

FARM NOTES.

—Malt sprouts are a residue of the brewing industry. Barley grains are sprouted in the process of malting and in due course are rubbed off and sold, either wet or dry, as a cattle food. They enter the general market solely in the skin dried form. They are small, comma shaped, light yellow brown particles of an agreeable nutty odor and crisp texture. When fed dry they are frequently refused by cows. If soaked some hours before feeding they are often better relished.

—Salt does not kill poultry, says a poultry exchange, though such has been the claim. If the fowls are allowed to have access to the broken rock salt, or brine from a pork or fish barrel, they may eat too much and be injured, but a proper proportion of salt in the food is as necessary for fowls as for animals. Many diseases are due to a failure to supply salt, and this accounts for the effect of it in some cases, the fowls when sick being benefited by salt because it supplies a long-felt want.

—Does it pay to use a pasture; that is, will a larger profit be derived from cows that are given exclusively the use of a pasture, or will the same land pay more if used for producing hay? It has been found, after repeated tests, that about four times as much food could be obtained from a meadow by allowing it to produce hay than by pasturing it, which means that four cows can be kept on the land where only one can be kept by pasturing it. One of the drawbacks against using the land for hay, however, is that considerable labor is required in mowing, curing and storing the hay, while the cows on the pasture perform the labor. Also, the cows given green food as pasture produce more milk in the summer season than if kept on hay, and must be given green food in some manner to be profitable.

—There is demand for a smaller package for apples. The west is far in advance of the east in the matter of fruit packages. We handle the bulk of our apple crop in standard fifty pound boxes and our plums, peaches and cantaloupes all go in the crates adapted for handling them, which are attractive to the buyer. The bushel apple box has greatly increased the demand for apples and many boxes are sold to individual families which would not buy a barrel at a time. The half bushel box will strike a lot more good customers in families who now buy only by the quarter's worth. The great advantage of fruit in small packages is that it sells direct to the retail trade without breaking of the packages. The common grocery stores which are now sold in neat pasteboard packages were formerly doled out in bulk and they are all used more extensively since being put up in attractive packages.—*Field and Farm.*

—The barnyard should be watched at this time of year to see that the liquids do not run to waste. If the flow can be turned into a field, and spread evenly, to soak away over its surface, the manure contained in it will settle in the ground and be saved. On lands where this deposit is made no other manure will be necessary, as the best materials, the chemical salts, are washed out and flow away with the water. Where there is a considerable distance for the stream to run, these will all be deposited, unless the flow is too rapid. Where the liquid cannot be made to flow over a field, it should be dammed up in the barnyard, and the coarse manure thrown into the pool. This is presupposing that no arrangements were made the year before to manage it to better advantage. To utilize this valuable material there should always be hauled in the barnyard, in the autumn season, a lot of muck or earth, which should be so placed that it may be made to absorb the liquids. Where there is a basement it can be placed therein and wheeled out at any time that it is required.

Without such convenience it may be piled up across the natural outlet of the barnyard and so serve the purpose of a dam and absorbent.

—I have several ploss of grapes that have been treated for the grape root worm by spraying. One lot was not sprayed at all and acted as a check on the other two. Two unsprayed vines were badly marked and many clusters of eggs were found on them. On the sections sprayed thoroughly about the time the beetles emerged, there was very little marking on the foliage and few egg clusters. Still another lot were sprayed about the same time and a second time about eight days afterward. There was very little or no marking visible and practically no egg clusters on these. For spraying I use four pounds arsenate of lead to fifty gallons of water. I believe the grape beetle can be thoroughly handled if the remedy is applied at the right time.

Applying the remedy, however, is only half the problem. The other half lies in finding men who will apply the spray thoroughly and at the proper time. The leaves must be covered with the spray to be protected and must be there before the eggs are deposited. Fruit growers of the Lake Erie valley have never before been called upon to fight for the life of their plants with a spray pump, and as a consequence very few of us know what thorough spraying means. It is considerable more than they use on potatoes for the beetles.—John D. Spencer, in *New England Homestead*.

—The chief reason for canopizing cockerels is to get a larger profit out of them. Good capons generally sell for a higher price per pound than other poultry. They also weigh more and are marketed at a time when the flock is bringing little return. A flock of capons is quiet, do not crow and are easily taken care of.

The best breeds to canopize are the medium-sized varieties, such as Plymouth Rocks, Wyandots, Rhode Island Reds, etc. The Asiatics do not give as satisfactory results unless kept until they reach maturity, when they are so large as to be beyond the reach of private fancies. It does not pay to canopize smaller breeds, for they do not produce dressed fowls of the highest quality. Capons are usually marketed at from six to twelve months of age, and the market for them opens soon after the holidays.

The best time to canopize is when the cockerels are three to four months old. At this age the operation can be performed with less danger than when the birds are older and larger. A bright, sunny day must be chosen for the operation and the birds must have been fasted for at least 24 hours previous. A special set of instruments are necessary for the purpose, and the work requires skill and care. One may easily acquire the skill by practicing on a few dead birds.—*Orange Judd Farmer.*

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Three-quarter length coat suits are a purely American fashion. They are here for the winter at least. Whether pleated or in Prince Albert effect they are good style. The sleeves are a trifle broader than ordinary coat sleeves to accommodate the large sleeves of the bodies. Evening and carriage coats are long and loose, with immense balloon sleeves. Coats for the dress promenade will be short, on Eton lines, and all save the coats in military effect are without standing collars, the idea being to wear neck pieces of fur. Cape-like collars in military effect finish many coats. Double fronts, the under ones red, give still another military effect.

Whether a skirt be pleated or plain it flares out at the foot more than last year. The nine gore, without a flounce, is a favored model. For carriage, house and smart promenade wear the silk lining is still in the shape of a drop skirt. For real service it is made right in with the skirt, which is a boon to the wearer as well as to disgusted ones, who must watch it dangle in the dirt (it being next to impossible to hold it up with the outer skirt). As for length—trailing skirts are very long, or else quite bobbed, while walking skirts are longer, just touching.

Outside severely tailored coat suits the sleeves have swelled to extraordinary proportions. In filled elbow sleeves the entire sleeve may be full. In full-length sleeves the fullness is caught in at the top, either in tucks or shirings, or by a cap, while the lower part is extremely bulky and is caught into either a broad Louis XV cuff or a high, flaring, broad gauntlet cuff. Flat, long shoulder effects are even more extreme than they have been.

"She has her husband and children; and they are well, and they are good, and they are contented; and yet, she was actually unhappy because—her dressmaker disappointed her!" says some poor soul who has paid the price—a woman whose house is left unto her desolate. To such a one, writes Margaret Deland, in *Harper's Bazar*, the whimpering and scolding complaint about the unimportant seems an incredible folly and she is moved to say to her complaining rich friend, "do stop to remember that you are rich; remember all you possess!" But instead of remembering her wealth, the foolish woman is bewailing her poverty; she is consumed with worry over unimportant things. The dressmaker brings tears to her eyes; the domestic problem keeps her awake at night; an invitation which does not come turns the world black before her.

Shame! says the poor creature whose sense of proportion has been born in some bitter hour of fear or bereavement of wrong-doing.

And it is a shame—a shame for the people who have in their lives the consciousness of Love, and Character, and Courage, to fall into the wasteful folly of unhappiness about the unimportant. It would be bad enough if this shameful kind of unhappiness could be confined to the person who experiences it; but, unfortunately, its black edge spreads over on to other lives. No woman who comes down to her breakfast table, with what her son frankly calls a "grouch on," is grouchy to herself alone. Her husband feels it; that same candid son feels it; her servants feel it, and so the day falls a little more darkly than it need on the world. It is curious how rarely we stop to reflect upon the duty of being conscious of our happiness, of being pleasant, in fact, for the sake of other people's happiness. And it is so simple a duty, too, always at our hand! It does not need that we shall go out and look for it, as we might look for a high deed to do—a dragon to slay, a movement to reform the world, a vocation, a martyrdom! Sometimes we have to hunt for such things; while right at hand is this great, and simple, and so opportune, the opportunity of being pleasant.

The latest phase of the bead craze is making head fringe for candle and lamp shades. Made of metal or gilt beads the result is quite good.

Violet in every shade, from purple so deep and dull as to suggest black to the most delicate shades, is a color which is now in highest regard, and bids fair to be all winter. Purple in deep plum hues and sweet heliotrope is worn in daytime, the pastel lilac is in request for evening. So many hats of so many sorts and sizes are made and worn that the amateur in modes is mystified. Three sorts are coming from Paris, however—the flaring hat, the boat shape and the broad Directoire.

Cut glass lamps and candelabra are the thing for quaint Colonial dining rooms.

One of the fads among extremists in house decorations is to have no ornaments that do not possess utilitarian value. They depend upon lamps, candlesticks, flower vases and bowls, and gayly covered boxes for all the softening of outlines of the room.

Very heavy linen, with very heavy, coarse lace edgings, are now most used for window hangings, bed spreads, bureau, table or toilet covers, etc., in Arts and Crafts rooms.

Fashion has divided her favors this year under three heads—

1. The soft, clinging materials, like voiles, etamines, crepes and the like for house or evening gowns.
2. The plain beautiful broadcloths for the day dress suits.
3. The heavier, rougher stuffs that belong to the family wear nubs and dots and little splashes and sprinklings of color come boldly to the surface as lurk just underneath—for traveling costumes, street or shopping gowns.

But while rough stuffs are best, they must not be too rough.

Even if it is a so-called "separate waist," and made of an entirely different material from the skirt, it must be trimmed with the skirt material so as to combine the two. The prevailing style is to have waists rather loosely fitted.

To wear with cloth skirts waists of chiffon, crepe de chine or Louise of the same shade and trimmed with bands of the cloth are very swaggy, and a cloth waist is really too heavy.

An Application for Burns.—Seventy-five grains of picric acid dissolved in two ounces of alcohol, to which a quart of water is added, makes an excellent application for burns. There is nothing which deadens the pain better. It should not be used after granulation begins.—*Medical Arena.*

Castoria.

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