

Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., March 3, 1911.

FARM NOTES.

—Sow clover seed twice to be sure it will take, and don't forget the alsike along with the red.

—A corn-sheller is not an essential. The hens will do their own shelling if you throw out the ears in short, broken pieces.

—Do not give eggs to an early broody hen until she is surely broody, as hens, like the weather at this season of the year, are rather changeable.

—The sooner people divest themselves of the idea that they must be always doing chickens with medicine, the sooner they will be enabled to breed a healthy race of fowls, that are rump and cholera proof.

—See that the nest of the early sitters is air-tight. This can be accomplished by placing a sheet of heavy paper in the bottom. Sprinkle the paper well with coal-oil to discourage lice, and use plenty of straw.

—Don't trust the feeding and watering of the chickens entirely to the children. Keep in touch with the feeding and the condition of the houses as well. A child can not be expected to note the first signs of trouble.

The hen has many useful things.

Including feathers, neck and wings. And white meat, dark meat, wishbone, legs, And stuffing, side-bone, gizzard, eggs. She does the very best she's able. To make us satisfied at table.

—Say, the hens will cackle thanks for those small potatoes. Just boil them and mix with meal or bran. If scraps of meat or soup bones are boiled with the potatoes the biddies will like the flavor better, and there will be money in your pocket.

—Take a few of your best layers out of the main house and keep them in a place by themselves with the best male bird you can get. The eggs from these hens will be your stock for the chicks that are to be. Get up a little higher this year.

—When horses are idle in the winter do not feed them much rich nitrogenous foods, such as clover hay. Without regular exercise horses can not assimilate much feed rich in nitrogen, hence the system becomes clogged and the disease known as azoturia takes place.

—Corn meal is usually the principal food given chicks on farms, and thousands of them have lived and reached marketable age on a corn meal diet, but little chicks are not closely confined in early spring, even when the hen is not given liberty, and they occasionally find seeds, grass, and sometimes worms, thereby procuring a variety.

—It pays to go down to the city and work up a trade for the farm produce. Hunt up customers for the butter, eggs, apples, potatoes, cabbage and all such stuff. Have a regular market day when you can always be found there. Folks will expect you and depend on you. They will pay you cash and as good prices as they would have to pay at the store, because they get better weight and measure and fresher produce.

—To cure beef tongues: Trim and drop them into boiling water for a few minutes to "plump" them, and add salt so as to retain the juices. When cool, rub them with a mixture in the proportion of one pint of salt, one teaspoonful of saltpeter, and a quarter of a pound of brown sugar to every twenty pounds of tongue. Pack them in an earthen vessel, not a tin or iron one, and sprinkle lightly with salt and put a weight on top. Turn them every other day, putting the bottom ones on top and packing them closely. Let them lie about ten days, then hang them up, and when dry put them into bags to keep from the flies. If you do not wish to use a whole tongue at once, it does not hurt to cut one in two.—From *February Farm Journal*.

—The specific action of lime in promoting plant growth is not well understood. Lime has a tendency to make clay soils more open, porous and friable and reduces their tendency to puddle. When treated with lime, loose sandy soils are made more compact. Lime supplies food for plants, and at the same time it has a most effective influence in aiding the soil to grow crops that could not otherwise thrive on the land.

Lime encourages the growth of clover, and clover improves the soil and provides a valuable hay crop. Clover plowed under the second year makes the best corn crop, and so on.

Referring to this subject, a practical farmer says the clover plant has the curious habit of nourishing a minute germ, which grows on its roots and whose function in nature is the gathering of nitrogen from the air. These germs exist in small nodules, which grow on the roots of the clover, and they are exceedingly rich in nitrogen, which they gather from the atmosphere to the extent of about 180 pounds to the acre. By the aid of these germs the clover above the ground gathers—through these germs—in addition, 60 pounds of nitrogen over and above what exists in the roots. Thus the farmers' belief that the lime makes the clover.

—In a chemical way acid soils, like many freshly-drained muck lands and some uplands, are sweetened by the use of lime and made capable of producing more useful crops like the clover.

Lime decomposes organic matter in the soil and tends to promote nitrification and to increase the power of the soil to fix and retain such valuable fertilizing materials as ammonia and potash.

Lime is best supplied slaked. It is best done by pouring water on it and immediately covering it with earth so that the air cannot get to it. In a few days it will be in a finely-pulverized condition and most suitable for spreading. It should not be applied until the ground is partly prepared, when it should be broadcasted and cultivated in the surface soil. On permanent grass lands the lime should be applied in the fall.

The rule in parts of Pennsylvania is to use 40 bushels of stone lime to the acre, unslaked. This is drawn onto the land already plowed and harrowed, and is dropped in heaps of a bushel, heaped, or 80 pounds, in rows two rods apart, over the field. The lime is air-slaked; that is, it absorbs from the air sufficient moisture to fall into a fine dust in the course of a few days. When it is slaked it is scattered by the long shovel on each side of the rows of heaps, one rod, so that when the work is done the field is just whitened evenly with the lime dust.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.

Our reputation for wisdom depends much on our success.—*Euripides*.

Our old-time friends, the English gun club checks are still, or once more, in evidence.

These smart black and white suitings are very fashionable indeed for early spring suits—jaunty little tailor-mades to wear "between seasons" when one has become tired of a dark suit and the weather is still too chill to permit of light-weight spring suits.

These checks, which are, by the way, very British-looking, are most serviceable indeed. They tailor splendidly. Then, too, they are quite wide and all wool, which statement sounds like an advertisement, but is, nevertheless, merely a true fact about the fabric.

One may have small or medium-sized checks of clear black and white with a slight suggestion of color.

Most of the new cottons and linens show the high waist line, and while it may be readily carried out in the sheer soft materials there are tubing difficulties in the heavier material.

The heavier linen frocks, which must be shaped smoothly and plainly over the waist line, would be quite out of style if stretched tightly, and the washing and ironing is therefore likely to injure the fit of these dresses.

Braid will figure largely in the trimming of the new spring lightweight serge suit. Sometimes it forms whole collars, and is generally seen in a three-inch band around the bottom of the coat and on the end of the sleeves in place of cuffs.

New skirts have a panel back and front, which takes the form of the flat box pleat, and this at the present moment is an almost inevitable device. Most of the costumes boast of a complete dress underneath instead of a blouse and skirt, and numbers of the bodices are carried out in a striped material in contrast to the plain self-colored material of the skirt, colored fabrics striped with black being very fashionable this season.

It has been evident for a season that the woman who marches with the modes has said good-by to the long jacket, and has taken instead a hip coat, so called because it extends a few short inches only below the waist. Having perpetrated this drastic change she discovers many interesting points in the new model.

She finds that the fancy for one-sided effects brings into prominence a patch pocket upon the waist line on the left and none at all on the other side, a collar of a decidedly erratic tendency widening at one side only into revers, and a slanting fastening in front compassed by tortoise-shell buttons set together closely.

At the back, although the coat is still short, the effect secured is that of long and graceful lines, a suggestion cleverly devised by the agency of a flat, straight panel, which begins between the shoulders and meets the skirt panel. Thus the grace of the abandoned coat is retained and at the same time the craving for novelty is gratified.

The sleeves, that just cover the elbows, are furnished with Cavalier cuffs, and in the case under discussion are edged with gold braid.

A pointed lap-over effect is shown at the front of the skirt corresponding with that of the little jacket. With this clever suit is worn a lingerie shirt. The lingerie shirt has come into the foremost rank of fashionable items again, and that it is practically the only type of shirt that the smartly-garbed woman seems disposed to favor.

The skirt is so modeled that it extends in the corselet manner above the natural waist-line, and to keep it trimly in its place there is a belt beneath it cunningly boned and capable of giving it support. By clever contrivances of this kind the tailors achieve that nestness of aspect that is the hall-mark of their success.

In women's fashion, as in art, anything that has the strangeness of absolute novelty and marks the breaking away from an established tradition is apt to arouse resentment at the start, until the novelty has worn off and one's eyes, no longer offended by unfamiliar form, begin to see beauty in what at first seemed to defy all canons of beauty.

It is, therefore, to say the least, injudicious rashly to condemn a startling innovation. The post-impressionist revolutionists of today may become the classics of tomorrow. But in the case of the "harem" skirt, it is safe to predict a short life and an inglorious one.

There has been a saving grace in every fashion, from the rather absurd crinoline to the hobble skirt. The inventors of women's dresses have always had a definite aim to obtain a certain beauty of line, whether it be through the accentuation of the form of the body or through a graceful fall of the folds. The lines of the harem skirt defy every known law of beauty. They are worse, if possible, than the hideous trousers of male attire, which for a century have proved the despair of sculptors charged with the task of immortalizing them in marble or bronze.

A Boomerang.
"What's the matter with your head?" asked the first bunko man.
"A farmer I met today just banged me there with his carterbag," replied the other.
"It must have been a pretty hard carterbag."
"Yes; it had a gold brick in it that I sold him yesterday."—*Catholic Standard and Times*.

Anyhow, They're Gone.
Mr. Jawback—That boy gets his brains from me. Mrs. Jawback—Somebody's got 'em from you. If you ever had any, that's a cinch.—*New York American*.

The Old, Old Story.
"Daughter, has the duke told you the old, old story as yet?"
"Yes, he says he owes about 200,000 plunks."—*Pittsburg Post*.

For himself doth a man work evil in working evil for another.—*Hesiod*.

Medical.

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