

IF you want to look really smart wear a tailor-made suit. This year they are most fashionable in shades of nigger-brown and dark oatmeal, and they should be worn with darker coloured shoes and bags to match. The gloves and stockings should match the suit.

TO make starch always seems an effort, so why use it when there is a labour-saving substitute? Would you like to know the secret? Well, I'll tell you what I do. I use a dessert-spoonful of methylated spirits to each quart of water, and I use it in the last rinse only. This does more than stiffen; it also gives a gloss and brightens the colour. Try it next time instead of starch, and give your opinion of it.

THE latest eccentricity of a St. James' restaurant in London is green beer, the colour of creme-de-menthe (says a London daily). Surprisingly enough, this exotic liquid comes from an old Scottish brewing firm in Edinburgh from which nothing could be more orthodox. It tastes exactly the same as ordinary beer, and is, I believe, dyed with red cabbage! I suppose that, conversely, if you used green cabbage you would get red beer!

A DELIGHTFUL New Year or birthday present which can easily be made at home is a picnic basket. Buy a luncheon cane basket which fastens with a rod, and paint this blue, or any colour you prefer, inside and out. Then buy for it pretty paper napkins to match, and cardboard tumblers and plates. Then ask your chemist to supply you with very small bottles for salt and pepper, a larger one to hold sugar, and a still larger one for milk. To make your gift more attractive and artistic paint the glassware with a bright Cubist design, which can be traced on by using red carbon paper. The complete present will be very inexpensive.

IF you are so unfortunate as to get tar stains on your best silk stockings, try treating them with an organic solvent such as benzine, carbon-tetrachloride, or xylene. Rub the stain thoroughly, and then wash it in hot soapy water. If the stain is very hard, rub a little lard into it as thoroughly as possible, leave for an hour or two so that the lard can soften the tar. Then give it an ordinary washing. Repeat several times if necessary.

SUCCESS in baby welfare depends greatly on punctuality and diet. Both are secrets of success where nursery life is concerned. You will notice that the modern healthy baby is not given soppy milk foods which are detrimental to its teeth and digestion, but instead it is given hard crusts and rusks. A one to two-year-old child



should be given for breakfast buttered toast, barley jelly or strained porridge. The mid-day meal should consist of vegetables, with potatoes and bread-crumbs mixed with gravy, and milk puddings. To vary this menu, egg, fish, custards, baked apples, junket, fresh cream—never forgetting spinach—make excellent health producing food. Stewed liver should be given now and then, as this is invaluable as growth food. With the care, study and thought that is being given to the first years of a child's life, it is no wonder New Zealand produces such a fine healthy type of men and women.

NOW that we have at last some real sun to burn and brown us we at once begin to think of some protective measures for the complexion. One of the best of these toilet aids is cucumber cream, and it very easy to make. Use six medium-sized cucum-

bers which still like a touch of the fantastic, there is a new design of cut-glass, on which quaint figures are engraved by the revived method of flint-cutting, each glass having a different figure. Or again, colours appearing to be woven into the glass in waves and lines produce a rather attractive effect, particularly on centre bowls and vases. This is achieved by actually weaving bands of colour round the bowl while it is still soft, and the subsequent melting into the glass gives a lovely blending of colour. This very modern glassware is turned out by one of the oldest firms in England, which goes to prove that English business firms are not so conservative as one is generally led to suppose.

THERE are very few people know what a wonderful difference it makes to bacon or ham if you soak it in milk overnight, before cooking it for break-

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Laziness grows on people; it begins in cobwebs, and ends in iron chains. The more business a man has to do the more he is able to accomplish, for he learns to economise his time.

—Judge Hale

bers and clean them well with a damp cloth. Cut into slices about one-third of an inch thick, and put these with six ounces of oil of sweet almonds into a jar. Stand the jar in a pan of cold water, place on a stove, and bring slowly to boiling point. Simmer for four or five hours, and then strain the juice out through a muslin cloth. To each 6oz. of the liquid add 1oz. of white wax and 2oz. of lanolin. Boil up the water in the pan and place in it the jar with the cream mixture. Stir well until all the ingredients are thoroughly mixed. Remove the jar from the hot water and keep on stirring rapidly until the cream sets.

THE present-day beauty parlours are aiming to give their clients a clear, transparent skin of glowing health. The healthy open-air look is being cultivated by means of "mud-pack" treatments. Perhaps now the sun has appeared this will no longer be necessary.

THE newest designs for glassware, especially for the table, follow the simplest lines. Grotesque shapes have given way to dignified, almost austere, designs. At dinner the other evening I saw a beautiful set of decanters, claret jug, glasses and finger-bowls, all in the palest shade of golden amber, set off by table-mats of delicate lace. For

fast the next morning. It makes it deliciously tender and also takes away any over-salting that may exist.

THE plumber's shop window has become a thing of beauty. One does not pass by now without stopping, for some of the modern wash-hand basins are most attractive. They are not only to be had in white, but in primrose yellow, blue, green or pink. To match these, fascinating fittings can be procured, such as porcelain shelves of the same colours. These basins with chromium-plated taps, or enamelled taps to match, make quite an artistic accessory in the bedroom and a great improvement on the old-fashioned washing-stand. In all the modern hotels these basins are superseding them also.

ONE glance at the railway signalling school which has been opened by the London and North-Eastern Railway Company at York would settle any boy's mind that the ideal life is that of a railwayman (says a correspondent in the "Daily Mail"). Here, set out in every detail, not only with signals and lines and points, but working signalling apparatus and the latest electric signalling lights, is a model railway true to scale. Although it would be a boy's heaven, it is serving the useful and serious purpose of teach-

ing railwaymen to use the most modern signalling methods. By electrical connection with a model engine it is possible to stage emergencies caused by weather or accidents. There is also a fully equipped signal box working in conjunction with four other boxes, and instruction is given in fixed, hand and detonating signal working during fog, working station yards or level crossings, and such emergencies as out-of-gauge loads. There is also technical training with full-sized points and signals. The whole apparatus has been built by railway experts.

A NEW nursery fashion in children's presents this year (says a writer in the "Daily Telegraph") are unbreakable, stainless, washable and heat-proof trays with famous nursery tales told in pictures and words engraved upon them. Princess Mary bought two, one a Cinderella tray and the other illustrating six nursery rhymes.

THOSE of you who have tweed skirts, of which the coat has shown signs of wear sooner than the skirt, will be pleased to know that it is again fashionable to wear plain cloth coats with the tweed skirt, but you must remember to have a belt for the coat of tweed to match the skirt, and points of tweed inlet on the sleeves and collar.

DISCUSSING the effect of electricity on commerce, an English writer states that the British Electrical Development Association has more than justified its existence. The excellence of its results is obvious to all—results which have been brought about by very extensive and skilled advertising. It has made better lighting possible and thereby assisted commerce, for a brightly lit shop is its own advertisement. By so doing they increase the output in a hundred other industries, thereby improving the labour market. More consumption of current means more labour in the coal, chemical, and engineering

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