

AT THE JAFFA GATE OF JERUSALEM.

"One morning I posted myself beside the Jaffa Gate for the purpose of forming some definite idea, is possible, of the character of the Jerusalem street crowd."

"As I sat beside the Jaffa Gate I saw, first, of all, several trains of camels enter the city, loaded with produce for the market. Then came many men on donkeys. They were perched high on bags of grain, which took the place of saddles."

"While sitting beside the Gate I saw the highway suddenly cleared and heard the pounding of metal on the pavement. Looking through the Gate I saw a stately procession arriving. The Patriarch of Jerusalem was going to call upon the Archbishop of Antioch, who was in the city."

"Close behind the patriarch came several Yemen Jews from Africa. They are picturesque gentlemen, whose hair is sometimes tightly clipped, excepting for two long curls that fall from their temples nearly to their shoulders."

"Following came three market women of Bethlehem, wearing the long white veils perched on high caps which distinguished them from all the other women of Palestine."

"For all the news you should read the 'Watchman.'"

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.

I am glad to think I am not bound to make the world go right. But only to discover and to do. With cheerful heart, the work that God appoints.—Ingelow.

Nothing is more annoying to the woman who is trying to economize than to pay a good price for a piece of cloth, only to find that it does not wear nearly so well as the cost per yard led her to expect it would.

What this one woman needs is a little practical knowledge of how to test textiles. To be sure, many of the adulterations of the modern textile manufacturer are so skillfully concealed as to be detected only by the use of chemicals or high-power microscope, but others are made apparent by some simple device which any woman can employ who is willing to try this means of getting satisfactory returns from her money.

A bulletin issued for extension work in home economics, by the University of Illinois, and prepared by Charlotte M. Gibbs, M. A., is full of practical help for the woman who wants this kind of information. It is entitled "Some Points in Choosing Textiles," and goes into the subject thoroughly and simply, as the following excerpts will show:

Cotton can be made to appear heavier, the bulletin states, by the addition of mixtures called sizing. Starches, gums, dextrine, glue, clay, as well as other ingredients in varying proportions, constitute this sizing, which may add a large per cent. to the weight of the cloth. The spaces are filled up and good finish is given to the cloth, although the wearing quality is not increased. If the sizing is present in large quantities, the cloth is greatly reduced in weight and firmness after the first washing.

Adulterations of this kind can be detected by the feel, a large quantity imparting a harshness to the material. In very thin fabrics, the sizing may often be detected by holding the cloth up to the light, when the starch shows between the threads. Washing, or thorough boiling of a sample will show the amount of sizing present.

Mercerized cotton is a cloth produced by the action of a strong alkali on cotton fiber, rinsed under tension. It is a strong, attractive material, with good wearing qualities. An imitation of this may be made by the action of very heavy and very hot cylinders on ordinary cotton cloth. The mercerized cloth has a high luster which it retains after many washings, while the imitation loses its luster with the first washing.

Linen is much more expensive than cotton, and when linen prices are paid, linen should be demanded. Since the two fibers are rather hard to distinguish, especially when heavily starched and given a good finish, it is quite easy to deceive the buyer. "Linen" collars are frequently largely cotton, "linen" handkerchiefs may not have a thread of linen, as is apt to be the case with rather inexpensive embroidered handkerchiefs, and table "linen" may be mercerized cotton, cotton and linen, or even ordinary cotton.

To distinguish linen from cotton, examine the threads carefully; cotton is made up of short fibers which project from the surface of the threads and become fuzzy when the thread is rubbed between the fingers; when broken, cotton has a tufted end, while the linen fibers break more unevenly and leave a more pointed end. The linen thread should be stronger than the cotton; it has more luster and is usually more uneven. Some kinds have flat threads, but cotton is frequently finished in imitation of flat-thread linen.

The old test of moistening the finger and putting it under the cloth is not always a sure one, as the moisture will not come through a heavy linen, or one with much starch in it, and it will come through a sheer, tightly twisted cotton. A better test is to put a drop of olive oil on the cloth and press between blotting papers. The linen becomes more transparent than the cotton. There is a peculiar leathery feel about good table linen which cotton will not give, and the luster is different, although the difference is hard to describe.

The most reliable tests for a mixture of cotton and wool are chemical or microscopic, but, as these are not practical for the average buyer, others must be sought. Wool has luster and kinks; the ends of the threads are stiff and look rather wiry. When a sample is carried home, burning will serve to distinguish between the two. Wool burns slowly, chars, has an odor of burnt feather, goes out easily, and leaves a crisp ash; cotton burns quickly with a flame, with little odor and leaves no ash. A little practice in breaking the threads will help one to distinguish between the two; the difference is not one that can be easily explained, but the experienced housewife knows it well.

In olden times the price of silk was much greater than now, but the material was much more desirable. Silks which have been laid away for a hundred years are still in fairly good condition. Now our silks are much cheaper and the result is that, when they are put away, even for a few months, they may fall into bits, and their wearing quality cannot be compared with the good old silks of long ago. The reason for this change is not hard to find. The cost of raw silk is about thirty times that of raw cotton, and the waste at least five times that of cotton.

Silk has a very great ability to absorb dyes and metallic salts without apparently changing the quality of the material, and, since dyes and metallic salts are much cheaper than pure silk, the manufacturer makes great use of these materials. Loading is the common name for this process of treating silk, and it is a common practice to add 30 per cent. of foreign material, just the per cent. lost by the silk when the gum is removed, while it is possible to add 250, or even 300 per cent.

FARM NOTES.

Hollyhock rust does serious damage to that beautiful flowered plant. This disease can be held in check to a great extent by removing and destroying at this season all leaves that have been shed by the plants, also look the leaves over on the overwintering rosette and if any are found diseased destroy them also.

China aster plants that have grown for some time to an apparently healthy condition and then suddenly die or turn yellow and wilt, with sickly leaves and small flowers as attendant developments, are in all probability suffering from a disease known as "wilt," say the Plant Industry specialists of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

The wilt is a fungous disease. The fungi clog up the sap channels of the stem and, although the outward appearance of the plant shows no evidence of fungus injury, a cross section of the stem near the ground shows the woody tissue to be brown and discolored.

The fungous enters the plant from the soil and the trouble increases continuously with the number of diseased plants. It is inadvisable to continue growing asters in the same bed once the disease has appeared.

The disease may sometimes be contracted in the seed bed or flat, especially when the young plants are grown under warm, dry conditions. This can generally be avoided by using soil that has had no chance to become contaminated, or by baking the ordinary seedling soil for two hours in a hot oven, keeping the soil spread in a layer less than an inch deep.

Aster plants are particularly susceptible to wilt attacks at transplanting time because the breaking of the rootlets allows the fungous to penetrate the root system more easily. Otherwise the worst symptoms are shown at or near flowering time. By this time the fungous is well established in the stem and the supply of water in the soil is less abundant.

Secretary of Agriculture Frank P. Willits makes the timely statement that the fight for supremacy over weeds is never so successfully waged as when the weeds are destroyed early before they have an opportunity to go to seed and become a nuisance in an even greater territory.

In cultivated fields the farmer usually keeps weed growth well in control. Along the fence rows, in meadows, and in out of the way places on the farm, the same statement would not be true in the majority of cases. There the weeds often have full play, and nothing hinders their ever-increasing propagation of their kind.

The spirit of the Pennsylvania law, which now makes the destruction of Canada thistle and chicory (succory or blue daisy) a compulsory practice, should be voluntarily extended by the farmer to include all weed growth that has heretofore been allowed to grow undisturbed. Every part of a farm should be kept free of weeds and seeding and scattering.

Canada thistles and chicory are two of the worst offenders in the weed class, and their control is considered of sufficient importance to warrant prosecution of any property holder who does not take the pains to keep the weeds from going to seed, or the seed from ripening. Neglect or refusal to comply with the State law in this respect results in the forfeiture and payment of a \$15 fine, which is turned over to the treasurer of the school district in which the weed-bearing land is situated.

Furthermore, any person owning land nearby the weed-infested area, and whose land is exposed to seeding thistles or chicory, as a consequence, can take action compelling the owner of the adjacent land to clean up his premises.

Stories from the far west, telling of tremendous destruction being wrought to crops through the ravages of insects and worms, coupled with further details as to the plight in which the south is being placed by reason of the new encroachments of boll weevil, cannot but turn thoughts to the realization that in Pennsylvania, as a rule, pests which are destructive to growing things are kept under control.

It is true that in Pennsylvania no way has been found by which to combat the chestnut blight which threatens to wipe out the chestnut trees; and it is true that in the southeastern part of the State, right now, the Japanese beetle is affording grave concern. Yet one must think back quite a number of years to remember the summer when the Army worm swept over the State, leaving ravaged fields in its wake. One must think back still further to recall a time when insects and worms constituted a real plague in Pennsylvania.

Out in the west in some sections it is declared that even railroad trains have been halted by the slipping of the wheels upon tracks covered by slimy grasshoppers. Out in the west, the grasshopper frequently makes of himself a veritable steam roller of destruction; while in the south the boll weevil has grown so formidable as to raise the question as to what the country will be called upon to do, within a few years, in the face of no cotton.

Pennsylvania owes much to its Department of Agriculture, for its comparative freedom from pests and blights. For years its zoological division has waged war against bugs and beetles and worms and fungous growths, together with flies and other destructive insects, and it has been a successful one.

Perhaps the larger credit is due to the nice adjustments made by Nature in this particular climate, with worm eating worm, bug eating bug, fly destroying fly, and over all hovering the bird, ready to swoop down on any juicy morsel. Pennsylvania's birds are worth millions to Pennsylvania because they are insectivorous in their instincts. They keep the worms and the bugs and the flies from 'running wild.' It takes the stories from other States, as to ravages wrought by pests, to appreciate the good fortune of Pennsylvania in being located as it is, making it a popular place for birds, and a place where Nature's adjustments are so nicely balanced.

WHAT CARELESS AUTOMOBILE DRIVING DID.

During the four months of the Careful Crossing Campaign, of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, June to September, inclusive, 1922, some interesting figures compiled by the Insurance Department, Philadelphia, are shown as follows:

Checks of more than 100,000 automobile drivers show that the vast majority roughly speaking 97 per cent. are reasonably careful and that the large number of deaths and injuries which occur on the streets and highways, and particularly at railroad crossings, are attributable to gross carelessness—in many instances criminal carelessness—on the part of the other 3 per cent. as will be shown by the examination of the record.

During these four months there were 682 crossing accidents on the P. R. R. system, resulting in 90 fatalities and 150 injuries.

Seven deaths and seventeen injuries were due to drivers attempting to beat the train over the crossing. Fourteen deaths and seven injuries occurred at crossings where crossing bells were ringing, indicating that a train was approaching that crossing.

Seventy accidents resulting in three deaths and three injuries were due to drivers being intoxicated.

Sixteen accidents resulting in six deaths and twelve injuries were due to stalling on tracks, an occurrence which is most likely to happen to inexperienced drivers.

Two hundred and eighty cases of running through or into crossing gates, but not into trains. Seventy accidents resulting in fourteen deaths and twenty-two injuries caused by running into sides of trains.—Exchange.

Air Mail Service Proves 96.73 per Cent. Efficient.

Washington, D. C.—Air mail service efficiency, measured by the number of miles traveled with mail as compared with the mileage scheduled, was 96.73 per cent. perfect in the fiscal year ending June 30. This figure announced by the Postoffice Department compared with a percentage of 95.52 in the preceding year. The schedule for last year called for 1,589,389 miles of flying, and the pilots were given special instructions to take no chances in any effort to break records. Nevertheless, in July, last year, they covered 99.86 per cent. of all the mileage set for them; in August, 100 per cent.; September, 99.59 per cent.; October, 98.88 per cent.; November, 95.2 per cent.; December, 91.53 per cent.; January, 92.77 per cent.; February, 92.81 per cent.; March, 94.80 per cent.; April, 95.88 per cent.; May, 99.08 per cent., and June, 99.21 per cent. For other years the approach to perfection in the air mail service was shown to have been 94.09 per cent. in 1918; 91.35 in 1919; 78.04 in 1920, and 92.84 in 1921.

Labor Shortage is 60,000 in the State.

The labor shortage in Pennsylvania today was placed at approximately 60,000 men and women by the State Department of Labor and Industry.

The department's employment officials declared the situation in the State is serious with "white collar" workers and those who will not accept work as virtually the only classes affected by unemployment.

According to figures announced in Wall Street, the Ford Motor company has more actual cash in its treasury than any other corporation in the United States, if not in the world. However, the total assets of the Ford company are only about one-fourth as great as the assets of the United States Steel Corporation, which is the largest in the world. On March 1st of this year the Ford company had \$159,605,687 in cash on hand. The last reported cash holdings of the steel corporation were \$126,700,131. It is believed that Ford's fortune now totals between \$600,000,000 and \$700,000,000 which is probably exceeded only by the Rockefeller fortune.

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Atlantic City Excursion advertisement. \$13.26 Round Trip 16-Day Excursion to Atlantic City. Wildwood, Ocean City, Cape May Sea Isle City, Anglesea, Avalon, Peermont, Stone Harbor. Thursdays July 26, Aug. 9, 23, Sept. 6. Tickets good returning within 16 days. Valid in parlor or sleeping cars on payment of usual charges for space occupied, including surcharge. Tickets good via Delaware River Bridge Route 30 cents extra round trip. Stop-overs allowed at Philadelphia in either direction. See Flyers. Consult Ticket Agents. Proportionate fares from other points. Ocean Grove Excursion August 23. Pennsylvania RR System. The Route of the Broadway Limited.

MEDICAL.

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Heed the warning; don't delay—Use a tested kidney remedy. Read this Bellefonte testimony. Samuel Weaver, S. Water St., says: "My kidneys troubled me some time ago and I almost got down with backache. Mornings I felt so lame and stiff I could hardly bend to put on my shoes. During the day I suffered terribly and my kidneys acted irregularly. I used Doan's Kidney Pills bought at Runkle's drug store and they helped me by strengthening my back and kidneys and benefiting me in every way."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Weaver had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y. 68-28

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Big Money for the Big Job.

From the New York Evening Post. Edward W. Bok's \$100,000 prize for a practicable plan of world co-operation is to be awarded half on the approval of the idea by a committee of distinguished citizens and half on the acceptance of the idea by the United States Senate. Judged by the relative difficulty of the two tasks, the distribution ought to be \$100 to the man who originates a practicable plan and \$99,000 to the man who can get the United States Senate to accept it.

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