

FARM NOTES.

-The great increase of insect pests in orchards and gardens entails an enormous ex-pense upon the farmers of this country, and yet it is possible that the farmer himself is at fault to a certain extent by assisting in the destruction of animals and birds that would perform for him valuable service if permitted. Beasts and birds of prey are sufficient to prevent any alarming increase of the birds that are capable of doing harm, but nearly all birds are carnivorous to some extent, as they can subsist on animal food. Birds prey upon worms, and the natural increase of all kinds of insects would soon render the earth uninhabitable by man but for the assistance given him by the crea-tures which he so ruthlessly destroys with out regard to future consequences. The carnivorous animals and birds do not increase as rapidly as the kinds upon which they prey, and a single animal may serve to prevent a district from being over-run with graminivorous animals. If such condition did not exist the result would be famine. As the forests are cleared the destructive animals and birds are driven away or restricted in their capacity to do harm, but man seems to become himself a beast of prey and wantonly destroys for the pleasure of so doing. He considers certain animals, such as the fox, hare, raccornain animals, such as the tox, have, rac-coon, opossum and mink, as "game," the hawk and owl being always regarded as his foes. He adopts the dog and cat, the latter being more destructive to birds than any other animals, as it is not only active and somewhat nocturnal in habit, but also climbs trees. The fox, opossum and rac-coon are among the most useful animals known, as they seek their food where field mine of ground invests abound. The lit. mice and ground insects abound. The lit-tle damage done by them is not worthy of the damage done by them is not workly of consideration compared with the service performed. The only apology for their de-struction is the occasional loss of poultry. but no careful farmer will leave his poultry unprotected from danger at night.

ENEMIES OF THE FARMER. The farmer has not yet discovered a method for preventing the destruction of his crops by field mice and insects, but he devotes more time to seeking the lives of devotes more the cord and hawk then he his friends, the ow! and hawk, then he gives to the insects which he can control. The damage to a portion of the corn and fruit by animals and birds is insignifiand fruit by animals and birds is insignin-cant compared with the almost complete destruction of crops by insects. The mole, which ridges the earth, simply does so while destroying grubs, as moles consume them in large numbers. The quail, which is harmless, is forced by necessity in the fail and winter to search for food under or any leaf and in earery and where an insect every leaf and in every spot where an insect and worm can be found, during which time so spent they destroy thousands of in-sects, but in some localities the quail has been almost exterminated simply for sport, which is one of the most expensive luxuries enjoyed by man if he only knew it. The birds that remain over winter, or which do not leave until late in the fall, to appear early in winter, feed not only on insects, but on the seeds of many plants which the farmer does not desire in his field, and the reduction in the number of these birds is largely increased by cats, which feast upon the young in the nests in spring and which also destroy the eggs. This is a disturb-ance of the order of creation, and reduces the profits of the farmer while destroying the profits of the farmer while destroying the guardian of his crops. The English sparrow in the country could be easily kept in check by the sparrow hawk and the well-known screech owl the latter preying upon them at night and the former during the day, especially in winter, if the farmer would allow them; but on the approach of his natural friends he seizes a shotgun and puts an end to their usefulness, wet denlor.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

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CHAS. H. FLETCHER.

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Much of the stress of the housewife's day would be saved if certain essentials were always to be found on each floor of her house and unnecessary going up and down stairs were thus eliminated. Among the needfuls called into use constantly are a clock that can be relied upon, sewing mabrock black of the brock of the second state o

If you are inclined to be stont, for mercy's sake don't wear wide belts. If, mercy's sake don't wear wide belts. If, like the Lady Jane of immortal memory, "spreading is the slender waist," don't try to pull your corset laces tighter, but wear a very narrow belt of the same color, or at least of the same tone as your gown. Avoid a wide waistband as you would the plague, and let it dip down well in the front.

A birthday present of a bookshelf filled with books for a 6-year-old girl is a capital idea. It would be a good plan to choose a few just a little older than she would care for now. Then year by year she would have a new one to enjoy. The fol-lowing list includes more, older favorites than newer ones, but they are always new and delightful for the child who has not read them: "Timothy's Quest" and "Pol-ly Oliver's Problem," by Kate Douglas Wiggin. "Sarah Crewe," by Frances Hodgson Burnett; "Hans Anderson's Fairy Tales," "At the Back of the North Wind," by George MacDonald : "Alice in Won-derland," "Lady Jane," by Mrs. C. V. Jamison; "Little Women," by Louisa May Alcott; "Water Babies," by Charles Kings-ley; "The Tales of a Grandfather," by Sir Walter Scott: "The Jungle Books," by Rudyard Kipling: "Tanglewood Tales." by Nathaniel Hawthorne, and "Leslie Goldthwaite," by Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney. and delightful for the child who has

The skirt made with a voke is for the moment extremely fashionable, and the yoke may be plain, trimmed, shirred or of different materials to the rest of the gown. A lace yoke so shaped as to be much narrow-er at the back than in front and made so that it fits in with a panel of the same lace; which covers the front breadth, or takes its place, is most effective, but the shirred back and a perfectly plain front breadth. Then below the yoke, at the sides and back, the skirt is in accordion or wide pleats. This fashion is thought to make the hips smaller, but it is necessary to ar-range the shirrings most carefully, so there shall not be a particle of material more than is required on the hips and there must always be the effect of the yoke being short-

er at the back than in front. Not particularly new, but always effect-ive, is the skirt with the hand-tucked yoke in bias effect, and then below the yoke the breadths alternately tucked and plain. Not only is this a smart fashion for muslin and thin materials of all kinds, but for taffeta and cloth of light weight as well.

A prominent hairdresser recently con-fided to a newspaper woman the following recipe which he vouches for as a certain cure for dandruff: Mix one teaspoonful of powdered borax, balf a teaspoonful flour of sulphur, six ounces of rosewater and one ounce of spirits of rosemary. Shake well together and use as a shampoo, rubbing well into the scalp.

A specialist in nervous diseases says that women do not sleep enough. The average woman needs at least nine hours' rest each Freel

makers' Association, at the third semi-an-

nual convention in the Lexington Hotel,

girl,"

she continued. "The coats and

and Mme. Baker sighed in a satisfied man-

Apparently none was guilty of any

the three crimes, for three-fourths of them wore shirtwaists and all wore decorously

"High heels were not made to walk on.

They ruin the feet and figure and the per-sons who wear them are disgusting. Don't let any of your customers wear them."

For shirt-waists the heavy cottons, mad-

ras, cotton cheviot, fleece-backed pique and

canvas are still to remain in favor. Flan-

nels for contrasting shirt-waists are offered in exceedingly soft weaves and colorings,

but Madame la Mode decrees that to be

more manageable than the better-known

One simple little necktie bow of velvet

be carried out in the skirt.

flaxseed.

high collars. Mme. Baker continued.

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Castoria.

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of the prophecy. Wednesday's rain and wind storm, ac-cording to Jones, fulfilled all the requirements of his warning. The fact that the damage came more than a year behind the scheduled time and that it was something short of a tidal wave are mere details that do not confuse a prophet who is a master of his job.

Warns Farmers Now.

The American farmer now comes in for The American farmer now comes in for a sample of the parson's propheting. The mosquito-pestered Jersey agriculturist, of all his unhappy kind, is the particular ob-ject of this latest labor of the seer, which appears in the following letter to the North

Freehold, N. J., September 17, 1903. To the Editor of The Philadelphia North American, Philadelphia, Pa. My Dear Sir I will Enclose you a clipping of your Papar Dated August 27, 1902 At

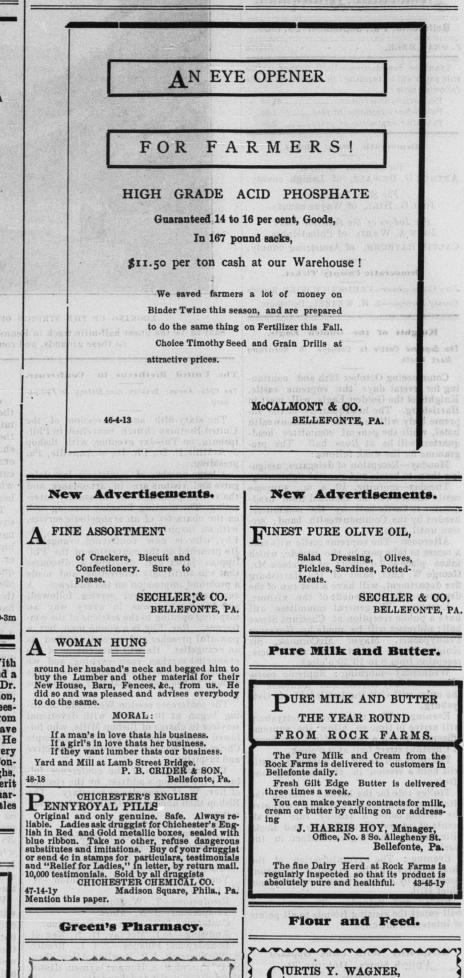
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puts an end to their usefulness, yet deplor-ing the damage to his grain crop in the growing season, which he protects and al-lows to multiply without hindrance.

PROTECTING THE BIRDS.

The subject most to be considered by farmers at their meetings is not so much the destruction of insects and field mice as the protection to the birds that destroy the pests, and this protection should be ex-tended to the owl and hawk, as well as to those animals which keep rabbits in check. The loss of poultry cannot happen if such birds are given the same care and attention as other stock, and if the farmer will consider the matter carefully he will notice that he loses but few chicks by the hawk compared with those appropriated by cats, yet he destroys the one and pets the other. A single dog in a community will do more damage to sheep in one night than all the nual convention in the Lexington Hotel, Chicago, a short time ago. "Tight-fitting waists with slooping shoulders and straight fronts are to do away with the loose pouch fronts, which set off the kangaroo walk, and also with the square Gibson shoulders of the military will the continued "The costs and wild animals in a year, but the losses to farmers from depredations of foxes are so small as to be hardly noticeable. The song birds that are said to be driven away by the English sparrow would return if the hawk and the owl were unmolested, from the fact that the large majority of birds migrate, the sparrow remaining as food for the carnivorous birds, but the wildest sparrow is sufficiently wise to remain close to the haunts of men, where he is safe from his enemies. In winter no crops are grow-ing, and there are but few, if any, small chicks. But little damage can be done the farmer by hawks, crows and owls at that season, while in summer they can secure food in abundance elsewhere, hence they should be given opportunities for keeping the sparrow within bounds.—*Philadelphia*

-Soapsuds will destroy plant lice if used around trees and vines, especially the aphides that work on the roots. The suds may be sprayed on the leaves as well as thrown on the ground. Whale oil soap-suds are used to destroy scale, and if a lit-tle crude carbolic acid is added to the suds it will be all the better. For asparagus and celery soapsuds are excellent, and when thrown on the manure heap they assist in preventing loss of ammonia. If soapsuds are to be thrown away it will be an advantage to throw them where they will prove beneficial.

-Scours in calves is the great drawback in raising them. It is due mostly to indigestion, too much food being given, or food not suitable. When a calf is taken from its dam when very young care should be used in having the milk of the tem-perature of that which is fresh from the cow, and if the milk is skimmed a tablespoonful of flaxseed meal should be cooked as gruel and added to every quart of milk allowed. At no time should the calf be ex-posed to cold or dampness.

-Never fasten the nests to the walls. No poultry house can be kept clean of lice so long as the nests remain in a position that prevents their being thoroughly cleaned, and to do this properly they should be taken outside of the house. The nests are the harboring places of lice and need everhauling oftener than anything else in the poultry house. Ordinary soap and candle boxes make the best nest boxes. view of a magnificent shirred hat. A big plume ourls under the brim. view of a wad I carr

pose and delay retiring in order to finish up some piece of work. She will rush and hurry all day long, and then, when the household is hushed in slumber at night, she will sit to read the daily paper, thinking she will not have to pay for the time she is stealing from the health giving sleep that comes before mid-night. Then there has to be considered the woman who cannot sleep. She should rigorously take enough physical exercise each day to reduce healthful fatigue. She health get simels calls different to the sent upon The Egyptians in

the woman who cannot sleep. She should rigorously take enough physical exercise each day to reduce healthful fatigue. She should eat simple, easily digested food, avoiding tea and coffee later than her breakfast hour. A tepid bath taken just before retiring has a sedative effect, but a hot bath is stimulating, and should not be taken at night by nervous subjects. The kangaroo walk and the Gibson shoulders are doomed, said Mme. Lucy Baker president of the National Dress. The kangaroo walk and the Gibson shoulders are doomed, said Mme. Luoy Baker, president of the National Dress-

Yoors Respect, ANDREW JONES, Address 116 Prospect St., Phoenixville, Pa.

Pears in Three Ways.

Some of the pears now on the market are decidedly unpromising; too batd, green and "woody" for eating raw. There are many ways of cooking them, however, be-sides the simple stew. Combined with

waists with long, sloping shoulders and broad belts make the figure look smaller," Concord grapes they are delicious. To a half bushel of pears you take ten pounds of grapes, which must be washed, skimed and boiled one hour. The pulp ner, for she is large of girth. She went on : "The French styles are so tight that must then be pressed through a sieve to re-move the seeds. The pears must be peeled, cored, quartered and steamed until soft. the bust is made to look small, but the American women won't adopt that style. They dress to please the men." "High heels, peekaboo waists and per-Mix with grapes, adding for each pound of fruit a half pound of sugar. Cook gently for two or three hours, stirring frequently, and bottle while hot. oxide hair go together," was a declaration of Mme. Baker that caused a shiver of horror to run through the 150 rural dress-makers in the hall.

A ginger flavoring is liked by many. Add to four pounds of pears, peeled, halv-ed and cored, three pounds of sugar, three ounces of whole ginger and one pint of wa-ter. Boil until the pears are tender and part in iters while hot

put in jars while hot. Pear marmalade is nice. To eight pounds Peel and core the pears, cutting them with small pieces. Add the thin rind of four lemons and three oranges, slicing the fruit after removing the white inner skin. Boil for three or four hours, and put in jelly glasses. Cover when cold.

A Pension Swindler.

Pensioners are warned against having correct the shirt-waist and skirt must match, or, at least, have a harmonious dealings with a smoothed tongued individual who is traveling the country represent-ing himself to be in the employ of the govsimilarity. If a fancy flannel is chosen, the predominating tone in the waist must ernment. He carries a small instrument with which he pretends to examine the lungs, etc., of his victims. He is a rank swindler. The only pension examiners the government has outside of Washington are the regular appointed boards is each A useful trifle, says Harper's Bazar, is the knowledge that alcohol will quickly remove an obstinate porous-plaster and the unsightly stains which it often leaves, and the regular appointed boards in each county. This bogus examiner is about 5 feet 8 inches tall, weight about 140 pounds has upon which soap and water have no effect. A twin trifle that may sometimes be of use is that a drop of castor-oil in the eye to re-move a foreign body is as useful and much blue or gray eyes and brown hair. He is aged about 32 years.—Ex.

English or American ?

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