Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., Dec. 13, 1901.

FARM NOTES.

Mulch the strawberry beds as soon as the ground is frozen, so as to prevent alternate freezing and thawing of the ground and the throwing up of the plants.

The proportion of husk in oats varies. in some varieties it may reach as much as 38 per cent., and in others be as low as 20 per cent. The proportion may be stated, or an average, at about one-third the total weight of the grain. The custom has been to estimate the husk at one-fourth the weight of the grain, but it seldom falls to so low a percentage. As the husk is not considered of great value as food, the selection of oats for food for live stock should be done with care and close examination

The lawn in winter may be covered with horse manure, and if the manure is free from litter it may be an advantage. Do not scatter the manure in lumps and wait for the frost to pulverize the lumps but apply the manure evenly. Early in the spring rake the lawn thoroughly, removing all material that is not in fine condition, and then apply a fertilizer composed of 100 pounds nitrate of soda, 125 pounds sulphate of potash, and 100 pounds acidulated phosphate per acre. If the grass was not destroyed by the drought of last summer it will grow rapidly when spring opens if the lawns is treated in the manner suggested.

—Next year the 17-year locusts will be due, and some instructions regarding the course to pursue will now be timely. The Pennsylvania State College issued a report regarding these locusts in 1899, while New Jersey and Ohio have also issued bulletins. The Pennsylvania State College has also issued a recent bulletin, which is sent free to all upon application. According to information sent out from the college the brood of locusts of 1885 will be due next year in the counties of Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Franklin, Adams, Cumberland, York, Dauphin, Lebanon, Lancaster, Berks, Chester, Delaware, Bucks, Montgomery, Lehigh and Northampton. The cicadas, or 17-year locusts, may not appear over the whole of the section mentioned, but may be expected wherever the conditions heretofore have been favorable for their breeding and development. The best breeding places are the brush-covered and woody pasture lands. Inasmuch as 17 years is liable to make a good deal of difference in the utilization of land, it is quite probable that in some places lands which 17 years ago were not in cultivation, and were good breeding grounds of cicadas, are now cultivated, and upon them and in their neighborhood the insects, true to their nature, may be expected to appear, and perhaps in dangerously large numbers. In many places the older residents are able to locate such grounds.

If young fruit trees and shrubs are on land subject to the appearance of the cicadas, there will be liability next year of serious injury and mutilation by the egg-laying process, as the habit of the cicada is to select small twigs into which it proceeds to cut in order to make suitable places for its eggs. Those who contemplate setting out young trees should therefore be careful to learn if they are on or near "locust ground" of 17 years ago, and if they find that there is risk should defer planting until the danger has passed.

The cicada lays its eggs during June, but may begin to lay a little earlier in the Southern counties than in the Northern tier; hence by July 1st, at the latest, egg-laying will have been completed and all injury accomplished. Should it be considered not too great a risk to set out trees it would be well not to prune the trees closely on setting, postponing such work until July. The pruning may then be done, and the twigs burned that are removed, so as to destroy the eggs. As the cicada puts in its appearance at regular seasons all preparations can be made to meet it in advance. The insects may appear in reduced numbers, or may have been exterminated in some localities, but should it fail next year it will be the first time in 187 years.

There is always a 13-year locust, but it is a different insect in characteristics from the other, appearing mostly in the South. The eggs of the 17-year locusts are deposited in grooves of the twigs and hatch in about six weeks. After being hatched from the eggs the young locusts fall to the ground and burrow in the earth, going down from 3 to 20 feet, where they remain and feed upon the roots of trees or plants.

While in the earth they shed their skins several times, and at the proper time tunnel upward, ascend the trees, again shed their skins, and are then ready for the work of propagation. They begin to ascend about June 1st, a little earlier sometimes, and after sunset. They do not cause as much damage as may be supposed, considering their great number, but nevertheless, do sufficient injury to cause them to be unwelcome visitors. Any effort at destruction of the insects would be almost of no avail, as such work would be laborious. The best course to pursue is to endeavor to avoid them as much as possible by refraining from setting out young trees, as stated, and leaving the pruning of any trees that may already have been set out until the 1st of July. As they will not appear again until 1919, they are not really as harmful as some of the more injurious pests that annually inflict farmers and fruit growers.

—Mange on horses is caused by parasitic acari, which are small insects that burrow in the scarfskin, similiar to the acari that produce itch in children. The treatment is to be entirely local. Form an ointment of equal parts of lard and sulphur, with pine tar enough to color a dark brown. First, soften the scabs with an application of oil rubbed in; then follow with soap suds and break up and remove the scabs; wipe dry, and apply the ointment. This may have to be repeated in spots. To prevent a recurrence of the difficulty, grease harness with the same compound and apply a strong solution of caustic potash to all horse brushes, combs and the woodwork of the stable, and subject the blankets to a boiling in water; first clean out all old bedding and litter of the stable and sprinkle caustic lime upon the floor.

—The high prices prevailing now for horses should encourage liberal breeding next season. Good horses are liable to bring high prices for many years to come and farmers with good brood mares need not be afraid to pay liberal service fees for the use of good sires. Brood mares of quality are the best kind of farm property if bred right.

—It is not always the man with the biggest herd of cows who clears the most money from his dairy.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Delicious Fruit Cake.—Cup light brown sugar, half cup butter, yolk of one egg—save white for frosting—half cup of sour milk, with half teaspoonful of soda, one and a half cups flour, one teaspoonful cinnamon, half teaspoonful cloves, quarter of a grated nutmeg, one cup of cut raisins, and you may add or not the meats of English walnuts, about half a cupful.

Frosting—One cup granulated sugar, four tablespoonfuls cold water, boil slowly until it threads, pour slowly on the well-beaten white of egg and beat until it is cool enough to put on cake.

You can wear a very narrow belt or else a very wide one. Black belts lead, which is natural, since they make the waist look smaller.

There is still the tendency toward the slanting waist line, the majority of the belts being wider in the back than in the front.

Ends that cross in the front through a buckle are to be noted.

Belts and stocks to match are a fad of the moment.

If the persons who look with dread upon the approach of the severely cold weather, because they begin to shiver and shake at the first touch of winter and keep up a succession of chills until spring appears, would cultivate the habit of lowering windows from the top in their sleeping apartments, taking a cold sponge bath followed by a brisk rub, if they have not the facilities for a morning plunge upon rising, they would find themselves fairly glowing with warmth that would last through the entire day and make them feel like new beings. Some people insist that our atmosphere is too damp and unhealthful to be beneficial at night, but if that is your view of the matter make a frame nine inches long and as wide as your windows and cover it with one or two thicknesses of cheesecloth; fit it into the window and you will be breathing nicely filtered air while you sleep. Above all things don't coddle yourself. Take plenty of exercise in the open air, no matter how cold it may be, but always wrap up well before going out. Don't make up your mind you are going to catch cold, because you happened to be in a draft for a moment, and do give that best of all heaters, the heart, a chance to prove what a fine thing it is and you will have a different view of life in general.

The ribbon rose is often used in the hair instead of the erstwhile ubiquitous bow. Just how it can be made so very real out of satin ribbon is more than the uninitiated can understand. But it is; the very curl to the petals is caught in the delicate manipulations of the ribbon. Besides its beauty, this ribbon rose has great lasting power to recommend it.

Be sure of a girl's needs before you present her with Christmas buckles. Belt buckles no longer enjoy their former vogue but tiny buckles are everywhere. Singly or in sets, plain or jeweled, they adorn all sorts of articles of dress. They hold neck ribbons together, likewise arm ribbons, also the ribbons in strap effect that apparently keep bodice fronts alive to their duty. Such arrangements often form whole panel effects. One girl with pretty shoulders has a pair set with rhinestones over each shoulder; upon said ribbons apparently rests the whole responsibility of keeping on the dress. Shoe buckles are still very modish.

Rest assured that most any girl will appreciate for a Christmas present a pearl collar—dog collar if you will. If you are rich it may be of priceless pearls; if not, the dainty imitations answer the purposes about as well. There are a number of rows even though the pearls be large, and when they are tiny—well, the number required to make a neck-piece must be enormous. These tall collars, which are as deep as the neck are in great favor.

There is no unalterable law as to the length of jackets. The short eton has a new lease of life, the three-quarter coat is in favor, while nothing smarter or absolutely regal than the long coats has ever been seen. The skirts of walking gowns are made much shorter, though not short enough to clear the ground, unless intended to be worn solely in bad weather, but for the house long trains are insisted upon, says *Harpers Bazaar*. For young girls the frocks for dancing are most cleverly constructed, for while the skirts appear to be long, they are cut so that they just escape the floor, their width around the foot make them stand out in a clever way that gives the appearance of length.

All skirts are made extremely close-fitting around the hips, there are box pleats, plain and inverted and narrow side pleats, but all so arranged as to be perfectly flat. Plain gored and circular skirts are trimmed with braiding, flat braid, bias folds and cut work. The flounce skirt is the smartest model. This fashion is carried out in one deep, circular flounce, in two or three scant flounces, or in two or three deep flounces.

The lovely wide ribbons of soft texture that are shown this year, and the numerous small bags that the present day pocketless girl finds necessary to carry about, should suggest no end to the possibilities to the person who had several feminine friends to be remembered and is puzzling over appropriate gifts for them. In old-fashioned stories, the heroine was always drawing a bit of needle work out of her pocket at an opportune moment, but the girl of to-day must needs have a small silken bag in which to keep her fancy work. One made of half a yard of ribbon, six inches wide gathered to a circular piece of cardboard that has been neatly covered with silk, and faced around the top with some pretty contrasting color to form a frill above the draw strings that are of ribbon the color of the bag, is very dainty and takes but little time to make, which is a great advantage at this busy season. Then there is the one made of a handkerchief, or a large square of silk with a casing for the ribbons set on in a circle, leaving the corners to form a pointed frill when the bag is drawn up. Much beauty will be added if the points are edged with chiffon or lace ruffles. The burned leather bags that are so popular now can also be made at home by purchasing a piece of the prepared leather and lining it with some bright color in silk or satin. Slash the edges to form the fringe and carefully cut slits about two inches below the top for the leather draw strings, and you will have as neat and pretty a bag as can be bought if you have been careful about the stitches.

Uncle Amos Will Likely be Good After This.

From the Columbia Independent.

The late Auditor General of this State, who makes his home in this county, is a wise man. He knows when he has enough.

Profitable Civil Jobs at Manila.

Congressmen Who Have Been There Want to Prune Pay Roll. Mang High-Salaried Places. Commissioner Worcester Gets $5000 a Year for Writing About Bugs, and Other Members Do as Little Work. Supreme Court is Well Paid.

A Republican member of Congress, who has just returned from the Philippines, has brought back a copy of the civilian pay roll at Manila. He insists that it shows great extravagance on the part of this Government, and that Congress should prune the list.

The civilian salary rolls at Manila carry 4606 names of Americans and Filipinos. who draw an aggregate annual stipend from the Government of $3,086,989. Of these, 2044 are Americans, whose yearly compensation foots up $2,280,044. There are 2562 Filipinos, all with a few exceptions occupying minor places, which yield a total of $806,945 to the incumbents.

EACH COMMISSIONER GETS $15,000.

Following is a list of some of the salaries paid to civilian officers: Governor Taft, President of Commission, $20,000; each of four Commissioners, $15,000; secretary to the Commission, $7500; Chief Justice, a Filipino, $7500; six Justices, two of them Filipinos, $7000; treasurer, $6000; Auditor, $6000; Collector of Customs, $6000; head of Departments of Post, $6000; Chief of Education Bureau, $6000; Chief of Health Bureau, $6000; Attorney General, $5500;

Up to September 1st last Governor Taft was receiving $12,000 annually and $15 per diem. After that date his salary was fixed at $5,000 a year as Commissioner and $15,000 additional as the head of a bureau. His other colleagues on the Commission also are paid $5,000 a year as members of the Commission and $10,000 more each as heads of bureaus. Their compensation therefore is $15,000 annually.

BIG PAY FOR BUG-HUNTER.

But while the consensus of opinion from the Congressional visitors is that Governor Taft earns all he receives from the Government, the other members of the Commissioners are practically enjoying sinecures. Worcester is said to be drawing his salary chiefly for writing about bugs. Moses is nominally the head of the Educational Bureau, but the man who does the work is F. M. Atkinson, formerly of Boston, now Superintendent of Education at $6,000 a year.

The expense of the military establishment in the Philippines is not included in above figures.

Miraculous Escape.

An Entire Family Almost Caught At a Grade Croosing.

The entire family of James Role, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Role and five or six children, made a miraculous escape from a horrible death at a grade crossing on the East Broad Top railroad near Shirleysburg in Huntingdon county between 3 and 4 o'clock Friday afternoon. The family were driving from their old home below Shade Gap to their new home in Mount Union, and were seated in a vehicle drawn by two horses belonging to liveryman E. M. Beers, of Mount Union. Just as the team emerged from a covered bridge and was about to cross the railroad it was struck by an extra freight train, the approach of which the driver failed to observe, and as a result both horses were instantly killed, the vehicle was hurled from the track and demolished and the occupants were violently thrown in various directions. The only person injured to any extent was Miss Role, who sustained a fracture of her collar bone. The others, while badly bruised and shocked, were fortunate in escaping more serious injuries.

Castoria.

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