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Preparing to Meet the Linen Needs of Bridedom

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Preparing to Meet the Linen Needs of Bridedom

By HELEN PASCHAL

THE feeling of security and well-being which a chest of household linens gives to the heart of a housekeeper is a possession second in importance only to the home itself. The bride who comes to her new home well provided with table linen. This feeling seems to be an instinct of woman-kind. When she marries, the bride has the same love and desire for beautiful linen. The her granddaughter has luncheon sets and doilies about which grandmother knew nothing. The twentieth century bride could use perfectly well the same linens, and the price is often the only difficulty in selecting real linen. There is a certain joy to the heart of the modern woman may make, follow:

1. Sulphuric acid test: Boil a sample of goods to be tested in concentrated acid for sixty seconds. Linen threads will weaken. Cotton will be entirely destroyed.
2. Caustic Potash: Heat sample in strong solution for two minutes. Linen will turn brown and cotton pale yellowish in color.
3. Ravel the sample and break the threads. Fuzzy ends denote cotton, while linen threads will have pointed ends.

The bride will find many beautiful designs in table damask. She will find both pattern pieces sold in certain lengths with center designs and small all over designs on linen sold by the yard. The latter kind wears better than the large figured designs since large figures expose too long surface threads that are more easily destroyed. Because of these long threads they are also harder to iron evenly.

Though the yard damask has no border across the ends, it is almost as good looking since carefully wrought French hems across the ends give it a finished appearance. The bride's mother or grandmother may have many beautiful linen luncheon sets in all styles, the same love and desire for beautiful linen. The modern modern woman may make, follow:

(1) The atmosphere in America is too dry for weaving linen.
(2) The atmosphere in America is too dry for bleaching properly.

(3) It takes four to six times as many workers to produce linen as cotton. With America's high wage standard, this would make the price of flax prohibitive.

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put into the construction and her cleverness in arranging and decorating the interior helped to cover the less beautiful spots that to Paul had seemed uncoverable. She so carefully and tastefully decorated the rooms in quiet, restful colors that they do not become monotonous, even tho' they are constantly in sight of the two.

A detailed account of the expenses follow:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Camp Dodge house</td>
<td>$ 60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving house onto lot</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basement excavating labor</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chimney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roof</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumber for exterior and interior</td>
<td>155.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumber for exterior and interior nishing, doors and windows</td>
<td>185.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenter's labor</td>
<td>24.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kellastoned exterior and partial labor</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical installation and fixtures labor</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumbing, labor and fixtures</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous labor</td>
<td>185.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$1259.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The house has been used just one year and is warm, comfortable, convenient and spotless. The house is the heart of a modern apartment and the privacy of the separate house. Who would forego the pleasure of owning your own home and miss all the joys of planting your own flowers, shrubs and even vegetable garden? Ask the owners!
four are all the cover that is necessary for the table.

From unbleached muslin, Indianhead, or part linen materials may be made square luncheon cloths, hemmed about the edge with long stitches in colored floss or French knots in thread. Conventional designs to be found in any woman's magazine may be traced or drawn in the corners and worked in long stitches. Several stranded cotton embroidery floss will not fade when washed without boiling.

Border or inserts of fine colored ginghame in plain or checked designs are sometimes used for attractive trimmings. In this case unless fine materials are used for both center and trimmings, the materials should be shrunk to insure smoothness after laundering.

For damask table covers silence cloths are necessary. They serve the double purpose of deadening the sound of silver and china and of improving the appearance of the table. A combination silence cloth and asbestos protective pad may be purchased with additional sections for the enlarged table when extra leaves are added. Heavy napped material in different widths may be bought by the yard at department stores. Mats for hot dishes may be necessary on thinner silence pads, tho if the pad is too thick they may be undesirable. The only requirement is that the table surface must be smooth when the cloth is laid over the pad.

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Canning Without Mother for a Helper

By CARRIE PLUNKETT

"CANNING—such an old, old story!"

Yes, but so is cooking, sewing, cleaning, washing and any form of housework. But just so long as the supply of housekeepers is replenished in quantities, so long will there be women who have questions about housekeeping subjects.

The bride wants to be economical and to help her husband make his fortune right away, so what can be a better way to help than in doubt she got along beautifully. But, oh, there are so many things she is not just sure about, now that she is dependent upon herself, and has no private telephone connections with her mother.

What kind of questions does she ask? They are many.

What is the best type of jar to buy?

Personally I like a glass top jar with a wire top for sealing. It is easy to handle when filled and less is good to be filled at one time and again until it is broken. However, the screw top and vacuum seal styles may be used with safety, provided the lids and rubber rings are whole and good.

How can one tell the best rubber?

Before buying a rubber, take one from the box and give it these tests. Pull it twice its length, bend together as if making a crease, then twist one side several turns. If it comes back to shape, after this treatment, it is a good rubber. If it does not, it is not safe to trust, and another kind should be tested.

What equipment is essential?

Equipment for home canning need not be elaborate. A flat bottomed vessel with a cover, tall enough to hold jars in a vertical position, and a rack or false bottom, to hold them away from too close contact with the fire, are needed for sterilization. Then the blanching vessel for hot water into which the product is lowered for scalding, and a vessel for the cold dip may be pans or kettles used regularly. A jar lifter, a paring knife, a paring spoon, a spoon for washing jars, a wire basket or muslin sack for blanching, a paring knife and a paring spoon complete the list of essentials.

Is it necessary to sterilize the jar beforehand if the product is to be cooked in it?

If the product to be canned is cooked less than 30 minutes, the jar, lid and rubber should be sterilized first. If longer than 30 minutes is required, then washing and sealing are sufficient.

Should the vessel in which the product is being cooked be covered?

Always, as much of the flavor is lost thru the steam.

What should be done if the rubber slips out from under the lid when the jar is being sealed?

If the rubber stretches and slips from under the lid while sealing the jar, remove this rubber, put on a new one that has been sterilized, return the jar to the hot water bath and boil five minutes longer.

Why does the jar lose liquid when cooking?

Jars lose liquid in cooking if they are filled with cold instead of hot liquid; if the liquid is not "padded" well around the product; if the product is insufficiently blanched; if the water in the sterilizing vessel does not cover the top of the jar, or if the lid on the jar fits too loosely.

Will the products keep if the jar is not full or should more material be added to fill the jar?

Canned products will keep, if properly sterilized, even tho the jar is not full. If after shrinkage, more material should be added, it would necessitate complete sterilization. Water need not be added to fill a jar after sterilization since there is no special need for preserving water.

Is sugar always necessary to keep fruits? Has it always to be used? Is salt essential to keep vegetables?

Salt is added to vegetables for flavor only, as is sugar to fruits, tho both, because of their osmotic pressure, keep the product in better shape and color. The syrup considered standard is two measures of sugar and one of water, and is the most extensively used. This is sweet enough for acid fruits and may be made with less sugar for the more sweet fruits.

How long should different products be boiled?

The following time table for blanching and sterilizing in cold pack canning is given in bulletin No. 41, Agricultural Extension department, Iowa State College:

For safety, add 30 minutes to the boiling time given for asparagus, beans, greens and peas.

When should one begin to count time?

Count time when the water is at a jumping boil and keep it boiling constantly for the time given. If undercooked, the product will not keep while if overcooked, it may lose its flavor, color and texture.

Why do glass jars sometimes crack up on being removed from the hot water bath?

A hot jar often breaks because it is suddenly exposed to a cool draft, and the contraction of the surface of the glass causes the crack or break. It should be protected from any cool air currents while and immediately after it is being removed from the water.

Should the lid on a screw top jar be tightened after the jar has cooled?

Be sure that all seals are perfect while they are still hot, but do not tighten the lid of a screw top jar after it has cooled, as to do so would break the seal.

Is it true that canned goods should be stored in a dark place?

Always store jars in a cool dark place since intense light will cause the product to lose its color.

Exceptions will necessarily arise in every home, but a few general rules, one that has been tried and proven most satisfactory, will act as a guide to any new or doubtful home maker. Always is there mother or some kind friend to whom she may go for advice in extreme cases, and experience will prove the best help of all. Even burned fingers and a few failures are small items when compared to the glory of helping either the brand new or the substantial less-new husband in his efforts to fortune-find.