

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.

Hail, ye small sweet courtesies of life, for smooth do ye make the road of it.—Stern.

FARM NOTES.

—Stale bread makes good food for laying hens, and will not produce an over-abundance of fat.

—All work that is to be done with bees in the winter must be done on warm days, while the bees are flying. At no other time must they be disturbed.

—Corn meal, wheat, bran, middlings, and beef scraps make a good mash feed for all kinds of poultry. It is best to use two or three parts of the bran to one each of the others.

—Any kind of succulent food will assist digestion and render all other foods more beneficial. Carrots do not contain much solid matter, being mostly water, but they are highly relished by all classes of stock, and the animals will prefer them to grain, instinct prompting them to accept such foods because of their dietary effect on the system.

—November and December are excellent months for pruning apple trees, as the wood is then matured. There is much to learn on the part of those who go into an orchard and saw off limbs without regard to the symmetry of the trees or the injury inflicted. Such work should be done only by those who have had practical experience in pruning trees.

—The proclivity of farmers for increasing the extent of their farms, and the consequent investment of all profits in the acquisition of more acres, instead of improving the lands they already possess and erecting suitable buildings for their stock, are the principal reasons why so many poor cattle go to market not beef cattle at all, but in passable store condition only.

—To keep onions over winter put them in a dry location, such as a barn loft, and spread them on the floor or on shelves, and thin layers. If they should happen to freeze it will not damage them, provided they are not disturbed when frozen. They should be covered with sheets of paper in order to assist in preventing sudden thawing, but usually, if the layers of onions are not too thick and the location is dry, they will keep without difficulty.

—Stock that is in good condition at the commencement of winter will require less food to carry them through than poor stock, and will yield much better results. The aim should always be to feed the live stock liberally. The farmer who keeps plenty of live stock to feed the farm products is sure to be successful. The sure way to improve the farm is by selling the products through the live stock. This is the right method to increase fertility, and at the same time make the farm a source of annual profit.

—It is a good idea to select the spots now where the early vegetables, such as radishes, lettuce, etc., are to be grown next year, and to cover those spots with about four inches of fresh, strong manure. This is allowed to lie there until the beds are to be dug over for planting, when the soil will be found as rich and mellow as anyone could desire. The available fertility has leached into the soil, while the covering has protected it from the heavy rains that beat down and pack naked soils. When planting time comes, rake off the coarse litter, loosen the soil with a fork and sow the seed. Asparagus and rhubarb should be covered the same way—four to six inches with strong, fresh manure, at once. This is left on until growth begins, then the coarse litter is just moved off the crowns of the plants and left to decay beside the row of hills.

—Sheep, of all animals kept on the farm, are most often subjected to adverse conditions and are compelled to exist on scanty feed too often for the good of the sheep, and for the profits that rightly belong to the flock owner. Because sheep can nip the short grass and subsist on almost anything that is herbage, from the coarse sour grasses that grow on low grounds to the tough, dried leaves of the mullein, and 500 or more kinds of weeds, and relish the fresh leaves of the brush that grows in the waste places, they should not be made subjects of neglect, and little thought given to furnishing them a liberal supply of palatable cut feeds that will keep up a constant growth and maintain them in a reasonably good condition. Because they can subsist on a little for a considerable period of time it does not prove that it is the best and most profitable manner to treat them. If given range enough where coarse feeds are abundant, sheep will make good progress, but the difficulty arises from the fact that they are confined to a limited area, where the grass is unscorched, if there is any growth at all, and the supply is so small that their growth is checked and in many cases there is an absolute loss in weight, and sometimes of the sheep themselves.

In most pastures there are places where the grass would make a start if the sheep could be taken away for a short period of time. In such cases a change of pasture is beneficial to both the pasture fields and the sheep. The sheep themselves enjoy a change from the oft-trodden pasture that has more or less of the sheepy odor, to fresh, sweet grasses. The fresh grass is not only more palatable than the trodden grass, but on account of the keen relish and pleasurable influences of new surroundings the system gets more good from it.

Sometimes it is convenient to turn the flock on the fields where the hay has been taken off and let them get a fresh aftermath. As far as this practice is concerned, if the field is to be plowed the following spring for some other crop there can be no objection to it. Some hesitate about turning on to the meadow fields if there are places where the young, after-growth of clover is rank on account of the danger from blood. By letting them eat in the old pasture until the latter part of the day and then turning them on for an hour at first there is little, if any, danger. It is not a good plan to let them fill at first on fresh clover, rape, or any green feed while the dew is on or immediately after a rain.

The men who fit their sheep for show at the fall fairs set a good example in regard to the summer feeding of sheep. The sheep designed for exhibition are kept improving from springtime until shipped for exhibition. If it is for profit and general satisfaction, why not keep the general flocks thriving for the gains on the lambs and the flock, from the time the lambs arrive in the spring until they are ready for market?

There is no safer investment in the way of a Christmas present for any woman, young or old, than a scarf that may be used for afternoon and evening wear. Scarfs are the direct outcome of the vogue for tunics, fichus, berthas and draped skirts that have invaded the fashions this winter. One scarf can serve a number of purposes. It can be used as fichu on a house gown or worn as a shoulder cape under the evening cloak or adapted to serve as a headdress.

"I've put my silver set away and now use the ivory toilet set Aunt Marion sent me last Christmas," was the very pertinent remark made recently by a girl who is successfully working her way to a good salary if not to fame. Yes, there are such comfort and smartness about the new ivory toilet sets that every girl is pleased with them. It is, however, much better to give one or two pieces at a time of the very best quality of ivory than to try to cover a larger field.

Why not give her a stationery writing case? You can buy such a convenience for \$2.25 of fine durable leather which holds a quire of paper, envelopes, fountain pen and stamps. Or a good print neatly framed to hang in her room is an acceptable gift, and even a calendar, if artistic, is not to be despised. But do be careful if you give her a book, and don't send an edition of Ibsen to the girl who loves the lightest kind of fiction, or vice versa. Handkerchiefs and gloves she'll flippantly dub as "commonplace," but silk stockings are always winners in the gift line, and pretty combs for the hair, or an umbrella if it has a stunning handle.

The stress and strain of the day's work never seem to make the business girl oblivious to the fact that her nose may be shiny and that a judicious bag of powder will add as much to her well being as the drop of oil given the rod of her typewriting machine. In other words, if you give the business girl a smart little powder bag, such as the one to be seen in the illustration, she will bless you as long as the vanity case lasts. She can conveniently dispose of the

Little dab of powder, Make the little freckle Look as though it ain't bag in her pocket and surreptitiously give her nose a dab that will add to her satisfaction during the day.

The useful trifle is to be purchased at most department stores and comes in a Christmas box decorated with sprays of holly. There is a glass in one section, and in the other a pocket conceals a tiny chamois bag filled with powder. Small incisions have to be made in the chamois to allow for the outlet of the powder.

Who said pockets? Whichever misguided person started the rumor, will they kindly take note of the fact that pockets for use are not materializing; the bag with the very long cord, however, has now got into quite a useful arrangement, for fashion's newest whim (and who would note the promptings of mere common-sense?) is to sling the cord over one shoulder, and this is a very comfortable way of carrying the various belongings which are packed into the modern handbag.

Moreover, upon emergency, the hands are free, and the advantage of this in bad weather will need no pointing out.

These long cords are attached to all the new bags, many of them in soft suedes, and fancy skins; very exquisite are the appointments, and armed with one of these one can feel quite superior to pockets; in fact, one can fill them in a way one would never dare fill a pocket, the disadvantage being that if one loses it, one loses all.

Then, too, the cord hung upon the shoulder enables one to keep the bag with one in the house if necessary without bothering about it; in fact, it would not be surprising to see the custom arise of having a bag to match every slung thus. Indeed, a movement of well-dressed women toward a sort of fort in dress is noted. If art and smartness are more sought ever, but in these hurried times to prefer fashions that are acquired quickly, and possess the remaining undisheveled through the day.

Marshmallow Fudge. If mallows get a little stale, try making marshmallow fudge of granulated sugar, milk in a saucepan and let come to a boil. Add one half of chocolate, grated, a spoonful of butter. Cook until the fudge gets stiff, that it will not pour easily, mallows into several pieces bottom of a dish and pour them.

Spanish Beefsteak. Take round steak weighing two about an inch thick; put season with salt and egg cover with a layer of bacon cut into thin slices, roll an cord. Pour around it half milk and half a cupful of in a covered baking dish two hours, basting occasion.

Whipped Cream Sauce. Whroth one cupful of thick cream well-beaten whites of three egg, tablespoonful of powdered sugar, well, stir in the whipped cream, teaspoonful of vanilla or other. It is good for cottage or fruit pie to pour over stale cake dipped in fruit juice as an emergency dessert.

Cheese With Peppers. Melt two ing tablespoonfuls of butter in the chafin dish, add five table-spoonfuls of chopp, onion, quarter cupful of cream or milk, seasoning of salt, pepper and paprika, and four well beaten eggs. Cook till thoroughly mixed and serve hot on buttered slice of toasted bread.

Salt and the Romans. Spilling of salt is a superstition still current among us. It is derived from the ancient Romans, who used salt in their sacrifices and regarded it as sacred to Penates. To spill it carelessly was to incur the displeasure of these household divinities. After accidentally spilling salt the ancient Roman was wont to throw some over the left shoulder—the shoulder of ill omen—thereby hoping to call away from his neighbor the wrath of the Deity and turn it upon himself.

Elephants' Love For Finery. Strange as it may seem, the elephant is passionately fond of finery and delights to see himself decked, out with gorgeous trappings. The native princes of India are very particular in choosing their state elephants and will give fabulous sums for an animal that exactly meets the somewhat fanciful standards they have erected. For these they have made cloths of silk or heavily embroidered with gold that two men are hardly able to lift them. —Pearson's Weekly.

Logical. "Mother," asked little Ethel, "now that you're in mourning for Cousin Adelaide, will you wear black night-dresses too?" "What an absurd question, child!" "Oh, I only thought you might be as sorry at night as you were during the day," ventured Ethel.—Harper's Bazar.

How it Came Out. He — So you finished the novel I brought you. How did it come out? She—The author must have had a pull. I can't see any other way.—Boston Transcript.

Be true to yourself and you do not need to worry about what the neighbors think.

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There were 7,500 divorces granted in the State of Ohio last year. Women who are unhealthy and unhappy often look to divorce as the one way of relief from a life of suffering. There is another way, and a better. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription cures the diseases which are commonly behind the irritation, unrest and misery of so many women. Ulceration, inflammation, bearing down pains and other diseases of the delicate womanly organs, yield promptly to this wonderful medicine. It contains no alcohol, no opium, cocaine or other narcotic and cannot disagree with the weakest constitution.

At the Lecture.

"Bread," said the lecturer, "is the corner-stone of health."

"By Jove, Polly," said Jinks, on the way home, "that fellow must have heard of your biscuits."

—If your eyes get out of focus so that you see everything double, call upon the girl of your heart and comfort yourself with the thought that they are both yours.

—The suffrage has just been extended in Bosnia to women who own a certain amount of real or personal property.

—Railway passengers in and out of New York now average 654,000 daily, and it requires 3,369 trains to haul them.

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