

FARM NOTES.

POULTRY NOTES.

The dust heap is absolutely necessary for fowls.

Feather pulling is a vice that comes from confinement and idleness.

Thoroughness in detail in poultry raising is the great secret of success.

Common fowls do not possess the characteristic qualities of thoroughbreds.

When fowls are permitted to roost in foul, damp houses it causes droopiness.

Fowls will eat a great deal of granulated charcoal. As a preventive of disease it is invaluable.

By giving young fowls a free range it will aid materially to develop a strong, healthy constitution.

It is easier to keep fowls in a good condition now than to allow them to run down and then build up again.

Poultry should always have access to green food when possible, and when they cannot it should be supplied.

Corn, when fed to the hens by itself, has a tendency to fatten rather than produce the most profitable egg laying.

Tanned paper is better than almost any other material for lining the inside of coops and houses. It is also excellent for driving away lice.

The only sure and safe way to keep large flocks, whether young or old, is to separate them into small lots, each one to occupy a place for itself.

The distinguishing characteristics of the *Sylvestris* breed of flocks are their fecundity and early maturity, combined with their great aptitude to fatten.

With poultry, as with nearly all other products from the farm, a safe rule is to market the surplus whenever a fair profit can be realized when making the sale.

Any method of conserving moisture will prove an assistance later in the year. The amount of moisture absorbed by the various plants is enormous. It is estimated that one acre of barley will absorb 500 tons of water a day, a fact which has been demonstrated by experiment, but which will not be accepted by many.

PRODUCING STRONG HATCHING EGGS.

The keynote of success with poultry is to have eggs that will hatch strong chickens, and to do this you must begin a year or two back to get things in shape. To get the best results the hens you intend to breed from should have unlimited range from the time they are about a month old. If they get a little rain or snow it will not hurt them any, providing they have a dry, warm house to go to when they wish. When they are in the house keep them busy exercising by scratching in litter on the floor.

For feed I find there is nothing better than cracked corn, wheat, buckwheat, oats, clover, green cut bone and vegetables, besides oyster shells, grit, etc. I do not believe in feeding mashes or stimulants of any kind. You might get more eggs, but they would not hatch as well and the chicks would not be strong. Now is the time to get ready for high-priced eggs next winter by hatching chicks out in April or May, or, if you have a quick maturing variety, June and July will not be too late.

COW PEAS AS A SUMMER CROP.

The cow pea is a crop that is planted from the middle of May until nearly August, as the vines may be plowed under at any time should frost threaten the crop. They are planted in rows and cultivated, or may be broadcasted, as they grow rapidly and soon cover the ground. They are bushy in growth and stand up firmly. If cut for ensilage, just when the pods are forming, they make a cheap and valuable addition to the contents of the silo. The vines will grow to the height of from two to four feet, according to the quality of the soil, but they also grow on very poor land. On some farms, after the corn is "laid by," cow peas are then planted between the rows as a "catch crop," and they do not seem to affect the corn crop in any manner. Two crops (corn and pea hay) being secured from the same season. There is no market of consequence for cow peas, but a market is unnecessary if they are fed to stock. Like clover, they have the ability to use the free nitrogen of the air and assist in adding nitrogen to the soil. The pods may be picked off the vines by hand when dry, and in the field, or the vines may be pulled up, stacked and flailed on the barn floor later on. For plowing under, make the soil fine, sow from one to two bushels of seed per acre, roll the land, so as to cover the seed well, and harvest the crop for hay just as the pods are beginning to change to a yellowish tinge, as the vines are then more nutritious than when mowed earlier. They may, if preferred, be plowed under when at that stage of growth.

FEEDING BROILERS.

I have made very careful experiments in feeding broiler chicks for best results. These cover several years. Having tried almost every method, I have chosen the following one as most successful. I do not remove the chicks from the incubator until they are 24 to 26 hours old. Simply remove the trays, open the ventilators and allow the machine to run down to a temperature of 95 degrees or less. This will allow the chicks to finish thoroughly the assimilation of the yolk of the egg which has been their nourishment during the formative period, and will bring them from the machine chipper and ready for trouble.

The first feed they get is fine chick grit, and a clean fountain of pure water. I then feed a cake composed of bran, rolled oats, enough middlings to stick it, fine grit, fine shell, well mixed with milk, and bake in the oven. This mixture is put in large flat pans and baked in a slow oven for four or five hours. When cool it is crumbled and fed twice a day. The other three feeds consist of cracked grains, seeds and grit, very similar to the leading commercial brands of chick feed. The fine grain is thrown in out clover little for the first few days, but later in plainer shavings.

I try and feed exactly enough to keep their appetites on edge, and have them watching eagerly for the attendant as he comes along with next meal two hours later. The working chick is a healthy animal, and conversely, the healthy chick is a worker. When forcing chicks for broilers, I put a box of heat soap in their pen when they are two weeks old, and let them eat what they wish. They will soon become accustomed to it, and will not gorge. It is a big factor in producing quick growth. Perfect cleanliness is absolutely necessary to raise broiler chickens successfully.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

A DAILY THOUGHT.

Each of us is born into a world full of duties and responsibilities which we can only discharge by the strenuous and unremitting use of every waking hour.

The Colors She Will Wear.—In color combinations there is now a tendency to combinations of several colors in the same applique, rather than two colors and several tones of the same color as heretofore. Just a touch of gold tinsel is seen on many of these, but only a touch, so that the result is never garish.

Aluminum is now being used in tinsel embroidery combined with applique trimmings in gray tulle.

Volaminous Skirts.—Skirts that are less than five or six yards wide for street wear are not considered, while eight and nine yards at the bottom are not too many for materials of a diaphanous character or of silks that are as supple as chiffons. Gores run up to eleven; it matters little, in fact, how many if the fullness is controlled so to preserve the figure lines above the knee. Few will wear skirts from wobbling in fullness, shown now and then in a ready-made model. It is too trying and entirely devoid of all smartness. There is a decided leaning towards a hem finish on the bottom of skirts, for demi-toilet and for the tailor-made street suits. Some of the elaborate gowns also show the same simplicity on the skirts edges, but more or less hand-trimmed, together with applied laces and yard garniture, remain still very greatly in style and will continue to do so.—*Vogue*.

Guimpes and stocks, with long cuffs or undersleeves to match, and surplice effects, are the favorites of the moment, and indeed, promise to be worn all summer. Black gowns in particular in this material, with these lace or lingerie accessories, are seen on numbers of smart dressers.

The white guimpes are not only a softening setting for almost any face, but they possess the merit of being removable so that they may be laundered, as do also the separate undersleeves, and as it is around the neck and the wrists that summer gowns are usually soiled, several sets of these lingerie accessories enable one to have practically a fresh frock every day.

Freshly cleaned or laundered mull, laces and linens appeal to every woman of refinement far more than richer materials and accessories that cannot be cleaned, and so it is more than probable that the present reign of lingerie accessories for runabout, shopping, traveling and gowns for other than ceremonious or evening wear will continue.

Pay Care to Buttons and Laces.—The white shoes that everybody is wearing are a good deal of trouble to take care of, as they are anything but pretty unless they are anything but white, and they stay that way such a little while! Pipe clay is the best cleanser for them, put on damp and allowed to dry on: then the shoes brushed with a very soft brush or a cloth pershied until the clay has all been removed.

And buttons! Hardly one girl in a dozen realizes that when a button is off of a shoe for a while it actually affects the shape of the shoe. But it does. And nothing is more inexcusable from the standpoint of neatness in dress than a shoe with buttons burst off and allowed to stay off, unless it is one with the laces knotted and dingy.

The Lily White Hand.—Don't undervalue the appearance of the hands. A beautiful hand may be even more fascinating than a beautiful face.

Don't neglect massaging and kneading the hands, and always use an emollient. This keeps the hand soft, white and pliant.

Don't forget to pinch the ends of the fingers now and then. This will do a good deal toward making the fingers taper.

Don't wear gloves every night, or the hands will become yellow. Occasional use of gloves however, is advisable.

Don't dry the hands carelessly after washing; use a soft damask towel or a silk handkerchief and dry thoroughly.

Don't wear rings that are too small. The inevitable result is red and swollen hands and knuckles.

Don't wear bracelets tight enough to effect the circulation, or so that they rub on the joints of the wrist.

Don't wear gloves that are a size too small; this prevents circulation and makes the hands red.

Don't forget that warm feet have much to do with white hands. When the feet are habitually cold the hands are always red or blue.

Swagger Parasols.—Among the latest and smartest things in the way of parasols there is none more attractive than those which have the appearance of being made of mild steel table linen. As a matter of fact, they really are, for they are in Chinese grass lines, round centerpieces, embroidered, which have been converted into parasol covers. They are the idea of a woman milliner with original ideas. They are white, with blue embroidery in the delightful Chinese blue, blue linen, with white embroidery, and white and brown, all very chic.

In a silk parasol there is a novelty with a hollow handle. There have been parasols before this with a knob which could be shown a tiny powder box, with puff, or a tiny bonbonniere; but the latest novelty has the entire handle hollow like the man's walking stick, which contains a long, slender tube of glass for holding a cocktail. The hollow handle parasol has more innocent contents, a pretty little painted fan with ivory sticks. The handle is of silver, of the club order, and the top, which opens, has a little cap with a hinge. The parasol is of silk in a solid color.

To Make Rhubarb Wine.—Wipe and cut two large bundles of rhubarb into small pieces into an earthenware pan, so large that the rhubarb will fill but one-third of it; fill the pan up to the brim with clear cold water, and after covering it, let it stand for five days. At the end of that time strain off the water into a clean pan and throw the rhubarb pulp away.

To every four quarts of the liquid allow three pounds and a half of loaf sugar; then cover the pan and let it stand for three or four days until the sugar is thoroughly dissolved, stirring it once or twice each day, and at the end of the time pour it into a cask or stone cask, adding two lemons cut in slices, a few pieces of ginger well bruised and several peppercorns; then cork tightly. After this look at it every week and fill up the jars if necessary; then when it ceases to bubble strain out the ginger, etc., and color the liquid with burnt sugar to resemble sherry. After letting it stand in the covered crocks for three or four months, bottle it; cork bottles very tight, and do not use for at least three months afterwards.

The Real Fourth of July.

Those impatient small boys who begin celebrating the Fourth before it actually arrives are not so far out of the way, after all. Paul Leland Haworth quotes in *Harper's* from John Adams' letter to his wife, in which he said: "The 2nd of July will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival."

For it was on the 2d of July that the final vote was taken on the momentous resolution of the Colonists to separate from Great Britain, as embodied in the draft of the Declaration of Independence drawn up by Thomas Jefferson. The debate after the vote lasted until the afternoon of the 4th, when it was brought to a close, largely on account of the oppressively warm weather, and because "hungry flies swarmed thick and fierce, alighting on the legs of the delegates and biting hard through their thin silk stockings."

The Mystery of Health.

Whenever any one is released from jail or not allowed to exercise, we read that while he was in prison or he might had health when he entered, he comes out as healthy as a brick. Yet almost without exception jails and penitentiaries are unsanitary, sunless places, with no facilities for proper exercise or for any of the other precautions usually taken by those who wish to get or keep health.

The mystery lies in two words—regularity and diet.

The first is perhaps the more important. Clocklike regularity; everything done on the second and on the same second every day; a recognition of the fact that the body is a machine. Then, as a supplement to this, a simple diet—plain, not too varied—enough to eat, but not too much.—*Saturday Evening Post*.

Anxious writes, "What are the duties of a father at his daughter's 'coming out' party?" To put up and shut up.

Reduced Rates to Asbury Park.

For the benefit of those desiring to attend the meeting of the National Educational Association, to be held at Asbury Park, N. J., July 3 to 7, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell excursion tickets to Asbury Park from points more than one hundred miles from Asbury Park, i. e., Chester, Pa., Wallingford, Pa., Villi Nova, Pa., Spring Mills, Pa., Carpenterville, N. J., Clayton, N. J., Harrisville, Bridgeport, N. J., and all stations beyond these points, at reduced rates. These tickets will be sold July 1, 2, and 3, and will be good to return leaving Asbury Park not earlier than July 3 nor later than July 10, except that upon deposit of tickets with Joint Agent at Asbury Park not later than July 10 and payment of fee of fifty cents, an extension of return limit may be obtained to August 31 inclusive. Tickets will be sold to Asbury Park via direct route and also via New York City in both directions, and will be honored only as they read. Stop-over will be allowed at Washington, Baltimore, and Philadelphia within transit limit on going trip, and within ten days, not to exceed final limit, on return trip, on all tickets reading via these cities. Stop-over within final limit will be allowed at New York on return trip on tickets reading through that city by deposit of tickets with Joint Agent at New York within one day after validation at Asbury Park and payment of fee of \$1. For specific rates, routes, and stop-over conditions consult nearest Pennsylvania Railroad ticket agent.

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