the dress and permanently attached.

Variety is not the only reason why it is best to have changes. It is real economy, as clothes need rest.

It is economy, says the Philadelphia Telegraph, to buy good clothes, but not extravagant. Care keeps good material and well made clothes in shape, poor ones will not respond even to good care.

All clothes keep in shape better if properly folded and padded. In putting away waist the sleeves and bodice should be "stuffed" with crumpled tissue paper, and the sleeves crossed over the bodice and the wrist part turned back. Skirts should be laid flat on a table with middle of front and middle of back folded, and then folded back and forth (fanlike), and then folded once from top to bottom, if necessary; but it is much better if skirts can be put away full length. Never turn a skirt inside out to fold. This may be all right when hung.

Nothing else makes a dress look so untidy as spots on the goods. These spots are most frequently found on the front of the waist and skirt as if from fruit, ice cream, etc., but the lower part of the skirt will sometimes show spots from mud spatters, and the sleeves from almost anything of a liquid nature with which they come in contact.

One of the best agents for cleaning spots is soap bark jelly. This is made by dissolving a handful of soap bark in a quart of boiling water and letting it cool.

To clean the garment lay the spotted portion over a folded towel and rub the spots gently with a damp cloth dipped in the jelly. With another cloth and clear water wash off the jelly, dabbing it gently with the wet cloth and changing the cloth under it. Rinse with another clear water and a clean cloth, then let dry in the air. When nearly dry, cover the place with a thin cloth and press with a moderately hot iron.

A dress skirt or waist that has lost its first freshness may be improved by a good brushing and sponging. After every bit of dust has been brushed and shaken out, clean any spots that may be found, as directed, then sponge one portion at a time and press it with a cloth between the material and the iron. Use white cloth for light goods and black for dark ones.

IN COOKING FISH.

It should not be exposed to fierce heat and at all times it must not be put into cold water or into a cold oven. There are, however, exceptions to this rule. Salmon, if just caught should be put into cold water and brought gently to the boil, but the general rule is to put fish into warm water, bring the water slowly to the boiling point and then let it simmer.

For cooking purposes we divide fish into three classes: 1. Oily. 2. White 3. Shell.

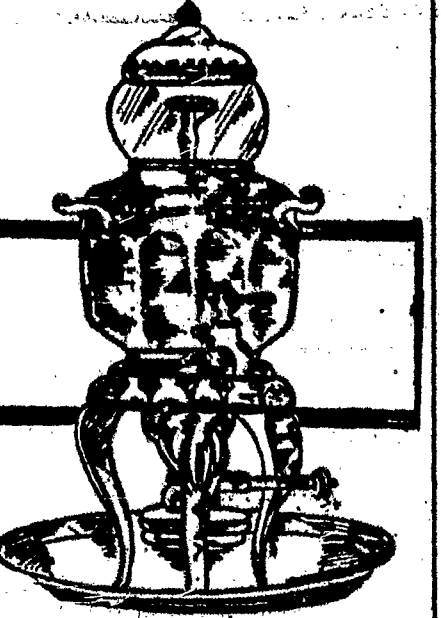
The oily fish are those in which oil is found between the flakes. This gives the fish a darker color, makes it more nourishing, though not so digestible as the white fish. Examples of oily fish are salmon, mackerel and eels.

White fish are those in which most of the oil is stored up in the liver. This gives the fish a white appearance and makes it more digestible, so is generally the best fish for an invalid. Example:—eel and flounders.

Shell fish—The most common of this class of fish are oysters, lobsters and crabs. On some people shell fish act as a poison, producing a rash and nausea.

Making Coffee at the Table.

One of the most attractive of the many varieties of coffee pots introduced for improving flavor, and obviating necessity of making coffee in one pot and pouring it into another



before sending to the table, is the one shown in the illustration. The coffee is placed in the upper glass bowl and the tank, under which an alcohol lamp is burning, filled with water. As the water boils the steam arises into the bowl, extracting the strength of the coffee, without losing any of the aroma.

We read of a Western woman lawyer who beat a brother lawyer in an important case and then turned around and married him.

ANCESTORS MADE TO ORDER.

Fakir Genealogists Thrive With Growth of Latest Fad.

Of recent years not only among the wealthy but among the well to do, there has grown up a desire to know one's ancestry, a desire which has been fostered by the growth of patriotic societies requiring a Revolutionary ancestor or one who fought in the Colonial wars. Here is where the professional genealogist comes in. One of these fakirs said in defence of his trade: "Well, what would you do? The newly rich man who wants a pedigree and is willing to pay for it, wants a first class one with kings and nobles in it—and I give it to him. He may have come from a long line of peasants—in all probability did so descend—but if I gave him his real pedigree he would kick me out of the house. If I can, by hook or crook, carry his line back to his first ancestor in this country the rest is easy. Once on the other side of the water with Battle Abbey Roll, Doomday Book and Burke's Peerage at my disposal, my fancy takes free range and my client gets his money's worth."

Another way in which the weakness of human nature is shown is by the assumption by Americans to coats of arms to which they have no right whatsoever. The manager of one of the carriage manufacturing establishments in this city, in reply to a question as to where he got the coats of arms which he placed on the panels of the carriages of his wealthy customers, said: "Oh, it is this way. A customer comes to me—it is generally the woman of the family—and says: 'I would like to have our coat of arms on the panels of our new coach.'"

"What are your arms, madam?" I ask.

"Oh, I don't exactly know. Haven't you a book that tells?"

"Certainly, madam." And I take down Burke's Peerage or General Armory and turn over the pages to, let us say, Smith, Smith, Sir Robert, Irish baronet, I read.

"Oh, no, that's not it," says my fair customer. So I look further.

"Smith, Baron Gravesend," I venture.

"Well, perhaps that is it."

"I turn over a few more leaves: 'Smith-Vavasour, Duke of Billingsgate.'"

"Oh, that is it!" cries the delighted customer, and on to her coach doors go the arms of the noble Duke of Billingsgate with whom, ever after, the whole family claim relationship.—New York Mail.

COST OF BILLIARD BALLS.

Owing to Scarcity of Ivory Price Doubled in One Year.

Every billiard player knows the delicacy of the ivory ball. Every man who owns his private table knows, also, the great cost of these balls, due to the difficulty in securing the ivory from which they are made. The product from which the best balls are cut and polished is found only in the tusks of elephants, although ivory dentine is obtained from the tusks of the walrus as well.

Because of the qualities essential in a properly prepared billiard ball the dentine found in the finest kind of elephant tusks is the only kind that is used in their manufacture.

Owing to its scarcity the price of billiard balls has steadily increased, those of the regulation size, 2 1/2 inches, having advanced in price from \$3.50 to \$16 in one year.

This increase in cost is not due to a trust in ivory or in ivory balls, as the manufacturers themselves have been as anxious as anyone to secure some material which could be substituted for ivory in the manufacture of good billiard balls.

The regulation ivory billiard ball has, as billiard players know, great susceptibility to atmospheric conditions. Sometimes the balls are "quick" and respond promptly to "English" and the slightest touch of the cue. At other times no amount of skill can prevail upon them to work properly. When a set of ivory balls is moved from one place to another the experienced billiardist knows that they must not be unwrapped or taken out for three days. If they are exposed to the new atmospheric conditions they "catch cold" and are likely to crack or chip.

Thankful for the Car.

Superintendent Foster, of the New Orleans Street Railway Company, formerly with the Boston and Northern at Salem, tells the following story of the days when "spotters" were much in evidence on the cars:

A young fellow who had charge of one of the Salem Willows cars during the rush season was suspected of more than ordinary "knocking down" says the Boston Herald. He turned in his trips at the Salem office, and the cashier, who was aware of what was going on, said "Thank you." Next trip he turned in still less, and the polite cashier thanked him again. The next trip he brought in still less money, but the cashier was there with his smiling "thank you."

"What the deuce are you thanking me for?" asked the conductor.

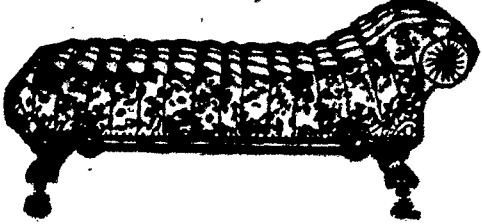
"For bringing in the car," replied the cashier.

The test of excellence applied to Japanese swords years ago was very rigid. It was to suspend the blade horizontally, edge upward, under a tree, and a good weapon was expected to cut in twain any leaf that fell upon it.

Japan's annual tobacco crop is about 40,000,000 pounds.

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