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Manicure That Precious Antique

By Nora Workman—Home Furnishing Expert

"WHATEVER" became of that lovely old chest of drawers and that beautiful old walnut daybed we used to have out in the back yard at home? They must have been split up into kindling!

At this point the modern homemaker sighs and the second-hand merchant (pardon me, I refer to the antique dealer) grits his teeth. How little we appreciate these heirlooms in the past and how we would love to have them now to refinish ourselves and to use in our best rooms!

True, just because a piece is old does not necessarily prove it to be worthwhile. To be worthwhile, a piece of furniture must have three essentials; good lines, good wood and good construction. However, many really worthwhile pieces have been resurrected from the attic, the basement, the back porch, the hay loft—yes, even from the kindling pile. With a little time, patience and a considerable amount of "elbow grease" or rubbing these have been changed from ugly old black pieces to beautiful articles of furniture of which anyone would be proud.

Moreover, it is such fun to "do" them oneself! First, have any necessary repair work done and next remove the old varnish or paint. Sometimes there are many, many coats of either or both to remove, likely scraped off down to the original wood. Scraping may be accomplished by the use of a putty knife, or a piece of steel or glass. Scrape with the grain of the wood, not against or across it. Hold the scraper at an angle of about 45 degrees, using even, steady strokes. Now wash the surface clean with benzine, dematured alcohol or gasoline, according to the brand of "remover" employed, and allow it to stand until dry.

As the next step, smooth the surface with sandpaper, first using coarse and lastly fine sandpaper, rubbing with straight, firm strokes in the direction of the grain. Again wash with benzine or gasoline to remove any fine particles of dust.

Spots, unless they have been absorbed too deeply into the wood, may often be removed after the sandpapering process by a solution of one teaspoonful of oxalic acid to one pint of water. If this bleaches the wood, the color may be restored by the use of weak ammonia.

If one now wishes a darker color, a stain may be applied until the desired color is obtained. Many times, if the

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"Prep Dorm" Has Vivid History

By Madge McClade—Director of Housing

FORTY-FIVE years of evolution to rise from a "Ladies' Hall" to a Freshman Dormitory! Freshmen girls who this fall "set up housekeeping" in Mary B. Welch Hall may look back upon almost a half century of development in women's dormitories at Iowa State College.

In the year 1887 President W. L. Chamberlain wrote an urgent appeal to the Board of Trustees begging for a "Ladies' Hall." The request was not granted until 1895. Then the president's report included the following: "The erection and completion of the Women's Building works a new era in our advancement. It is designed with choice architecture, composed of bricks, roofed with slate and finished with taste. It occupies one of the most salient locations on the campus, giving the most pleasing outlook to its occupants. It tones for the better our entire college life. It is named "Margaret Hall" in honor of Margaret McDonald Stanton, whose estimable life and character were given in large measure to building and moulding the college through a greater part of its early history."

In 1912, when it became apparent that Margaret Hall could no longer accommodate the ever increasing number of women students coming to the campus, a committee composed of a number of prominent faculty and campus women was appointed to find proper housing accommodations for these young women. The personnel of this committee is little changed today. Its group has worked unceasingly through the years to build up a splendid campus home for our women students, who come from many parts of the world. As a result of their efforts, the cooperation of the president and the generosity of the State Board of Education, Iowa State College has a system of housing for women that is probably
it was smart and because older women that you knew were doing it. However, after you had persistently plastered up the pores of your skin for a few years and refrained from using good cleansing soap and water, you found that the freshness and beauty were gone, that it was necessary to stimulate it.

"Your diet is most important, too. If you want your face to look alive and fresh and beautiful, you must eat things that are alive, fresh and beautiful. Sugars and fats are not alive. They come from dead things, killed before they are ever used. However, milk is alive; and lettuce, cabbage and fruit are alive and beautiful. Of course, a certain amount of fats and sugars are necessary, but they should be so completely surrounded by live, fresh things that they never will be able to reach your face.

"The use of cosmetics dates back for ages, when it was discovered that men were attracted by women who blushed readily. Those who were beyond the age of blushing began to simulate blushes by using the juice of red berries on their faces. It wasn't long before men began to commercialize this desire, and cosmetics became an item of trade. But even back in earliest days, few men were ever fooled, and all through the ages it has been the greatest riddle for men to solve—why women will smother the life out of their lovely skins and cover them with paint, thinking they are making themselves attractive."

I am almost tempted to follow the program as he outlined it for me. Exercise violently every day; follow it with a shower; wash your face with pure soap and warm water, rinsing it with cold; eat lots of cereals, fruits and vegetables; leave off every variety of cosmetics and give your skin a chance to breathe.

Maybe I will become attractive to men; that's what Dad says we women are all striving for. Anyway, I am going to try it, and I am sure of the fact that if everyone would, I couldn't win so many hats.

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previous work has been very harsh, it is necessary to apply a filler in order to fill all the pores of the wood and make a smooth surface for the finish. A liquid filler should be used for close grained woods such as cherry, red wood and maple, and a paste filler for open grained woods such as mahogany, walnut and oak.

We must now decide what sort of a finish to use. If the wood has a lovely finish (Continued on page 9)
Why Buy Baker’s Cakes?

By Nellie Goethe

Big cakes! Little cakes! And each one is decorated with delicately colored frostings. Of course, you may buy cakes at the pastry shops, but the ones I will tell you about are the real home-made kind. They taste ever so good, and are very simple cakes with professional touches.

When you make the cake you may ornament it in the way which is most suitable for your own party. Perhaps, it is a birthday cake or a Christmas cake. Again, it may be a cake for a St. Patrick’s or a Hallowe’en party; and speaking of Hallowe’en, the time for witches and pumpkin faces is almost here.

Tiny little cup cakes made of plain cake and frosted with an orange icing will look like pumpkin faces if you drop melted chocolate for the eyes and nose and make a streak of chocolate for the mouth. Or round chocolate cookies with orange icing and the pumpkin face made with melted chocolate are very nice to use for children’s parties.

But the Hallowe’en witches must not be forgotten in planning cake decorations! The witch may be made of melted chocolate on the center of a large cake, and just outside the “reach” of this wicked witch may be placed some glaring pumpkin faces. Pastry tubes are inexpensive and easy to use, so with the colored frostings, anyone can give a professional touch to even a simple cake.

Shamrocks and high top hats in St. Patrick’s colors are suggestive of a March party. April showers suggest umbrellas for the April party. Per May, a May pole cake is very appropriate. A long piece of stick candy in the center makes a glistening May pole to which tiny ribbons may be attached. If the icing is tinted, a very pretty color scheme may be worked out with the colored ribbons.

A painted finish may be applied to those pieces of furniture which do not have an especially interesting grain or the grain of which has been badly marred or stained. For the first coat use flat paint. When the flat paint is thoroughly dry, apply one or two coats of good enamel or lacquer.

Painted furniture is very much in vogue now and certainly a multitude of sins are covered by paint. But don’t ever be guilty of covering with paint a piece of furniture with lovely grain.

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(Continued from page 7) grain, an oil finish, or an oil-and-wax finish combined, gives a soft, pleasing luster and can be easily patched if scratched or marred. A dull varnish or shellac finish protects the wood best, but when scratched, it cannot be patched, and the whole surface must be done over. The oil finish acts as a sort of dressing to an old piece of wood out of which the natural oil has evaporated. Raw linseed oil may be used for this. Apply not one coat of oil, but many, rubbing until all the oil is rubbed in or rubbed off. Twenty-four hours should elapse between applications of oil. After the last coat of oil is rubbed in and thoroughly dry, one may apply a wax finish, if desired, although the oil alone is satisfactory.