

HOME-CRAFT GLEANINGS

By "GADABOUT"

At Your Service.

If you are needing information or advice regarding electrical equipment, "Gadabout" is here to help you. Correspondence will be welcomed. Replies will appear in the next issue that goes to press, or sent by post if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed, so do not hesitate to write.—"Gadabout," "Radio Record and Electric Home Journal," P.O. Box 1032, Wellington.

Saving the Women

A DOCTOR told me last week, in all seriousness, that there is no doubt that home electric appliances are saving—not making pleasanter or easier, mark you, but actually saving—the lives of the women of this country. He was referring particularly to washing machines and the various forms of electric cleaners, which do away with the two forms of drudgery which have probably taken the heaviest toll of womanhood in the past.

For the Mere Man

AN overseas paper gives a necktie hint which seems worth passing on. It states that ties wear longer and keep fresher if, when putting the tie in the collar, it is reversed (tab outside) and the wide end, still on the right, is brought under to the left, then over once, and up through the middle and down. The knot is less bulky but quite neat and also easier to adjust without straining and creasing.

Toast at Ease

THERE is now no need to eat toast that has become half-cold on its way from the kitchen, for electric toasters have nearly reached the perfection stage, and can be operated at the breakfast table. One, indeed, will, by the adjustment of a small pointer, toast to any degree required, lightly, golden brown or well-toasted, and needs the minimum of attention, tossing the slice to the top of the toaster when done.

Bath Comfort

"LAZINESS," it is said, "is nothing unless well carried out," and I suspect that for every one of us who conscientiously performs "the daily dozen," there is a large army who prefer to linger in a comfortably hot bath. A deliciously comfortable rubber cushion is now obtainable which can be clapped on to any part of the bath, adhering by suction, which will support the head and neck, while the body remains under water. Bath comfort, indeed!

Lengthening Tresses

IF you are letting your hair grow, by the time it reaches the straggly stage, the condition in which it seems to stay so long, you will probably be envying those of our sisters whose locks are naturally wavy. If you are not one of the fortunate ones, there is an electric curling iron which will do all you ask it. It can be ob-

tained to produce a fine or broad wave (the broad, deep ones, of course, look the most natural) and can be fitted with a comb, which dries the hair perfectly after shampooing, setting the waves at the same time. The cost is not prohibitive and works from any heating point.

Electric Vacuum Cleaners

ALL are good, some are better, and nearly all will polish floors, keeping them in perfect condition. The newest models are light to handle, in-

larger than a pistol, for cleaning upholstery, dusting mantelpieces, shelves and furniture. Your husband would be pleased with this to clean the car.

Washing-Machines

THERE is now a multiplicity of choice. Some have self-adjusting wringers attached, others will spin the clothes to wringer-dryness, or even dry enough to wear or put away. In size, too, they range from those sufficiently small for an apartment to those large enough to take the washing of a large

in profitable occupation, recreation or leisure. Further, no wet clothes to handle, and no water to lift or carry, as the machines are filled by a hose, and are self-emptying.

Do it Yourself

ONE of the big stores is showing specimens of tapestry wool-work on canvas, just like those our great-grandmothers used to produce, except that they are in more harmonious and softer colourings. They make gorgeous covers for seats of stools, chair-backs, etc., and would redeem any room from the ordinary. The ready-worked ones are necessarily somewhat expensive, but there is nothing to prevent even the needlewoman of only average skill making them for herself. If you write, I will tell you where canvas, wools and designs can be obtained. They really have a most old-world air.

Stiffening Dark Chintzes

IT is often difficult, after washing dark chintzes or printed calicoes, to get them to the right stiffness and to get a finish on them again. Try putting a piece of glue about the size of the palm of your hand, broken into pieces, into saucepan with a gallon of rain water. Let it boil over a fire until the glue is melted, then turn it into a large pan and leave it until it is only luke-warm. Put the material into it and stir it about until it has taken the glue-water. Squeeze it well, open it out, and dry as quickly as possible. Then sprinkle it evenly and iron as quickly as you can. The even damping and the quick ironing make all the difference to the finish.

Bleaching Lingerie

PURE white lingerie is coming into its own again, and as some may have had some put away, while the coloured garments have been "le dernier cri," you may like to know of the following way of restoring them to their original purity of colouring. After washing and boiling, let the garments lie all day in excessively strong blue water. Lay them out all night on the grass if possible to dry. Next day boil again with soap, but use no soda or blue. Rinse well and you will be delighted with the result.

At a Discount.

SUMMER has lagged so far behind that the big shops have decided to drastically reduce their prices to clear their stock, and now is a favourable opportunity to get together a wardrobe for the hot days that we must still surely have to come. Be prepared!

... Gifts ...

*Give me for joy: the tossing of the trees,
The flowers dancing, waving in the breeze,
The sun full-shining, sky cloud-flecked and blue,
Spring in her beauty, all earth born anew.*

*Give me for praise: the carol of a bird,
The full, sweep rapture of a skylark heard
Soaring in Heaven; and the rippling note
Of gladness pouring from a robin's throat.*

*Give me for love: the light in children's eyes,
The little clinging hands, words quaint and wise;
The confident affection of the old;
Patience to listen to a tale oft told.*

*Give me for wealth: the gold in every flower,
The gleaming diamonds after summer shower;
A mind wherein is fullest treasure store
Of thoughts and fancies, yea, and wisdom's lore.*

*Give me for friend: one who will understand,
The warmth and comfort of a friendly hand,
Someone to walk beside me in the way,
To share my hopes and fears, my work and play.*

*Give me for peace: the sense to know Thee near,
To have, whate'er befall, no hint of fear;
A perfect trust, knowing full well that He
Who sees the sparrow fall cares more for me.*

—Gladys R. Mead.

expensive to work, and will keep an average-sized home in a state of immaculate cleanliness with expenditure of less time than it takes to thoroughly sweep one carpet in the old-fashioned way and with far less wear-and-tear to carpets and upholstery than is caused by beating and brushing. Moreover, no dust is raised to be afterwards collected or wiped away. One firm shows a particularly fascinating little model, not much

household at one or two operations. If the would-be purchaser is inclined to consider the initial outlay excessive, it should be taken into account that the machines can be operated from any ordinary heating point at an infinitesimal cost (far less than that of the fuel for an ordinary copper) and that the whole operation is completed in from 20 minutes to half an hour, leaving the rest of the time usually devoted to washing-day, to be spent