

Coffee Break

By Adeline Daley

One thing I've noticed about those household hint columns in which readers send in suggestions, you never read whether any of the suggestions might have gone awry.

I just washed a pair of "machine-washable" living room drapes, following the instructions to the letter of adding a cup of powdered milk to the rinse water to "keep the sheen and give them body." I don't know if it's her fault or not, but I wished she'd given me some kind of warning. It isn't that the drapes aren't full of sheen, but they are no longer drapes. They're cafe curtains.

In an ambitious mood I also washed the slip-covers from the cushions of a chair. I'll have you know that I removed every stain from them. They look like new. Now if only somebody would give me Judo lessons so that I could put them back on.

In a similar vein I managed to wash a pair of my husband's slacks so that those "annoying lint marks wouldn't appear." There isn't a piece of lint on them, but he now has Bermuda shorts.

Nor do any of the articles ever warn what may happen when you follow their instructions, for example, in removing those "unsightly smudges" behind the stove in the kitchen. The suggested cleaning solution always works. (It's liquid T-N-T, isn't it?) But you wind up having to wash the entire kitchen, because along with the few unsightly smudges, you remove half of the paint. Thus you can see exactly where you've cleaned—and more unfortunate—where you have not.

Of course, you could always follow the Phyllis Diller school of housecleaning which has you explaining cobwebs as "your son's science project," but if you want more practical, down-to-earth suggestions, may I present a few time-proven ideas of mine:

A blanket thrown over a couch will conceal all of the frayed spots.

Buy plenty of pictures to cover holes and marks in the walls. Since they will have to be hung low, explain that you are encouraging your children and their little friends to appreciate art.

To camouflage a cigarette burn in a tablecloth, place a dish filled with Preserved Cauliflower or Pickled Turnip Greens over the spot. Nobody will ask to have them passed.

Instead of apologizing over each piece of your furniture, refer to them as antiques, even if you have to call them "Early Montgomery Ward."

Always invite company over after sunset. Use low-voltage light bulbs.

Lock rooms you don't want anyone to enter by explaining that you've just varnished the floors. Hire a maid.



There IS A Santa Claus

Children hospitalized throughout the holidays were not forgotten at the Harbor General Hospital. Santa took time out to pay them a visit, there was a holiday buffet, and toys galore. Party arrangements and the buffet were handled by the Volunteers for Children and all party expenses were paid by Local 2 of the Welders Union in Hawthorne. Here, Santa (Norman Adams) holds two-year-old Cheryl Atkinson, as he talks with Maria Barba, 4, from Mexico, who is spending her first Christmas in America. (Press-Herald Photo)

Breakfast Club Notes Yule Season

The Cota Avenue home of Dr. and Mrs. Oscar Fussum was festive in the holiday decor last Sunday evening when the couple entertained the Breakfast Club at its annual Christmas party.

A punch bowl and hors d'oeuvres were enjoyed, followed by a Christmas dinner.

Gathering around the Christmas tree, club members held a gift exchange. A Christmas "postoffice" was provided for a greeting card exchange.

Fred Bever, president, conducted a short business meeting.

The Fussums' guests for the evening were Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Bingham; Messrs. and Mmes. Fred Bever, Fay Parks, Elmo Miller, Vince Villenave; Mmes. Florence Childs, Mary Lewis, Myrtle Morse, R. E. Moffitt; and Mr. Ben Reddington.

Election of officers will be held at the club's next meeting on Jan. 7 at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Bingham.

Egyptians are believed to be the first to discover the process of glass blowing.

Local Club Treats Head Start Pupils

On Friday afternoon 36 pre-school children in a Head Start Class in Inglewood enjoyed a Christmas party given by the Torrance Welcome Wagon Club. Under the leadership of Mrs. Dennis Kirk, welfare chairman, and Mrs. Kenneth Klossner, president, the club has sponsored the Head Start class throughout the year. At Friday afternoon's festivities, each of the youngsters received toys donated by the membership.

The Head Start Class meets at Woodside Methodist Church, 1713 W. 108th St., Inglewood. Mrs. Jean McKnight is the teacher.

A mirror on the ceiling of a closet lets you see what's on the shelf without climbing up on a chair.

Sewing Club Has Annual Yule Dinner

The Sewing Club, comprised of long-time friends, was entertained at its Christmas dinner party last Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. R. A. Bingham. Co-hosting with Mrs. Bingham was Mrs. Frank Paour.

A cocktail hour was enjoyed, after which guests were seated at a large table decorated with poinsettias and red candles.

After dinner, a gift exchange was held.

With the hostesses for the gala party were Mmes. Emma Roberts, Dorothy Rojo, Irene Hopkins, John Melville, Harvel Guttenfelder, Mae Sherfey, J. W. Post, George Probert and Roland Waldeck.

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CAROLYN BIRKS ... Stewardess

Local Girl Wins Wings With Delta

Miss Carolyn Birks, a graduate of North High School in Torrance and former student at El Camino Junior College, has "won her wings" and is a stewardess with Delta Air Lines.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Birks, now of 1439 Davon Lane, Houston, Texas, she completed the four-week training course at Delta's Stewardess School at Atlanta Airport and is now proudly wearing the chic uniform and cap of the nation's fifth largest airline. From her base station of Houston, she will fly to many of the 60 cities served by Delta in 22 states, including California, the District of Columbia, and the Caribbean.

Hawaii Vacation

Mrs. Alma Peeler has returned to her Torrance home following a vacation in Hawaii where she was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Prewie.

Bethel Attends Church, Pays Tribute To Queen

Officers, members, and friends of Bethel 36, International Order of Job's Daughters, attended church as a part of the Bethel program. Miss Kathy Hallaian, honored queen, led the group to the Wayfarers Chapel in Portuguese Bend.

Shows Host Open House

A festive Open House was given by Mr. and Mrs. Stan Shaw, 2514 W. 177th St., on Saturday evening, Dec. 23. At midnight, a holiday buffet was served to the 30 guests attending the party.

The appearance of nice looking furniture can easily be spoiled by spilled drinks, accidental burns, scratches, and water marks. This need not be the case, however. Glass-topped furniture always presents that "just new" image, and gives a luster that can be maintained indefinitely.

Clarks Vacation In S. Carolina

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Clark, of Palos Verdes Peninsula, returned recently from a two weeks vacation in Charlotte, S. C., where they visited Mrs. Clark's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Childress.

During their stay, a family reunion was held at which five generations were present. The honored guest was Mrs. Clark's 87-year-old grandmother, Mrs. Ada Craig.

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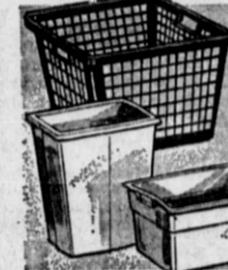
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