

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.

Preserving a Husband

AN American paper called "Daily Grind" gives the following advice:

A good many husbands are utterly spoilt by mismanagement.

Some women keep them constantly in hot water.

Others let them freeze by carelessness and indifference.

Some keep them in a stew by irritating words and ways.

Others roast them.

Some keep them in a "pickle" all their lives.

It cannot be expected that any husband will be good and tender if managed in that way, but they are really delicious when properly treated.

In selecting a husband you should not be guided by the silvery appearance, as in buying a mackerel, nor by the golden tint, as if you wanted a salmon.

Be sure to select him yourself, as tastes differ.

Do not go to the market for him, as the best are always brought to your door.

See that the linen in which you wrap him is nicely laundered, with the required number of bottoms tightly sewn on.

Tie him by a strong silk cord called "comfort," as the one called "duty" is weak.

Make a clear, steady fire of love, cheerfulness and neatness. Set him as near this as seems to agree with him.

Do not be uneasy if he splutters and fizzles, for some will do this until they are quite done. Add a little sugar in the form of kisses, but no vinegar under any circumstances.

A little spice improves him, but must be used with judgment.

Do not stick any sharp instrument into him, to see if he is becoming tender, but stir gently, when necessary. You cannot fail to know when he is done.

If thus treated you will find that he will be agreeable to you and keep as long as you want, unless you become careless and set him in a cold place.

For the Handy Man

AN electric soldering iron is an absolute boon to the amateur mechanic. It does away with the trouble of the tinning constantly burning off, and the continual need of replacing the iron in the fire. One can be bought for alternating or direct current for any voltage for a few shillings.

The Motorists' Paradise

BEFORE a football match at Pasadena, in California, the authorities swept the streets with a big, portable electric magnet, to ensure puncture-

proof (and consequently unobstructed) roads for the thousands of cars travelling to and from the city. The magnet succeeded in collecting several suckfuls of nails, tacks, and pieces of scrap iron.

Make them Last

THE life of bathing caps and shoes can be greatly prolonged if, after each wearing, they are washed in lukewarm water, and thoroughly dried. They should then be dusted over with talcum powder, and kept in a dry, airy place.

first of all mend any holes or tears and sew up the mouths of the outside pockets not provided with flaps. Then in a large bucket of soft water put half a pound of sugar of lead (acetate lead), and the same quantity of powdered alum. Stir at intervals until it becomes clear. Then pour it off into another bucket, put the garment in, and allow it to remain for 24 hours. Then without wringing it, hang it up in the shade to dry, and then give it a good brush. The total cost does not exceed one shilling, and it is invaluable for outdoor work in bad weather.

ling. It is a good plan to gently place your hands over their ears and play and talk to them at the time to mitigate the noise and distract their attention.

Answers to Correspondents

"JAMMY."—I think, "Jammy," that you probably cook your jam either too long or at too high a temperature, which makes it syrupy and a bad colour. After it has come to the boil it should not be allowed to do more than gently simmer, until it jellies quickly. Will you try again and let me know result?

"SCYLLA."—It is annoying to have an otherwise good cake turn out a bad shape. The reason of it rising in the middle and not at the sides is usually that the sides of the tin, or paper round the tin, have been too heavily greased, and it is too much uphill work for the cake to climb the sticky surface. Try leaving the sides of the tin ungreaed to give the sides of the cake a fair start with the middle. Another help, when placing the mixture in the tin, is to pile it higher at the sides and dented in the middle.

"XERNES."—Soak the corned beef overnight in cold water, and next day when you wish to cook it, put it on in boiling water to which you have added a tablespoonful of vinegar; cook very slowly never letting it more than simmer, and I do not think you will again complain of its being hard and too salt, "Xernex."

"THRIFTY."—Yes, your old ginger-jar will make a lovely table-lamp. A china-riveter will bore a hole through the bottom of the jar, through which the cord can pass; then if the jar has no lid, have a small round wood block fitted, with another hole for the cord, and on this block a lampholder. Treat yourself to one of the new parchment shades, and you will be delighted with the result.

"MUSICIAN."—Yes, that painful glare can be eliminated. Particulars have been sent you of the ideal form of piano, or, rather, music lighting. It is fixed at either the top or the bottom of the music stand, lights the music and the music only. It is something on the same principle that one sees for reflector lighting in shop windows, only a smaller scale.

... Love ...

(From the French of Boufflers).

"Oh, Love's a fause, deceitful loon,"

Fu' often said my mither—

"Though fair his face, an' plump an' roon'

He's waur than ony ether!"

I made believe to ken richt weel,

And fear't na that sae wee a chiel,

Could put me in a swither!

Yestreen I saw young Jamie Broon

An bonnie Jean thegither!

He spak tae her sae soft an' lown'

They smiled on ane anither.

He spak' o' some, sweet, pawkie chiel,

The very same—I kent richt weel—

Wha frichtit sae my mither!

Tae bring the mystery tae an' en',

Nae longer will I swither;

I'll seek for Love wi' Willie Glen,

An' never heed my mither.

An' e'en should Love turn oot a deil,

We needna' fear sae wee a chiel—

The two o' us thegither.

—J. L. Kelly, 1876.

Saving Laundry

DO you know the felt-backed tablecloths that are made of oil-cloth, but yet look like damask? They can be wiped with a damp cloth and need never be tubbed. There is, too, a new waterproof checked gingham that can be wiped clean and even ironed when creased. It makes charming curtains for the breakfast nook or bathroom.

Storm-proof

IF you want to render an old coat impervious to the heaviest downpour,

Hats!

THE right "off-the-face" hats seem to have come to stay. At least, they have the advantage of being really new, but I prophesy that the backs will become shorter as the season advances to avoid rubbing against furs and fur collars.

Trains and Tunnels

THE roar of trains passing one another and entering tunnels often terrifies sensitive children when travel-