

FARM NOTES.

—Lice are worse than poultry disease. —Eastern farmers are again becoming interested in sheep.

—Organize and fight for protection to the public highways.

—Buffalo grass gives stock a good start, where it is in abundance.

—Does the farm wagon need a coat of paint? Just as like as not.

—The trustees of the University of Illinois have ordered the erection of a farm mechanic building for the college of agriculture.

—Cows, sheep, etc., have no good excuse for being in an orchard at any time. There's always danger that they will bark the trees—especially when green forage is absent.

—Many fruit buds killed, eh? Very likely 'tis so. But don't become discouraged. Dormant buds often come to the rescue in such cases, and a fair crop may thus result in spite of past unfavorable winter conditions.

—It is an old maxim among those who raise calves that any milk not fit for the farmer's table is unfit for the calf. Sour or very old milk will cause scours, and any filth in the milk will invariably show its effects in the condition of the calf.

—Land that has been cultivated for some years is better for all kinds of trees than land that is in its natural state or that has not been turned up for many years. Before the trees are planted the land should be again plowed as deeply as possible.

—When foods are fed on the farm and sold in some other form the valuable elements of fertility are retained at home, and as long as this is done the farm may be cultivated to its highest limit of capacity and will become more valuable every year.

—Rake up all the debris around the grape vines and burn the leaves and other materials. Scatter air-slaked lime liberally on the ground around the vines. In the spring turn the soil under and use more lime. In this manner the ravages of the rot can be greatly mitigated.

—A drain that is stopped up is one that is not only unserviceable, but a menace to health. When full there is always a disagreeable stenches therefrom, and, being always damp, substances decompose quickly. Nothing is more improved than to frequently examine the outlets of drain pipes and ditches, in order to have a free flow of water in them.

—While caring for the heifers we should take a few minutes each day and handle them. Were this done they would never have to be "broken" to milk, and there would be no jammed pails nor strained tempers. I can milk my heifers from either side without trouble, just as well as the older cows. I think it pays for the time taken, as they give their milk down more freely.

—The shaping of a tree should be done when it is young. The practice of allowing useless limbs to grow, only to be sawed or chopped off when the tree is large, is a mistake, as every undesirable limb grown deprives the other limbs of so much food and nourishment. Begin with the first year and train the tree to the shape desired, leaving only such branches as will be retained later on.

—Cauliflowers will not thrive except under the very best conditions. They are grown in the same manner as cabbage, only the soil must be exceedingly rich. Many growers have found it necessary to occasionally water this crop, which is a hindrance to field culture, although the prices usually obtained repay the care. If the leaves are drawn together over the heads blanching will be greatly facilitated.

—Sweet corn is a profitable crop, as it is always in demand in market. As the plants grow rapidly, and the ears are marketed before the seed matures, the crop is soon out of the way, to be followed up by crimson clover. To have sweet corn grow and reach the market quickly, the land should be well manured, and in addition about 100 pounds per acre of nitrate of soda applied by broadcasting when planting the seed.

—New varieties are often sold because they are "novelties," rather than because they are better than the old, tried and standard kinds. It is better to use varieties of trees and vegetables that are known to be the best for the section where they have been tested, in preference to using others, until experience gives an opportunity to know more of the newer varieties. Novelties should be tested in a limited way.

—By the most careful feeding for veal, but one pound of live weight can be made from one pound to one and a quarter pounds of dry matter. To put butter fat, worth 15 to 25 cents per pound, into veal worth six to eight cents per pound live weight, is wasteful, and poverty is the result. Fine veals are made from the same milk which goes to the creamery, by using flaxseed jelly in the skim milk. Let's learn how to do it.

—Labor on farms is nearly always pressing after spring opens, but it is difficult to secure capable help. There are many excellent opportunities for boys to secure good homes and fair wages if they are willing to serve a year on farms in the endeavor to learn. It may be mentioned that, while many suppose that "anybody can work on a farm," the fact is that even a large number of laborers accustomed to farming are undesirable. The best farm hands are those who require no supervision, thus relieving the employer of the necessity of leaving his personal duties in order to look after the help.

—The mole is not easily disposed of. He lives on insects and the burrows made through the soil are for the purpose of catching grubs and beetles. Although he plays havoc with the roots of plants, it seems to be for the purpose of getting at the insects there or because the roots are in the way. He does not eat them, or at least to a small extent. Corn meal or some other ground grain mixed with arsenic and scattered in the runways has been recommended, but I doubt its value. I would prefer to poison bits of fresh meat and leave in the burrows. If, suggests the Prairie Farmer, moles are as voracious as the shrews, their near relatives, this ought to be an effectual method. I have not had occasion to try it, having done quite well with mole traps, assisted by the cat.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.

The most successful men, instead of being men of unusual ability, are just ordinary ones with unusually intense sincerity and tenacity of purpose.—Frank Belmont Odell.

The universal fashion of waving the hair has its special dangers. Unless great care is taken as to the temperature of the irons used, the hair (even if not actually burned) becomes very brittle and loses its gloss. To overcome this, many curling devices have been invented. One of the newest and most practical is a soft piece of rubber, about three inches long and a half-inch in diameter. It looks like a gigantic screw, and the hair is wound around it, following the convolutions. It makes a good wave, and, as it is soft and yielding, does not hurt the head at night.

The open-work leather belts so fashionable this season can be inexpensively imitated by a girl who is clever with her fingers. Take the sleeve of long evening gloves, cut them open, and paste on the back a lining of paper cambric or some such light-weight, rather stiff, material. Then cut out your belt in any design you like. These belts are worn over colored silk. You can have several colors with one leather belt. Or the leather can be sewn on the colored silk lining, and the edges of the cut-work outlined in beads.

A square-cut open neck has a certain style, but as the effect is to raise the shoulders and increase the breadth across the chest, it should be avoided by those whose shoulders are already broad enough. On the other hand, slender people with sloping shoulders should never wear V necks, though this cut is most becoming to those inclined to stoutness, especially if the neck is short and the throat full. A round neck, cut just below the collar-bone, is almost universally becoming.

Girls who live all the year in the little towns and villages known to others only as summer resorts may find, during the season of "strangers," many opportunities of service which will benefit both the inhabitants of the place and the summer colony. One such work is suggested by that of a city mission church, which has found a way of enlarging its charities by means having the advantage of giving very little trouble to those asked to help.

A large burlap bag, with sides sewed over and over with twine and a rope drawing-string at the top, is sent by mail to any one willing to take charge of it. This bag is to be hung in some convenient place in the house, and into it is dropped whatever is not wanted by the members of the household—wearing apparel of all sorts, from hats to shoes (the latter paired and tied together); also toys, magazines, bric-a-brac, etc. When the bag is filled an addressed postal-card, which comes fastened to it, is sent to headquarters and a messenger takes the bag away. The contents are sorted and distributed to the repairers, both men and women, who are paid a small sum for their work. The articles are afterwards sold at low prices, often to the repairers, who thus can earn in the only way open to them the small sum required for an unneeded article. Clothes too far gone to be repaired are made into rags, either woven on a loom or braided and sewed by hand.

Now, the girls who "want to help" might organize a club for some such work as this on a small scale. Cottagers and boarders alike would be only too glad to be relieved from time to time during the season of the constant accumulations of clothing, toys, and other articles which are often destroyed just to get them out of the way. The members of this club might at first do the repairing, and their knowledge of local conditions would enable them to place things where they would do most good. Perhaps they might introduce rug-making also, at least the braided rug. These always find a ready sale for use in kitchens, bathrooms, or on piazzas. Among the summer girls surely a few might be found willing to join such a club, or to give an occasional morning for the work of repairing. Some also there might be who would contribute money. In this last case, repairs might be paid, as in the case cited above. Poor girls, unskilled and unemployed, might be taught to put clothes in order, retrim hats, etc. Indeed, this work, once undertaken, would open up endless possibilities. It is worth trying.

Girls in their "teens" are often annoyed and mortified by disagreeable eruptions on their faces and hands. It is small consolation to be told by their elders that it is a passing phase which they will outgrow. Let any girl so afflicted gather (while it is yet summer) the leaves and flowers of the ordinary red clover tea. So great was the reputation of this tea in all skin diseases a generation or so ago, that it was believed to be a specific for cancer. That, alas! is not so, but it will cure very troublesome afflictions. To make the tea take a good big pinch of the dried leaves and flowers combined. Put these into a small pitcher and pour over them half a pint of boiling water. Let the mixture stand all night. The dose is a small wine-glassful taken three or four times during the day.

Many people do not feel that they have really had a salt-water bath unless the head has been wet. In this case it should be taken to rise the hair thoroughly in fresh water afterwards, or it will be sticky and feel coarse to the touch. If the drying is done in the open air, the scalp being meantime gently massaged, there is no danger of taking cold. When there is no time or inclination for this amount of care after the bath, it is better not to wet the hair at all. The thin rubber bathing cap is a perfect protection, and their unbecomingness may be concealed by a bright silk or gingham handkerchief arranged like the turban of a Southern mammy.

Every girl should know how to prepare other refreshing summer beverages than the usually acceptable lemonade. New Orleans is famous for its delicious orgeat, for which orange flowers are usually used, but a very good imitation orgeat may be made without them. Prepare a syrup of sugar and water, in the usual proportion of a pint to a pound. Boil five minutes, skim and cool. When it is cold add, for every four pounds of sugar that was used, a gill of orange water and two tablespoonfuls of essence of bitter almonds. Mix with ice water. Rose water may be used, if preferred, instead of orange water, with the almond essence.

People who are not very strong should always take some light refreshment after a sea bath; a raw egg, a glass of milk, or a few crackers are quite sufficient. If there is any tendency to chills, have the milk hot, or substitute beef tea.

GAMBLERS' LUCK.

A Joke Which Brought a Fortune to Its Innocent Victim.

Having lost every cent of his ready money at the gaming tables, an English visitor at Monte Carlo wired a pathetic appeal for help to a friend in England. Two days later he received a letter addressed in the friend's handwriting which on being opened revealed a five pound note.

Without pausing to read the letter, the plunger hastened to Cro's, the famous restaurant in the Galerie Charles III, and changed his "five" into French money. From Cro's he went straight into the Casino, where, experiencing an extraordinary run of luck, he not merely retrieved all his previous losses, but gained a substantial increase into the bargain.

Wearily of play, he retired with a few cronies to Cro's again to celebrate the occasion. The usually genial M. Cro met him at the door of his establishment with a flood of reproaches and upbraidings. The five pound note was bad! He waved it angrily in the plunger's face—mais oui, it was false, this five pound note!

The plunger took the guilty "five" and scrutinized it carefully. It was one of the sham bank notes issued by Sir Augustus Harris and bore on its face an advertisement of the Drury Lane pantomime. The English friend, himself as "broke" as the Monte Carlo plunger, had posted him the flagrantly worthless note as a joke—a joke, which had the plunger taken the trouble to examine the "five" or read its covering letter he would have seen only too clearly himself. It was fortunate that he did not do so. He merely paid Cro his 45 and, inviting the puffed restaurateur to share in the champagne, pretended that the whole affair was an intentional witticism.

The conceit of a croupier, who fondly imagined that he understood the English language, was instrumental in presenting another and far less experienced Britisher with 1,000 francs. This gentleman, handing a 1,000 franc billet to the croupier in question, asked for plaques in exchange for it. Plaques are the large five louis gold pieces peculiar to Monaco. The croupier, fancying that the player had said "black" and was requesting him to place the note on the "black" compartment of the cloth, did so unobscured. Black duly turned up, and the croupier politely handed 2,000 francs to the surprised Britisher.—Ward Murr in Chambers' Journal.

THE GROWTH OF TROUT.

Age, Food and Temperature Seem to Have No Bearing on Size.

The Salvelinus fontinalis, which is currently but inaccurately called brook trout, was supposed for many years to be a small fish. Agassiz was largely instrumental in exploding this fallacy. It is not an uncommon thing for an angler with ordinary luck to get a six or seven pound trout of this variety. It is known that a trout may grow to weigh eleven or twelve pounds. There is, however, great difficulty in accounting for its variation in size.

In northeastern Canada there are large streams and lakes in which only fingerlings have ever been found. In the immediate vicinity of such waters three and four pound trout are quite common and seven and eight pounders are not phenomenal. In all these waters crustacea do not abound; there are no small fish of any kind except small trout. At some places, it is true, frogs abound, but taken as a whole the difference in food supply is not an adequate explanation for the difference in growth. There is no substantial difference in the waters as to temperature, size, origin and course. Climatic conditions are the same. The small trout taken to virgin lakes in which there are no fish have sometimes remained small and sometimes have not thrived. The anglers who hunt these waters have not yet found a satisfactory explanation of this peculiar condition of things. It is one of the mysteries which lends fascination to the art. "You never can tell what is going to happen when you go fishing."—St. Paul Dispatch.

Long Words or Short?

Which shall we prefer in speech and writing? Almost everybody will vote for the short word, and almost everybody will be voting for the best can-

Castoria.

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didate. The short words are usually the strong words. They make up in muscle and liveliness what they lack in size, says the Manchester Union. And they are readily in the eyes of men who have thoughts that they wish to lodge in other minds. A man who should run out into the street and yell "Confagration! Confagration! Confagration!" when his house was burning would be thought to be making a jest of the affair. And so in all matters where ideas are to be handed out quickly and clearly—the short word has first choice.

Cockfighting Among the Greeks. The sport of cockfighting seems to have originated with the Thesmocthes of Greece. When he was leading an army against the Persians he noted two cocks in a desperate battle. To stimulate the courage of his soldiers he pointed out the bravery of birds, and, having won his battle with the Persians, he ordered that an annual cockfight should be held to celebrate his victory. In England the records show that the first cockfight took place in 1191.

What He Meant. "Don't forget to visit the mystery show while you are in Europe." "Let's see, that's in one of the German cities, isn't it?" "No, it's in Berne, Switzerland. I refer to the International sausage exhibition."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

He Showed the Way. On the 16th of August, 1807, Colonel Michel Ney, duke of Elchingen, having received orders to charge, turned to his men and shouted to them in a voice of thunder: "My lads, I have an income of 300,000 francs, and you haven't a farthing. Keep your eye on your colonel as he charges, and do as he does." So saying, he rode off as hard as he could tear in the direction of the enemy. The whole regiment followed him as though electrified.

Modern Cannon. In modern high velocity cannon the pressure of the gases at the moment of firing generates tremendous heat. It is estimated that this heat runs as high as 8,000 degrees and even 9,000 degrees. The white hot gases eat away the steel lining of the guns in much the same way as streams of boiling water eat away a block of ice.

A Paradox. Johnnie—Pa, equine is a horse, isn't it? Father—Yes, Johnnie—And cow is a kind of an ox, isn't it? Father—Yes, a sort of an ox. Johnnie—Then what is an equinox?—Philadelphia Record.

Politeness is a coin destined to enrich those who give it away.

Medical.

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If you suffer from backache—From urinary disorders—From any disease of the kidneys, Be cured to stay cured. Doan's Kidney Pills make lasting cures. Bellefonte people testify. Here's one case of it: Wm. E. Haines, living at 133 W. Beaver St., says: "I have had no occasion to use any kidney medicine since 1896. It was at that time I was cured by Doan's Kidney Pills and I made a statement for publication recommending them. The cure has proved to be permanent and it gives me pleasure to once more endorse Doan's Kidney Pills. Before I used this preparation I had been suffering for six years with a lameness of the back and a dull lingering aching over the kidneys accompanied with severe pains in the head. My eyes pained me. Being on night work I had to have my rest during the day but when I was in this condition I could not get any rest at all, and was, in fact, unfit for work. Reading of the many cures made in Bellefonte by Doan's Kidney Pills, I got a box at the Bush Block Drug Store. They banished the whole trouble, and during the past eight years I have had no return of it. With this proof I am well able to recommend Doan's Kidney Pills."

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