

FARM NOTES.

The roofs of barns should be steep, and the shingles either painted or dipped in lime water to make them more durable.

The hens will soon begin to moult, and will lay few eggs during the process, which requires about three months.

Tomatoes may be trimmed of the lower branches and made to grow somewhat in the shape of a tree.

The possession of too much land is the bane of farming in many sections of the country. No one can afford an acre of land to idle.

All animals of the same variety are not alike, and scarcely any two will do equally well on the same food.

The beautiful fly, resembling a wasp, which lays its eggs just at the surface of the ground, in the trunks of the trees, is the peach borer.

Liberal feeding of stock means land improvement. Some lands are considerably improved by the application of lime.

Sheep often go a long time without drinking, especially if in good pasture and where the dew is so heavy that they can fill up with wet grass in the morning.

If the farmers of the country who own worthless dogs—ours with any breeding—could be induced to destroy them, and substitute one well-bred shepherd pup, not more, to each farm, the wealth of every farming community would be vastly increased in many ways.

There are two most important things to be kept in mind by the fruit raiser—pruning and mulching. If those two duties are well performed success is nearly always certain.

Rapid plant growth requires a condition of the soil that will furnish plant food as fast as the plants can take it up.

A sheep is peculiar in respect to eating and retaining the brightness of the eye, while it is gradually wasting by sickness until it dies at the feed trough.

Corn should be cut as near to the ground as possible, when the time for harvesting the crop arrives. This is not so much for the sake of the stalk that is saved as to avoid the troublesome stubs, which may not be covered in the next plowing.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

A DAILY THOUGHT.

Blessed are those who have the gift of making friends, for it is one of God's best gifts. It involves many things, but above all the power of giving out of one's self and appreciating whatever is noble and loving in another.

The child who had not learned obedience at the age of 2 never learns it. The child of 18 months out late at night in the perambulator, whose mother said, "It won't go to bed till we do," has begun the education of its parents very early.

If one's hands are inclined to perspire it is well to lay the wet gloves in a sheet of tissue paper and then put them under a heavy book or weight for several hours.

Care of the Shoes.—Clean your shoes thoroughly before attempting to blacken or polish them, dusting them off even if they seem perfectly clean.

Instead of wearing one pair of shoes every day, you get two, and wear them day and night, they will last longer and look better than two pairs worn the other way.

Be sure to see that your shoes and trees match as to shape—a narrow, pointed slipper tree won't properly hold out a mannish walking shoe; and if a square toe is forced into a slipper it is bound to ruin the shoe.

Much advice is given from time to time in regard to the care of the youngster's shoes as they come in from school, wet and misshapen from contact with wet pavements.

But with all this advice about keeping the children's shoes in good condition, those belonging to the older people are usually allowed to take care of themselves, though they may be of even greater importance and quite as often damp.

As soon as the shoes are taken off lace or button them up, and fill them about two-thirds full of oats, shake them down well, then tie in a handkerchief a parcel of oats as large as can be pressed into the top of the shoes and put away until wanted.

The oats absorb the moisture in the shoes, and in absorbing it the oats swell considerably, and the constant pressure on the leather keeps the shoe in correct shape and prevents that uncomfortable stiffness and rigidity always noticed when leather has been wet.

A little trouble and care of this sort will save many a pair of shoes, and in all probability will save many a corn from being formed by the pressure of shoes hardened from dampness.

The graceful Lines of the New Corset.—Slowly, but irrevocably, corset lines are changing. They're in a transition period as yet—a state in which they will probably stay some time.

The summer girl is responsible for it, with her demand for a smaller waist. She has tired of the exaggerated tilt to her waist line that fascinated her for so long—tired of blouses that bloused too much; and just now she's going in for all the gracious little curves that it's possible to get and still keep the straight front.

The consequence is that the small waist has come back again, but with the prettiest differences imaginable. Instead of the pinched up, awkward figure, with the bust line high and the waist drawn in all around, has come a charming new corset, as free and comfortable as the true straight-front corset ever was, but shaped in at both sides and back—everywhere except directly in front.

Over the new corsets her lingerie blouses and summer dresses have a set that the blouse of yesterday never knew, and the summer girl revels in a new charm of line. And these new corsets make certain styles possible which have always been classed among the "trying" fashions.

There's no indication that the old-fashioned, uncomfortable high corset will be upon us soon (although its return at some time in the not very far distant future seems inevitable), for the summer girl is immensely pleased with her production, and she's a great factor in the world of fashion.

In refurbishing the spring wardrobe "braids" frequently take the place of dollars. For instance, crepe de chine, chiffon and mousseline de sole are frequently thrown away when soiled, most people thinking that they cannot be washed. This is a needless waste, as a very little trouble suffices to make them quite presentable.

Dimolve a quarter of a teaspoonful of gum arabic in a half cup of water; add a few drops of white vinegar, and immerse the fabric. Take out into a clean, soft towel and pat, to press all the water out.

The South's Bright Future.

All the people of the South in the farming districts are watching the work of the men who have come in from the North with new methods, new machinery and new crops. The waste of natural fertilizers is one of the most astonishing things that the Northern farmer sees about the small Southern farm.

There is nothing sensational, noisy, or even picturesque in this diversified farming movement in the South; but its significance overshadows that of a dozen boisterous crusades which have come and gone, promising great things for the South, and giving only disturbance and trouble.

Cotton, corn and credit, the time-honored triumvirate of the South, are all up to a certain limit, but as absolute dictators of the fortunes of the Southern farmer their reign is intolerable and disastrous, and their tyranny is beginning to wane.

He will sell for cash and buy for cash and no longer live an existence by anticipation, a dependent upon the local storekeeper. The resources of the South have not yet approached realization, but the last two years have accomplished marvels in bringing them to light through practical demonstration.

Reduced Rates To Baltimore. For the International Convention United Society of Christian Endeavor, at Baltimore, Md., July 5 to 10, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell round-trip tickets to Baltimore, at greatly reduced rates, from all stations on its lines east of and including Pittsburgh, Erie, and Buffalo.

The rate from Pittsburgh will be \$9.00, from Altoona \$7.49, Erie \$12.00, Williamsport \$6.33, Buffalo \$11.00, Canandaigua \$9.70, Elmira \$8.50, New York \$8.30, Newark, N. J., \$6.10, Reading \$5.15, Wilkesbarre \$7.05, Dover, Del., \$3.90, with corresponding reductions from all other points.

Tickets will be sold on July 3, 4, and 5, good for return passage leaving Baltimore until July 15 inclusive. On payment of \$1.00 to Joint Agent at Baltimore an extension of return limit to August 31 can be obtained.

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