

FARM NOTES.

It is said that when a cow holds up her milk the udder should be bathed in warm water, as warm as can be used, which relaxes the muscles, despite the will of the cow. The remedy suggested is a simple and harmless one and worthy of a trial.

It is not difficult to keep sweet potatoes in a cellar if it is dry and the temperature is kept uniform. Before placing the barrels away for winter the potatoes should be dry and clean. When packing them in barrels a close watch should be made in order to discover and throw out any potatoes showing the slightest taint of disease, as disease will attack all other potatoes in the barrel.

When coops containing fowls are sent to market there is often a loss, some of the fowls being dead, which is due to the coops being too deep, thus permitting the fowls to pile up on each other. To avoid this the coops should be of just sufficient height to enable the birds to stand up. Crowding too many in a coop is also another evil which causes loss and which is costly to the shipper.

All refuse under trees and vines should now be raked up and burnt. Lime will be found beneficial if scattered freely over the surface of the ground, as it will destroy the spores of some fungi, but the use of Bordeaux mixture is better. Much harm is sometimes done by not cleaning away the refuse, as diseases are propagated and spread in such materials.

Skim milk is as valuable for the pigs as that which contains the fat, provided cornmeal or linseed meal is added. All the bone and muscle producing elements are left in the skim milk, and the butter fat removed can be easily supplied at a very small cost. It should be fed white, warm and fresh if a cream separator is used, and not as swill or sour milk. The day of the will barrel has passed.

If I were planting trees for both honey and other uses, I would plant Linden or "basswood," as it usually is called, and also catalpa. The Linden is very valuable for its white, fine grained wood, and as a shade tree, scarcely had an equal. The catalpa is noted for its everlasting poses, and in this regard it is said to have no equal. It also is a beautiful shade tree and both the foliage and the blossoms are very ornamental.

To make hens lay in winter they should have meat as well as grain. Too much corn or wheat retards laying, as the hens become excessively fat and are then in no condition for producing eggs. If fowls are to be made fat they should be separated from the laying hen. Meat and ground bone are materials that serve to prompt egg production, because they supply substances not so abundant in grains. An ounce of lean meat three times a week to each hen will be an inexpensive diet, as the production of eggs will largely increase by its use. Live blood mixed with meal and the cheap portion of beef answer as well as the best, but the fat portions of the meat should be removed. The bones will supply lime for the egg shells.

To make an asparagus bed in the spring get two year old roots and place them three feet apart in the rows, the rows to be five feet apart. They will soon fill up all the spaces in the rows. The first work should be done now, if the ground can be worked. Make trenches three feet deep. A trench 100 feet long will be sufficient to supply an ordinary family. Fill the trench with fresh horse manure, two feet deep, and scatter 50 pounds of bone meal and 50 pounds of sulphate of potash on the manure. Put on a few inches of dirt until within 18 inches of the top. Leave it until spring and set out the roots, covering them, which will leave them in the ground 18 inches below the surface, filling up the surface. Soapuds may be poured in the row from time to time during the winter. A row thus prepared will give cuttings for 25 years.

Frequently a farmer may apply equal quantities of manure on two fields, side by side, with good results on one and a disappointing one on the other. This is because the manure on one field may be ten times more valuable than that on the other, though the bulk of manure used on each was the same. Farmers look upon manure as complete plant food, and consider it better than fertilizers. They are correct to a certain extent, but everything depends upon the quality of the manure. Hundreds of loads of manure are hauled and spread on fields that do not contain sufficient actual plant food to pay for the labor of spreading. The condition of the manure, its availability and its proportion of plant food are points that are frequently overlooked. Great piles of straw or broken stalks over which the manure has been thrown may constitute bulk without value. Manure may assist the soil mechanically, and promote the formation of humus, but it is just as important for the farmer to have his manure in an available form and it is for him to select fertilizers with that object in view, and it is also necessary when manure is used for a crop that it contain the relative proportions of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash required for producing the crop.

Mixed fertilizers and mixed manure are side by side as far as their merits are concerned. It requires machinery, fine screens, drying houses and skill to intimately and properly mix fertilizers, and labor and care must also be exercised with manure. It will not answer to simply use absorbents and allow manure to remain until it is wanted for use, as some portions will be rotted, while others will have undergone no change whatever. With "fire fanging" from excessive heating of the manure, the loss of ammonia, the uneven distribution of the manure and liquids with the coarse materials, and the changes of the manure itself consequent upon the changes of food to animals, all tend to vary the manure greatly in composition and availability. The farmer should begin at the starting of the heap and daily attend to the mixing of the substances, working the whole heap over occasionally and endeavoring to have it not only well fermented with the least loss of volatile matter, but also to have it intimately mixed and uniform in its quality as possible. If he accomplishes nothing more than the even distribution of his plant food over his fields it will be a great point gained, as thousands of loads are hauled to fields, each field receiving the same, when the manure itself is richer in some portions than in others. Well composted manure also gives the best results with fertilizers, and the proportions of plant food can then be better regulated. If the expense of so doing is greater the compensation will be better, with more profitable crops.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Something unique and decidedly pretty is the acorn curtain, and all it needs is a bushel or two of acorns, some waxed thread, eye, and a good stock of patience. The acorns may be gathered now. The woods are full of them, and if there are little people in the house the gathering of the nuts will simply be play.

After you have the quantity you desire string them on long threads the length of the door. Forty strings will fill an average door. Fasten them at one end to a cross piece that is novel and pretty. It can be bought for a mere song, and the result is a portiere that is novel and pretty. It resembles somewhat the Japanese portieres. The same idea may be carried out with sea shells, but they must be uniform, and preferably the pink lined ones, which are not always easy to get.

Of the habit shaped bodice one also saw numerous examples of broad pleated basques reaching below the hips. No woman who is not extremely tall and extremely slender could wear such a garment to any advantage, and even for the tall and slender there are more graceful and more becoming fashions.

With regard to the question of sleeves, which is a burning one at the present moment, it is hard to make any decided deduction. Some of the sleeves are strikingly pretty; the puff at the elbow predominated, daintily arranged. The lower portion of some had the soft mousseline pleating held down by cross strappings of black velvet; others showed a large puff beneath a short bell shaped sleeve, the mousseline finishing in a tight pleated cuff. There was a great many of the "manches pagodes," whose name is doubtless intended as a compliment to the Boxers—that is, sleeves that are very flat from the shoulder to the elbow, and then suddenly swell out to the extent of having quite a baggy appearance. But, on the other hand, one also saw a good many quite plain sleeves, and the latter were in many instances sported by the very smartest of smart women.

As to the hats, they are at this moment either very broad and flat toques, or large hats turned up at the side in Gainsborough style. Bright red toques are much worn with quiet and dark colored tailor made gowns. One feature of the present fashion is the presence on almost all the more elaborate tailor made gowns of gold or silver trimmings. Little touches of this kind, when combined by a master hand, are very effective, but it is hard to know where it will all end when these effects which hitherto have been so discreetly introduced become popular.

If you want to be in possession of the very latest bit of chic, buy a white dress, lace preferably, and a few yards of cherry velvet ribbon. Not exactly just plain English cherry; exact, rich, ripe red of the fruit; besides, cerise degenerated into a weird, glaring shade never known to its beautiful namesake fruit.

Put it round your waist, with long ends at the back, and around your throat. And then make some novel twist or bow in your hair, or even your hat, and there you are. So says one who knows.

The skin of the upper parts of the arms is often rough and red, and therefore a source of annoyance to the owner. The arms should be bathed every night with hot water, to which a little ammonia has been added, and then well rubbed with a well soaped loofah. Dry thoroughly by rubbing hard with a towel, the object being to set up a glow. Rough, red arms are generally caused by a poor circulation, and the rubbing will help to remedy this. The arms should never be allowed to become chilled, so that long woolen sleeves must be worn, and all tightness avoided around the armpits and wrists.

When the arms have been dried, take a little glycerine and lemon juice; and with the palm of the hand rub it in; keep rubbing until the skin no longer feels sticky. In the morning wash the arms again with hot water, soap and a loofah, and rinse in clear tepid water. Dry well, dust over with a good powder, and give a final rub with a soft chamois leather.

You do not walk right, girls. Some of you look as if you were about to pick up your nose; the rest rear back in an odious way. Surely, you know to walk well is to look "smart," and to command regard of the right sort.

Stand tall. Let your shoulders alone. Hold in your abdomen, up your head, and walk with a swinging motion, using the hips as hinges. Take moderate, not long steps. It is rather hard to have such careers in your necks and arms like matched bean poles. Why do you?

Perhaps you consider it your nature to be thin? You are in error. It may be you will always be slender—we hope so—but that stenuation and that are different things.

Your food has a deal to do with your figure, you know, and your nerves are little demons trying to spoil your beauty. Put them in their place as servants.

If you will you may have a lovely round neck and plump arms to match. These you must work and eat for. I know you have no appetite to speak of. Get one.

Ask your old doctor to rectify certain chronic nutinies in the interior department. He can tell you how, you must be honest and obey.

Then buckling on your fighting gear. Beauty is a talisman and worth winning. Control your nerves. Learn to sit down and rest when you feel tired. The time is not lost.

Your arms and neck? Well, the exercises for them require no apparatus whatever. "Flecking" the biceps—swing arms low, then higher and higher, and faster and faster, upward and downward, outward and back—will set the blood mad with glee—i. e. circulation. Emptying the veins of old blood for fresh is the whole thing in a word or two.

The neck must be rounded by deep breathing exercises (which also increase the bust) and moving the head slowly in every direction.

Massage with one of the good creams composed of cucumber and lanoline—the first to whiten, the last fattens—will prove miraculous. If—if—you eat enough, and keep the sanitary parts straight.

Drink as much milk as you can digest. Drink cocoa and buttermilk. Eat beef, rare, broiled or roasted; mutton, eggs, fish, oatmeal perfectly cooked, cream soups, puddings and vegetables. Salads, green plenty of fresh dressing; butter and fruits. Eat slowly. Exercise and bathe daily, and you will round out.

Nobby fronts of lace to wear with the open fur-trimmed bolero are made on a strip of net fastening at the waist and the collar band to hook at the back. They are entirely of lace put on cascade fashion.

Physiology.

An Interesting Entertainment With a Spice of Novelty.

When the girls decided upon making the entertainment a "fishing excursion," says the *Delinctor*, the first thing they undertook was to prepare a list of the funny tribe upon which to arrange a series of questions. A little thought and work with the dictionary showed that the list of familiar fishes was much longer than they had at first thought, and that a great variety of witty and puzzling questions could be asked about them.

The complete list decided upon was as follows:

1. What fish is poor in health? (Weakfish.)
2. What fish belong properly to the millionaire? (Gold and silver fish.)
3. What fish should shine among their fellows? (Star and sun fish.)
4. What fish should understand the secret of graceful motion? (Skate.)
5. What fish would conquer in a wrestling match? (Musel.)
6. What fish would conquer in a duel of old time? (Swordfish.)
7. What fish would be useful in a lumberyard? (Sawfish.)
8. What fish has the name of one of Kipling's characters? (Shad.)
9. What fish has the name of a character in Dicken's works? (Cuttle.)
10. What fish is found in every old bird-cage? (Perch.)
11. What fish is given to melancholy? (Bluefish.)
12. What fish is one pitch of a singer's voice? (Bass.)
13. What fish is a cape on the New England coast? (Cod.)
14. What fish is a fisherman? (Angler fish.)
15. What fish has the name of an obstruction and a summons? (Barbel.)
16. What fish would never win in an argument? (Flounder.)
17. What fish has a name composed of a young animal and a victim? (Lamprey.)
18. What fish is also a disagreeable insect? (Roach.)
19. What fish would make an attempt at it, anyhow? (Dab.)
20. What fish has a name meaning a locality, a spot? (Plaice.)
21. What fish does the pilot naturally dread? (Rock.)
22. What fish has a name meaning to whip and complain? (Whale.)
23. What fish is a whole world in itself? (Globe fish.)
24. What fish suggests a woman's jewelry? (Herring.)
25. What fish is dishonest? (Shark.)
26. What fish is also a road? (Pike.)
27. What fish might be used in the navy? (Torpedo.)
28. What fish ought to be heavy? (Tunny.)
29. What fish could take good aim? (Archer fish.)
30. What fish is always finding fault? (Carp.)
31. One fish was discarded because it— (Smelt.)
32. What fish is apt to be puffed up? (Ballon fish.)
33. A toy and a part of a fish make a fish? (Dolphin.)
34. What fish doesn't need to swim? (Flying fish.)

The conundrums prepared, the next requisite was to have them appropriately arranged in blank books with spaces opposite for the answers. For the leaves of these little books linen note-paper folded across was used. The covers were cut from pale-green cartridge paper, and upon each cover was pasted a spray of pressed seaweed collected during a summer vacation at the seashore. All the backs had the same title as old Isaac Walton's famous work—"The Compleat Angler"—which was executed in India ink.

The supper which had been prepared for the weary anglers after their work was finished consisted of fish only, but prepared in the most refreshing of ways. There wereiced bullion and biscuits; lobster and salmon salads with rolled bread-and-butter sandwiches, followed by ices, cakes and coffee. Souvenirs of the occasion appropriately took the form of candy boxes in the shape of fish filled with sweets.

ASTOUNDING DISCOVERY.—From Cooper-ville, Mich., comes word a wonderful discovery of a pleasant tasting liquid that when used before retiring by any one troubled with a bad cough always ensures a good night's rest. "It will soon cure the cough too," writes Mrs. S. Himmelberger. "For three generations of our family have used Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption and never found it's equal for Coughs and Colds." It's an unrivaled life-saver when used for desperate lung diseases. Guaranteed bottles 50c. and \$1.00 at F. P. Green's. Trial bottles free.

His Dim Idea.

A teacher was diving to her class an exercise in spelling and defining words.

"Thomas," she said to a curly-headed little boy, "spell 'hex.'"

"I-b-e-x."

"Correct. Define it."

"An 'hex,' answered Thomas, after a prolonged mental struggle, "is where you look in the back part of the book when you want to find anything's that's printed in the front part of the book."—*Youth's Companion*.

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Those whose near ancestors had had Consumption and hence to fear the disease, because consumptive parents frequently hand down to their offspring weakened systems, upon which the seeds of consumption easily fasten themselves. While Bronchial trouble alone does not cause all cases of consumption, still it is Bronchial trouble that those who have consumptive ancestors have most to dread.

During the summer the bodily health usually improves to the point that the sufferer from Bronchitis finds that his trouble gets better during the warm months, for it is during the summer that nature makes an effort to undo the evils which were produced during the winter. Dr. Stites has repeatedly urged all sufferers from Bronchial troubles to see to it that they take treatment at a time when nature offers no obstacles to the cure of the disease, and when the conditions of climate assist the doctor in bringing about a cure. If the Bronchitis be cured conditions of climate assist the doctor to the standard before another winter sets in, the danger from Consumption will be so small as not to be worth considering.

But, if the Bronchial Trouble be neglected, when the winter comes again, and the patient is shut in the house, where he does not get a proper amount of fresh air, he is liable at any moment to awaken to a realization of the horrid fact that he has kindled in his body the waiting fires of a fatal plague.

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