

FARM NOTES.

—Eighteen hens that were fed milk last winter, laid more eggs than 100 fed on oat

—A hen too fat gets lazy; she takes no interest in life. One too poor cares nothing about her egg record. The happy medium is a happy hen.

—A flock might just as well root in trees as in a house full of cracks and holes, which chills the birds in spots and produces bad colds.

—Some people are willing to pay an extra price for eggs of one color. Many people get a cent or more a dozen for sorting their hen fruit according to size and color.

—On some farms the young chickens are allowed to roost outdoors, during the summer and fall. They should at once be trained to winter quarters, and the sooner this is done the better.

—I should rather have one happy hen than two grumpy ones. A happy hen is the one that fattens the pocketbook; a hen with a grouchy isn't worth her space, no matter what her breed may be.

—It is worth the poultry raiser's while to remember that ear earth floor is unhealthy when the location is naturally wet and not well drained. With this kind of location it will pay to put in a board floor.

—Take no chances by having too many chickens together in one flock. If you see they are getting to be crowded in their winter quarters, make shifts and health certainty by dividing them up, or selling some of them.

—Hens will not lay during the cold months unless given food rich in egg material. I feed wheat and skim-milk, which are splendid egg producing foods; and also include parched corn and Kaffir-corn in the bill of fare.

—You may have an idea that poultry can hunt their own grain. You are wrong. Grit is as essential as feed. Get a grit box, fill it with crushed rock and oyster-shell, and hang it on the wall where dirt will not be scratched into it.

—Keep the cattle and other stock out of the fields after they become soft from rain. Tramping the field when it is too wet will injure the soil much more than the pasture is worth. Also, if handling must be done in the field, or across it, do the handling when the soil is dry or frozen.

—We know when November arrives that winter is not far off. There will be a number of very nice days this month, and advantage should be taken of good weather for repairing the houses, painting, white washing, or whatever work might be necessary before real winter comes.

—According to some experiments noted by the Department of Agriculture, it was found that white cows were milked three times a day—morning, noon and evening—the milk was richest at noon and poorest in the morning, and when milked morning and evening the milk was slightly richer in the evening.

—One of the best methods of keeping the poultry house warm in winter at small cost, is to keep the floor well littered with dirt, or straw, hay or leaves to the depth of from three to six inches. This protects against loss of heat and prevents cold currents from below, and may also be used to scatter the grain in to keep the fowls active.

—Colds should be weaned when between three and five months old. Should the cold lack exercise, there is great danger of feeding too much, but if he is getting all the exercise he will take, it is next to impossible to overfeed him. It is best not to feed any more oats than what he can relish and eat readily, but just sufficient to keep him smooth.

—Cleanliness in all lines of dairying counts for quality of products. After milk vessels have been washed with soap and hot water they must be finally rinsed with scalding water. When calding water is used no drying of the water will dry the vessels without aid. Sanning after other cleaning should be done.

—Many farmers feed too much hay. What a horse will eat in an hour is a great plenty, also enough bran and middlings or ground oats to keep them in good condition. Use a little salt once or twice a week, or better, if you can get it, keep a good size lump of rock salt in the manger all the time. Occasionally a hot mash with a little oil meal added is a good thing. Heavy or excessive feeding is not necessary if the horse is in fair condition.

—The hard milk is not necessarily the poor milk. However, she is apt to be poorly milked if the hired help is left to do the task, and that means she will get the name of being a poor milk. Stockmen who know how to handle cows that are hard milkers oftentimes secure valuable animals at small cost, and by right handling can, perhaps in part, correct the difficulty. Be sure that the dairy cows get as much water as they need.

—Habit in all animals is very strong. This fact may be taken advantage of by the stockman and turned to good account. Get each animal to be stalled in the habit of going into its own stall and soon they will take care of themselves in this matter and save much human labor. The team can be taught to stand without being tied, which also saves much time and labor, but first teach the lesson well before trusting the team too far out of sight. Such lessons are not learned in a day.

—The sow, as well as other animals, previous to giving birth to young should be allowed to take exercise in the open air and sunlight. From now on through the fall and winter, sows due to farrow should be provided with a suitable house and shelter and be placed there at the critical time. If the weather is cold or rainy the house should be tight, dry and warm, yet an excess of bedding should not be used. Right young pigs are often smothered or crushed under deep bedding.

—A fowl should be fattened as quickly as possible. Ten days is long enough, but it should be confined either in a coop or a number in a small yard. They must have a continual supply of fresh water, and should be fed four times a day, the first meal being given early and the last one late. A recommended mixture in three parts cornmeal, one part ground oats, one part bran, one part crude tallow, the entire lot scalded and fed for the first three meals with all the corn and wheat that can be eaten up clean at night. Weigh the articles given.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.

Joy and we are woven fine, A clothing for the soul divine; Under every grief and pain Runs a joy with silken twine.

—Blake.

An acceptable Christmas present for the housewife is a set of cotton flannel bags for large pieces of silver and fresh cases for knives, forks and spoons.

All silver that is not in constant use keeps clean much longer in such cases. A dark green or rich red should be selected rather than a delicate color and the nap should be turned in.

While most of the silver bought in recent years comes in such cases, the older housekeeper either has hers in clumsy boxes or her cases are soiled enough to make new ones acceptable.

The cases should be made envelope fashion, with divisions to hold twelve spoons, forks, or knives. As there is practically a regulation size for all such implements, the dimensions of case are not hard to get. Leave enough of the case at top to turn down an inch or two over the compartments.

Bags are harder to size. If possible get dimensions of dish, which they are intended to hold. Make it large enough for the article to slip in easily and finish with draw string of colored ribbon or tape at top.

If one wishes to elaborate, the cases may be bound in a self-tone of ribbon or braid, but most housekeepers would prefer more cases and less decoration. Rows of machine stitching give a nice finish, or the edge of flap may be briar stitched.

An individual touch is given by initials done in heavy outline or cross stitch, in contrasting colors. These should be put on one side of bag and on outer part of flap.

If one knows the special kind of silver that is to go in the different cases, it will be a boon to the one who must get them out in a hurry from a crowded chest, to have worked in outline, letters on the case the name and kind, as Colonial Fish Forks, Rapeseed Salad Bowl, King Pattern Bouillon Spoon.

A very useful gift for the tiny baby is the white flannel shawl or blanket. A square of the white flannel is bound with wash ribbon. A band or feather stitching about an inch from the binding is a very pretty finish. This feather stitching may be parallel with the edge or slightly curved. If curved, a dainty design worked in each of the curves does not take much more time and is a decided addition. Some of the shawls are still further embellished with a design in one corner.

If one does not care to bind the edge, a hem may be turned and buttonhole or feather stitched into place. The handwork may be done in white or in pale pink or blue. The mercerized cotton will answer quite as well as the silk and is less expensive.

It is not at all out of the way to embroider a white linen shopping bag as a Christmas gift, even though the time for the white linen suit will have passed.

White linen will come back to us, as it always does, and the grateful recipient of the bag for next year will be in partial readiness for a coming season. This is never objectionable, and is, to the recipient, far more comfortable than the feeling of the momentary gift.

In a letter straight from Paris comes a word that simplicity is the latest thing in hair dressing. Tossing pompadour and dressed to look like a baking tin full of finger rolls is said to be a thing of the past.

Almost all hair is flat on the top, much of it is parted, and wherever possible with little or no rat. Puffs are passed and in their place have come curls—curls at the nape of the neck, tucked into the loose coils and falling gently on the brow. These last must be natural if within one's skill with curling iron.

Already this simplicity has made itself felt over here, and the up-to-date woman is wearing her hair simply parted or brushed back and very flat. The braid is then brought round the head like a coronet, but instead of being over the crown of head as formerly is arranged to lie close to the hair line in front, brought close back of ears and is finished at back with a bunch of curls to lie on nape of neck.

Instead of being braided the hair is loosely coiled into a heavy roll or twist. Celery Salad Sandwiches.—Four eggs, one head of celery, half a teaspoonful of salt, a dash of pepper, one cup of mayonnaise. Put the eggs in warm water and when it reaches the boiling point keep them there without boiling for fifteen minutes. Then remove the shells and chop them very fine.

Take the white portion of the celery, chop fine and mix with the egg. Season and spread on thin slices of buttered bread, cover with a layer of mayonnaise.

Gingerbread.—Three ounces of butter, two tablespoonsful of sugar, half a pound of golden syrup, two eggs, two level ounces of flour, one teaspoonful of ginger, one level teaspoonful of cloves, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, one teaspoonful of baking soda and half a pound of raisins.

Cream the butter and sugar, beat up the eggs and add them gradually, the syrup melted, the flour, spices, baking soda and raisins cleaned.

Beat together for five minutes, then turn into a greased cake tin and bake in a moderate oven till ready. It will take about an hour and a-half.

Have You Noticed.—The quaint little shirred chiffon bonnets for morning, with long strings that may be used as a veil? The new silk gloves fastened at the side with five little silk covered buttons?

The long continued craze for veils of a figured net? The return of the selvidge in silk and wool materials?

The growing fulness of sleeves? The waistline pointed in the front? The chlo bow of black tulle worn at the throat, and held in place with a black enamel hat pin?

Date Dessert.—Put a layer of fresh cottage cheese in a glass dish and sprinkle with a little cream to make slightly moist. Over this place a layer of chopped dates mixed with one-third the amount of chopped sugar. Dust lightly with granulated sugar, put in another layer of the cheese, then, one of dates, and finish with a rather thick layer of the cheese made slightly moist with cream. Sprinkle with sugar and garnish with a few walnut meats.

The Edge of Night.

There are only twenty-four hours to the day—in the day and the night. Add how few are left to that quiet time between the light and the dark: Ours is a hurried twilight. We quit work to sleep; we wake up to work again. We measure the day by the clock; we measure the night by an alarm clock.

Life is all ticked off. We are murdered by the second. What we need is a day and a night with wider margins, a dawn that comes more slowly and a longer lingering twilight. Life has too little selvaige; it is too often raw and raveled. Room and quiet and verge are what we want, not more dials for time nor more figures for the dials.

We have things enough, too—more than enough. It is space for the things, perspective and the right measure for the things that we lack—a measure not one foot short of the distance between us and the stars.

If we get anything out of the fields worth while it will be this measure, this largeness and quiet. It may be only an owl or a tree toad that we go forth to see, but how much more we find in things we cannot hear by day—things long, long forgotten, things we never thought or dreamed before.

The day is none too short, the night none too long, but all too narrow is the edge between.—Dallas Lore Sharp in Atlantic.

The Real Napoleon.

At a review of the national guard at the Tuilleries shortly before Waterloo I had for some time a most complete opportunity of contemplating the extraordinary being. His face is of a deadly pale, his jaws overhanging, but not so much as I had heard. His hair is short, of a dark, dusky brown. He generally stood with his hands knitted behind him or folded before him and three or four times took snuff out of a plain brown box. Once he looked at his watch, which, by the way, had a gold face and, I think, a brown hair chain. Like an English one. His teeth seemed regular, but not clean. He very seldom spoke, but when he did smiled in some sort agreeably. He looked about him—not knitting, but joining, his eyebrows. As the front of each regiment passed he put up the first finger of his left hand quickly to his hat to salute, but did not move his head or hat. He had an air of sedate impatience.—From "Recollections of a Long Life," by Lord Broughton.

Clearly Understood.

They seldom gave dinner parties, and those they gave were small. But they liked things done decently and in order and generally their friends were invited to the house. The afternoon of the week summoned the boy in buttons and said to him, "Now, John, you must be careful how you hand round the wine."

"Yes, sir." —These bottles with the black seals are the best and these with the red seals the inferior sherry. The best sherry is for after dinner. The inferior sherry you will hand around with the hook after soup. You understand—hook and inferior sherry after soup?"

"Yes, sir; perfectly," responded the boy in buttons.

The evening came and with it the guests. Everything went on swimmingly till the boy went round the table asking each of the guests, "Hook or inferior sherry?"—London Tit-Bits.

When the Fairies Are Noisy.

Among the flowers which are said to be very popular with fairies are blue-bells, harebells and wood sorrel. All these flowers are used by the fairies to attract the attention of their friends who are at a little distance. If you are ever out in the woods when the bluebell or wood sorrel begins to peal in delicate soft tones you will know that the little fower is being away to and fro by some visiting fairy. The foxglove, known also as the fairy bells, are also said to be used by the fairies for chimes, but when the little people wish to sound a real resounding blast that shall awaken from slumber some tiny friend in a nearby flower bed or thicket they use not a bell, but a rose leaf rolled up into a very charming horn.—Lexington Leader.

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The Beggars of Madeira.

There is only one fly in the ointment of Madeira comfort—the beggars. They begin to beg before they can walk, and they call "Penny, penny" before they can slip the sacred name of "mamma." However, one good thing has come of our experience with them. They have prepared us for beggars elsewhere. We are hardened now—at least we think we are. The savor of pity has gone out of us.—Albert Bigelow Paine in Outing Magazine.

A Prize Watchdog.

Gentleman—But I am afraid he wouldn't make a good watchdog. Man (with bull terrier)—Not a good watchdog! Why, Lor' bless your 'eart, it was only last week that this very animal held a burglar down by the throat and beat his brains out with his tail.—London Tatler.

Better Dad Than Editors.

Judge—How do you earn your living? Prisoner—By writing, your honor. Judge—And what do you write for? Would you mind telling us? Prisoner—Not a bit. I write for money from home.—Judge's Library.

Could He?

If a man saw his sister fall into a well, why could he not rescue her? Because he could not be a brother and assist her too.

He Knew Better.

Mr. Budd—Life is full of contradictions. Mrs. Budd—And I say it isn't.

Paderewski's Sorrow

Paderewski is said, in achieving pre-eminence as a pianist, has really defeated the prime ambition of his life—to become a famous composer. He plays so well that the public can not be made to believe that he can also be a great composer, says the critic of the New York Evening Post; his works rarely appear on concert programs. In this respect he suffers as did both Dietz and Rubinstein, whose "fame as players was so overwhelming that the public deemed it impossible that they should be great composers too." Says the writer:

"Paderewski began to write music when he was only seven years old, and it was always his aim to become a great composer, if possible. He succeeded in this year ago. His 'Manru' is the most fascinating opera since 'Carmen,' and its disappearance from the Metropolitan repertoire is a profound mystery and piece of folly, for it was given near the close of the season four times, to crowded houses, the last time on an afternoon when Paderewski created opposition to his own opera by giving a concert in Carnegie Hall. He has written songs, among which are gems of the first water. He has written enchanting short piano pieces, dyed in Polish colors, and last season he played here a masterly set of variations and a sonata rich in musical material, profound and content. His superb piano-forte concerto will become very popular—when he is dead; and his 'Fantasia Polonaise' will rank among the greatest of modern tone-poems. But at present the world has no use for these things, for Paderewski is altogether too popular as a pianist to make the envious professionals eager to augment his fame by playing his music."

Lives Lost Trying to Reach the Pole

Table with 3 columns: Year, Explorer, Lost. Lists various expeditions and the number of lives lost.

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Life is a great bundle of little things.

—Holmes.

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Do you know where to get the finest teas, coffees and spices, Seebler & Co.

Some authorities say the flounder is only a codfish with a flattened head.

Medical.

DANGER SIGNAL NO. 1 comes from the kidney secretions. They will warn you when the kidneys are sick.

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