

FARM NOTES.

Horses, like men, should be comfortably cared for if you desire to get good results.

The United States, it is estimated, has 201,794,654 apple trees and 17,716,184 pear trees.

When lice get a foothold spray the hogs; also spray the pens and burn all the rubbish.

Never break a colt by a slow walker because he will fall into the same habit; and habits, once formed, are hard to break.

The manure product from a single cow, according to figures of the Department of Agriculture, ranges in value from \$30 to \$40 per year.

Horses do not need medicine unless they are actually sick. Good care and good feed with proper exercise is what they require most of all else.

The Nebraska Experiment Station has demonstrated the fact that a cow reaches her highest production of butter fat before she does her greatest flow of milk.

Milk should be gotten into its place of permanence as soon as possible after being drawn, so it gathers bacteria and odors rapidly wherever it is, and should be protected as soon as possible.

It is claimed that goat milk gives a constitution to the child which cannot be obtained from cow's milk, and also that both the milk and the meat are absolutely free from any tubercular contamination.

Some of the swiftest milkers are the worst to dry up cows. One needs to be rapid, and yet so gentle, so thorough, so painstaking, that the cow will regard the process as a relief and a luxury, and will increase in milk rather than diminish.

The answer to the question: "Are we a beef-eating nation?" is given in the fact that Swift & Co. sold \$250,000,000 worth of beef in a year. Another \$270,000,000, and others \$250,000,000, bringing the total to \$770,000,000 for beef alone.

A successful Iowa hog raiser says he puts a pair of coal ashes, a couple handfuls of salt, and a little air-lacked lime, all well stirred together, in a trough where the hogs can help themselves! It helps to make good bone in the growing pigs, keeps the stomach sweet and prevents scours.

The condition of corn on September 1 was 79.4 per cent. of a normal, against a 10-year average of 81 per cent. spring wheat, when harvested, 77.6 per cent. against a 10-year average of 77.9; barley, when harvested, 81.2 per cent. against a 10-year average of 83.5; and oats, 69.76 per cent., against a 10-year average of 80.7, says the crop report issued by the Department of Agriculture.

Poultry feeding experiments at the Massachusetts Experiment Station included rice, a feed which has very little fibre, compared with wheat or oats. It results in a larger production of eggs, but was not advised for feeding purposes on account of the cost. However, it is often possible to buy slightly damaged rice at less than the cost of corn and wheat, and in such cases it is a desirable food, for variety for either the laying hens or the young stock.

Mutton sheep make a greater gain of flesh than steers, according to experiments made by the Wisconsin Experiment Station. The food required to produce 100 pounds of mutton was 294 pounds of corn, 296 pounds of corn silage, 158 pounds of corn fodder and 22 pounds of potatoes. To produce 100 pounds of steer requires 394 pounds of corn, 181 pounds of bran and 654 pounds of silage. The results show that silage was also an excellent food for the sheep as well as the steer.

The famous English harness blacking is made as follows: Three ounces of turpentine and two ounces of white wax are dissolved together over a slow fire. Then add one ounce of ivory black and one dram of indigo well pulverized, and mix together. When the wax and turpentine are dissolved add the ivory black and indigo, and stir until cold. Apply thin. Wash afterward and you will have a beautiful polish. This blacking keeps the leather soft and is excellent for harness and buggy tops.

When the chickens are 9 to 10 weeks old at the Maine Experiment Station, and the cockerels weigh 11 to 12 pounds, the sexes are separated and the cockerels put by themselves into vacant brooder houses, 100 to a house. Each house has a yard in front about 12 feet square. The cockerels are fed on porridge three times a day, in V shaped troughs. This is made of six parts cornmeal, two parts middlings, one-half part linseed meal and two parts beef scrap. They are fed all they can eat in one-half hour.

Mustard is the oldest of condiments, the Egyptians regarding it as an aid to digestion. The Asians ate it freely, and it was sold by peddlers in Solomon's time. The Normans and Anglo Saxons in the earliest times never went to war without an ample supply of prepared mustard, they considering it both food and medicine. The plant seems to thrive in all parts of the world, and is eaten by every civilized nation and many heathen tribes, either as a spring salad, for which the young leaves are delicious, or a seasoning prepared from the ground seed.

It is now claimed that the United States makes just as good Limburger cheese as does the province in Belgium where it originated. The American method is to take a piece of a calf's stomach and set it away in a warm place in a can of whole milk. In about forty minutes the curdling mass is pounded and then the whey pressed out. Afterward forms are filled and further drainage permitted. Salt is rubbed on the outside until it becomes slippery; then the cheese is set away in the cellar to ripen for a month or two, and the germs do the rest.

A recent writer explains the peculiar attitude and hissing of the goose something as follows: When you enter a yard where geese are they will stretch out their necks and hiss like a serpent. They will do the same when sitting upon their nests. This authority says that in the far East, long ago, geese nested in the tall grass, and in some way unknown discovered that no sound would drive away the intruder as quickly as the hissing of a snake, the bite of which was poisonous and meant death. Therefore when the intruder approached near the nest, the geese would stretch out their necks, making it resemble a snake and send forth sounds like a snake, which were successful in driving away the enemy.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT. It had done me good to be somewhat parched by the heat and drenched by the rain of life. —Longfellow.

Furs are in great demand this winter.

Put a pinch of salt in each can of tomatoes just before sealing it. This preserves the flavor and helps to keep the vegetables a long time.

The most elegant and attractive dinner tables are seldom the most elaborate ones. Linen which has the gloss of good laundering, china and silver which shine from perfect care and a few flowers or a jardiniere of ferns in the center make a more impressive dinner table than the more elaborate ones ornamented with lace and ribbons and expensive centerpieces.

Simmer slowly one pound of dates in enough milk to cover. Sift them through a sieve to free from the stones; add one-half cup of sugar, the yolks of three eggs, a little cinnamon and a pint of boiled milk. Bake in deep-lined plates, as for custard pie. Whip the white of the eggs and frost, having flavored the frosting slightly with vanilla. Brown nicely. This is sufficient for two pies.

The one-piece gown has never had a more substantial vogue than at this hour, but in its wake there are endless varieties of other models which show no disposition to play second to any style. The leader in all classes is the Directoire. Not a dressmaker or a gown buyer has had the courage to "turn down" this popular fashion. Even the most conservative houses have had to admit that the style is here for the next few months. But the modifications are often more numerous than the points copied from the original type.

There has long been a rule of fashion that only waists of the same color as the skirt should be worn and this year fads no relenting in this hard and fast rule. But many women set fashion at defiance and wear waists of dainty white—and no one can deny that they are most becoming. For these brave persons are nets and washing tulle in almost endless variety and many new designs. Flirt nets have not quite the vogue they once enjoyed, net of rather coarse octagon-shaped mesh being better liked.

Waists of net, either in white or in colors, matching the skirts with which they are to be worn, are elaborately tucked and little trimmed, depending for effect on cut and line rather than on elaboration. Sometimes polka dots of various sizes and brilliant color are hand-embroidered on the waists and one lovely blouse of gold-colored net noted was trimmed with vertical bands of Egyptian embroidery—quite a riot of color, but so skillfully designed that it was a delight to the eye.

A hint for home dressmakers to remember is that the lining, which in the majority of cases is composed of satin, must be closely fitting and carried down almost to the knees. It must not possess any superfluous seams, as unnecessary material is a pitfall to be avoided. This lining is frequently boned like a corset to ensure perfect fitting, the skirt being made quite full at the hem to allow complete ease of movement.

Square Turnovers—For these cut squares of good pastry. Make ready a filling by thickening a cupful of hot milk with three tablespoonsful of flour and a paste with cold water. Let it boil for a minute, see that it is free from lumps, take from the fire and pour on three eggs, beaten well, with a half cupful of powdered sugar. Return to the fire and stir to a thick, smooth cream. Flavor to taste. When cold put it by the spoonful in the middle of a square of the paste and fold the corners to the middle, pinching them together there. Bake to a good brown and eat cold.—The Delineator.

Sweetbreads and chicken used in equal proportions make a delicious salad. Boil the sweetbreads very slowly with half a dozen cloves and half a bay leaf for nearly an hour. Then drain and throw at once into cold water to blanch them. Drain and dry them, press them hard with one hand and cut into thin slices with the other. Remove all membrane and cut the slices into pieces. Sprinkle them with a little vinegar, salt and pepper, put a slice or two of onion on them and let them stand for half an hour or thereabout. Meanwhile boil a young fowl slowly until it is tender, take the meat from the bones, and when it is cold cut it into dice. Toss the two kinds of meat together in mayonnaise and serve on lettuce leaves.

There is a new feature in the making of the fashionable skirts which will help out the dressmaker who has had her troubles in trying to bring the unlined perfectly fitted skirt into correct lines. This is a sheath girde lining that is shaped to the waist and hips like a glove and that forbids any stretching of the material in drawing it tight enough at these points. Such girdles are found under high-waisted Directoire skirts and in otherwise unlined princess models. In some of the soft satin skirts made as sooty as the exigencies of moving permit, and that are to be worn with knickerbockers in place of petticoats, there is often a satin or silk facing for 10 inches or thereabout at the bottom of the skirts. Where there is one of the shapely trims, especially one velvet skirt, a thick cord finishes the bottom.

It is a great mistake to sew, read or do other close work by artificial light which comes from any distance much above the level of the eye. Use a kerosene or gas lamp, which can be placed at the proper height. To demonstrate the truth of the observation, one has only to sit indoors in the day time and let the light pour through the upper foot or two of the window, keeping the rest of the window securely lightproof. The eyes will soon tell you of the unwise strain. The Princess mode is carrying all before it, all the latest Paris models being formed to give at least the Princess effect. The term does not necessarily mean that the whole robe is cut entirely in one, but the connection must be hidden very skillfully, as if obvious, the whole appearance is marred. The join must be made to gracefully disappear among the trimmings or draped folds of the coverage. Princess robes of the present day differ greatly from those of last year; they are more sheath-like, and give the indispensable Directoire idea.

Educating Blind Children.

"Of all the sightless only about one in thirty is under ten years," says John Macy, in the October Everybody's. "But the blind children under school age are an important, if small, class. Their education must be begun early. Nurseries for blind babies have been established in Brooklyn and Boston. Most blind babies, however, are kept at home, and at home the education must be carefully carried out if the children are to receive the best from the schools later in life. Blind children should be encouraged to romp, taught to dress themselves and eat properly at table.

"Treat a blind child as if it were normal, let it mingle with other children, and encourage healthy naughtiness, meddling, and a tendency to explore. It is the child that 'gives no trouble' and is content to lie in a corner for whom the mother has most cause to fear. "In any intelligent household the blind child can be taught the Roman letters, embossed on wooden blocks, and can learn to read Braille. All members of the family should learn Braille, not only for the sake of teaching him, but in order to write to him when he grows up and is separated from his relatives. Any one can learn the Braille alphabet in a day, read it rapidly with the eye in a week, and write it on a Braille machine (which costs only a few dollars) about as easily as one can learn to use a common typewriter.

"When the child is of school age he should be sent to the nearest institution. There are in America over forty institutions for the general education of blind children. The curriculum is like that in schools for the seeing, with such special apparatus and instruction as are necessary to enable the blind to read and write and pursue the ordinary branches—history, geography, arithmetic, and so on. Like other public schools, some are good, some are not. The people who are in charge of the seeing are as good as conditions allow. But the education of the blind, being regarded as a mysterious and special business, has been entrusted to a few institutions, which have been free from public scrutiny. The superintendents of one or two institutions have in times past pulled the wool over the eyes of their trustees and have dealt to the public what Huckleberry Finn calls 'tears and flapoodle.' But rest of the work in the schools is sincere, and it will become more intelligent and efficient the more widely the capacities and the needs of the blind are understood by the public."—Christian Advocate.

In the Tower of London are yet preserved some of the relics of the past, when men used "the thumb-screw and the rack for glory of the Lord." Some of these instruments of torture are dyed deep with the blood of the unfortunates who suffered from them, and many of these sufferers were women. We shudder at the thought, and yet women today, are undergoing a slow torture, incomparably more severe than the tortures of the torture chamber. When the nerves are racked ceaselessly, when the day is joyless and the night is sleepless, many a woman sees the gaunt, wild-eyed phantom of insanity clutching at her in the darkness. Even insanity, when caused by disease of the womanly organs, has been cured by Dr. Pierce's Female Prescription. It has cured St. Vitus's dance and other forms of nervous disease. It is a medicine remarkable for its direct action upon the delicate female organs, and its wonderful healing power. It heals ulceration and inflammation, cures female weakness, soothes pain and tones up the nervous system. It contains no alcohol, and is altogether free from opium, cocaine and other narcotics.

It is wise to sow potash in apple orchards, as it is one of the most important elements of plant food. If they can be secured in the unbleached white wood ashes are excellent. In buying potash, get it in the muriate form, and apply from 200 to 300 pounds to the acre, sown broadcast under the trees. It would be difficult to get on too much wood ashes.

After a South African Storm. With the breaking of the day I went outside. The country was unrecognizable. The land and the scenery which had known for years were entirely altered. The very hills, piled high with white hallostones, were a different shape, and torrents of muddy water poured down from all sides. And when the red sun rose into a clear bright sky the scene of ruin and desolation was awful to look at. Buildings had been hurled to the ground and were nothing more than hills of hallostones. A large dam I had spent two years in making had been completely swept away. In another dam which had remained unbroken the hallostones had accumulated and piled themselves up over twenty feet in height. There was not a sign of water in this huge dam, just a huge pile of frozen hallostones.—Wide World Magazine.

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