

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., Feb. 2, 1900.

FARM NOTES.

—Apple trees do not bear full crops until ten years old or more. A tree twenty years old will produce from 25 to 40 bushels of apples. A pear tree 15 years old should produce from 20 to 30 bushels. A peach tree four years old should produce from 4 to 10 bushels. The tree may not do so well in some sections, so much depends upon the variety and also the care bestowed.

—The fruit grower who expects to have fair crops of fruit must begin with the use of insecticides early. He must not delay too late into the spring, as the first spraying is sometimes the most important of all. Paris green will not destroy the enemies that live on sap nor will kerosene injure those that feed upon the leaves. In using remedies, therefore, it must be done with an object in view and with a knowledge of the habits of the parasite or insect to be destroyed.

—If the wheat does not look well after spring opens apply 100 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre, and the effect will be noticed immediately. Nitrate of soda always gives good results on wheat if applied in the spring, and many crops have been saved by its use. The cost of the nitrate should not exceed \$2.50 per acre, and the increase of straw and grain will not only pay for its use, but leave a profit. It should be applied in the form of a top-dressing, and the frost throw some of the wheat plants up use the roller as soon as it can be done.

—A hole in the granary, through which the grain would be lost, would not be allowed to exist very long after its discovery. A hole in the stable through which the cold air enters and chills the animals, causes a loss of grain just as surely as a hole in the granary, as more feed will be required to assist the animals in maintaining warmth. It is the things that are unobserved which sometimes cause loss. When the flow of milk is reduced, or the animals do not make gain proportionately to the food allowed, there is always a cause and it should be sought.

—Some of the best farms in Pennsylvania have been brought to the highest degree of fertility by the use of clover, lime and manure. The farmers who have accomplished such results have aimed to save every pound of manure, and also to preserve it in the best manner. Lime is used extensively by those who know that lime is an essential ingredient of plants, and also because it is excellent for increasing the clover crop. Clover enriches the land by promoting the supply of nitrogen in the soil, hence lime and clover make an excellent combination.

—Every farmer knows that when a mild spell of weather occurs in winter the hens begin to lay, and then cease when the temperature is low. This fact demonstrates that warmth has much influence on laying, and that warm quarters are essential to egg production. When the hens can go on the fields in spring and forage, they secure a large amount of insect food. During the winter a substitute for such food may be allowed in the form of cut bone, ground meat, fresh meat and a change of grains. Corn and wheat make excellent foods during cold weather, but a variety of foods must be given in order to have the hens produce eggs.

—Sod land that was plowed last fall will cause considerable trouble this spring if it is not properly turned over that is, if the sod was not completely inverted. It should be plowed again in the spring and then worked well with a disc harrow. The disc harrow should be used again just before corn is planted. Unless the grass has been destroyed there will be sufficient growth on some fields to make the young corn. The best mode of reducing sod land is to plow the land in July and seed it to Hungarian grass, which will kill out the natural grass. The field can then be plowed in October, or sooner, if preferred.

When cattle are shipped from the farm the greater portion of the weight is water; that is, one half of the materials composing the body of a steer is water. If the remainder could be reduced to ashes there would be about 44 pounds from 1000 lbs. weight of the animal, the balance being lost during the process of burning by escaping into the atmosphere. A 1000 pound steer, therefore contains 500 pounds of water, or about 25 pounds of nitrogen, 18 pounds phosphoric acid and 2 pounds of potash. These estimates are not exact, as to be shown is the fact that in the selling of cattle there is but little loss of potash, while the 18 pounds of phosphoric acid and potash is in the bones but a small proportion of the cost of the steer, being worth about one dollar. The 25 pounds of nitrogen would cost about \$3.50. Lime, salt, soda, sulphur, chlorine and other substances also exist in the bones of animals, but it may be safely claimed that \$5 will cover the total loss from the farm, in plant food from the soil, for a 1000 pound steer sent to market.

—Liquid manure. One reason why liquid manure is so much advocated is its genuine efficacy. This is a good time to speak of the matter for the reason that the blooming season of pot hyacinths and other bulbs is at hand, and these are much benefited by frequent doses of liquid manure. A convenient form to apply it is to make a three-inch flower pot full of cow manure and mix it in a large garden can of water. Dilute this by the same amount of fresh water and apply twice a week. An ounce of nitrate of soda dissolved in four gallons of water is said to be a quick and good liquid stimulant for bulbs, but for this the writer cannot vouch by personal experience. In applying liquid manure to bulbs the time to begin is when the pots are filled with roots and flower spikes are visible. Seeds of peaches, walnuts, acorns, and the like, should be in the soil now. If the planting was neglected in the fall, that treatment may be approximated by burying them at this time in moist earth packed close to the seeds, and after keeping the boxes in a cool cellar for another month put them out where frost will moderately penetrate the soil. In the spring they should be planted in rows three or four inches deep. Where individual trees of the oak or walnut are wanted an excellent way of obtaining them is to plant the seed where wanted. Keep the soil of the spot tilled, driving stakes to indicate the place. At first when the seedling comes up the growth may seem slow, but several chances to one you will have a large tree sooner than if you waited and set a tree eight or ten feet in height.

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FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

If you would be a respected and successful business woman never allow yourself to accept a personal favor of any sort from a business acquaintance, said one of the kings of the financial world. You cannot tell when it may seem an obstacle in the way of independent action. Be courteous and affable with clients always, but limit your conversation in so far as possible to the definite business in hand, reserving the discussion of all outside matters to the domain of your social life.

A pretty decoration for a valentine luncheon table is a diamond shaped mirror mat for the center of the table. Upon it are outlined two large hearts, which are most effective in red carnations. The broad parts of the hearts should meet in the center. The name cards may then be heart shaped and the same design carried out in other accessories of the luncheon.

The smart girl has a way of her own to stand, sit, walk, pose, lift her skirt, pause for a chat in the street, or put on her gloves. All these things she does artistically and, therefore, as the result of deliberate purpose and practice. Examples of "how not to do it" are so frequent that the observer is apt to conclude there is only one way to hold up a skirt, and that is the hit-or-miss grabbing at any spot most conveniently within grabbing distance, until you meet the smart girl! Then she stands out among all the multitude of skirt grabbing femininity as a shining example of just how the thing should be done.

The smoothly fitting skirt is held about five inches below the belt and is raised upward so that the skirt facing clears the mud puddles by two or three inches. By taking the skirt directly in the middle of the back every part of the hem is raised uniformly, and no part can possibly touch, unless it be the front breadth, and even that is lifted half an inch or more by the tug from the back. With shoulders back, chest out, chin up, and a correct carriage, this cast of voice of the skirt does not detract from the figure's grace.

Another way in which you can distinguish the smart girl is by her walk. A great many women have a sloppy carriage; they let their hips sag and break. Have you never seen a woman who stands with one hip higher than the other, as though one limb was shorter than the other? Such women walk like jointed dolls, first one hip goes up and then goes down, a regular saw movement of the body from the hips down.

The smart girl always keeps the body in the center, and the line from the forehead runs down as though it were a plumb line. The upper part of her body goes first, never the lower. The abdomen is held in and the chest expanded.

A year ago the close-fitting sheath skirt was the prevailing model. It may be predicted that the perfectly tight skirt will be a thing of the past when spring makes its appearance. The fashionable skirt of the coming season will be the pleated skirt. To be perfectly exact I should say skirts, for they come in a dozen different styles.

Sometimes the pleats are equally distributed all round; sometimes they are arranged in groups of two, three, four or five, with plain panels, more or less wide, between them. Sometimes there is only one pleat, round, simple, double or triple behind. Some pleats are narrow, others are broad; sometimes they start at the belt, or again at the hips, and extend to the knees or almost to the base. Sometimes they die away just a little below the hips. Certain pleats are stitched; others hang freely and still others are tacked at intervals.

The introduction of pleats involves the expenditure of more material but it does not necessarily imply a clumsy nor a bulky effect. Indeed there is a more careful fitting about the hips than ever, the skirt flowing out in a graceful fulness from the knee to the base.

Perhaps the skirt that will be most generally adopted will be the one with a tight fitting front and sides and a box pleat of moderate size in the back, the box falling apart enough to be graceful and to relieve the back of the drawn look. The front and sides are sewed to the band without fulness but at the very middle of the back there is laid a large, flat box pleat. The skirt opens either at one side of the box pleat or upon the left side in front.

Another style of skirt that is simple and pretty has the box pleat in the back, but the front and sides are arranged with the tiniest tucks running vertically from the belt downward. These tucks are no heavier than a cording and look not unlike cording. They begin at the belt and extend downwards to a point just below the hips. When the tucks end a slight flare occurs which allows for the hips. Still another new skirt, called the Grecian fold skirt, has the front and sides fitted as tightly as possible. In the back from the belt to the hem there extends a very large box pleat which is called the Grecian fold. It is narrow at the waist perhaps six inches wide, but gradually flares until it is half a yard or more wide at the hem.

One of the features noticed on many of the new gowns is stitching, which is having an enormous vogue in Paris. Cloth covered with stitching, the lines set close together and sometimes running both ways to cut up the stuff in little blocks, is largely used by the modish tailors. This material is pretty combined with plain cloth. Sometimes the stitched cloth makes a jacket; again it is used to form an underskirt that shows and is long tulle. The stitched cloth makes revers on jackets and yokes on gowns; in fact, there are many ways in which it may be used. Some tailor made costumes are almost entirely covered with stitching which design all sorts of motifs and continuous patterns. There are wavy bands, arabesques, Greek patterns, scallops, points and circles thus defined. Stitched velvet is the newest finish for coat revers and collars. A velvet jacket entirely covered with stitching and trimmed with fur is considered an extremely smart garment. But stitching is by no means limited to dresses. It is used for neck pieces and belts and even to cover hats and to drape turbans.

Flannel shirtwaists, never more necessary to comfort and general usefulness than they are at the present moment, are already ousted from their allotted space in the shops to make room for the most summy cotton substitutes. Dainty fine white lawn waists with hennitiched tucks in varying widths, waists striped up and down with embroidered insertion and groups of tucks, waists of embroidered lawn and all sorts of plaid, striped and figured shirting in colors are to be seen. The one feature which stamps them as new and far prettier than the old shirtwaist is the entire absence of any yokes in the back. The only yoke which is stylish at all is the one which is trimmed and applied to the shoulders, forming a little epaulet over the sleeves. The backs are tacked and pleated to correspond with the front, as many of them were made last season and they are altogether a vast improve-

ment on the yoke back prototypes. There are stiff linen cuffs with rounded corners detachable collars which can be discarded for the more becoming stocks, and long silk scarfs tied twice around the neck.

Weather Forecaster H. A. Hazen Dead.

WASHINGTON, January 23.—Henry A. Hazen, one of the chief forecasters of the weather bureau, died here to-night as the result of injuries received last night by a bicycle collision with a negro pedestrian. His skull was badly fractured and he continued unconscious up to the time of his death. Professor Hazen was well known among meteorologists and scientific men. He was born in India fifty years ago, his father being a missionary. He was graduated from Dartmouth college and then was connected with the scientific department of Yale University for many years. He joined the United States signal service, now the weather bureau, in 1881. He was single and lived with a sister and two nephews. Another sister is a missionary.

Temperance Man's Death.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 21.—Excessive use of morphine, to which he had been addicted for the past four years, was the cause of the death, in a hospital here, Friday night, of Will J. Connell, of Cleveland, O., well known in the west as a temperance lecturer. He came to this city last Wednesday. That night he was found in the streets unconscious and taken to a hospital. McConnell's 14-year old son, was murdered by his brother-in-law, Allegheny city, four years ago, and since then it has been commonly reported that the temperance advocate used both liquor and drugs to excess, although not discontinuing his lectures.

STOOD DEATH OFF.—E. B. Munday, a lawyer of Henrietta, Tex., once fooled a grave-digger. He says: "My brother was very low with malarial fever a d jaundice. I persuaded him to try Electric Bitters, and he was soon much better, but continued their use until he was wholly cured. I am sure Electric Bitters saved his life." This remedy expels malaria, kills disease germs and purifies the blood; aids digestion, regulates liver, kidneys and bowels, cures constipation, dispels nervous diseases, kidney troubles, female complaints; gives perfect health. Only 50 cents at F. P. Green's drug store.

Merely a Hint.

Mr. Slowboy—"In some States there is a law making it a misdemeanor for a man to change his name." "Yes; but there is no law in any State that prohibits a man from changing a woman's name."

She Had to Interrupt.

"We might just as well come to an understanding right now," said the angry husband. "It's hard for you to hear the truth, especially from me, but—" "Indeed it is," interrupted the patient wife, "I hear it so seldom."

Books, Magazines, Etc.

Prof. Angelo Heppin, whose recent volume on Alaska and the Klondike was so highly complimented for its scientific value as well as for its readability, contributes the first of two articles, giving the results of a second visit to this interesting and wonderful rich country, to the February number of *Apoptos's Popular Science Monthly*. A number of beautiful illustrations accompany the text.

The February number of *Everybody's Magazine* is filled with that enjoyable combination of amusing and profitable reading for which the publication is already well known. The "Simple Explanation" for the month is on the subject of trolley-cars, and the writer explains in a remarkably clear and graphic manner just how electricity is generated and how it runs the car. The many other interesting articles makes this magazine one of the most readable magazines that has reached this office.

Business Notice.

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GOTTLIEB HAAG, Bellefonte, Pa.

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