

THE WHIP-POOR-WILL.

By David Allen Hunter.

When the long day's work is ended
And the sun has gone to rest;
When the gorgeous colors bleed
And fade and vanish in the west;
When the night-time draws its curtain
Slowly over the vale and hill;
Then I listen in the twilight
For the sweet-voiced whip-poor-will.

Other birds have ceased their singing
And are settled for the night;
Through the gloom the first winging
Twinkles with his candle light.
Then a voice comes from the valley
With its accents clear and shrill.
'Tis the last song of the evening
From the sweet-voiced whip-poor-will.

Up above the stars are peeping
Through the darkening evening sky.
And a breeze comes gently sweeping,
Rustling leaves while passing by.
Then from out the circling silence,
Though all other birds are still,
Comes the clear, sweet, vibrant music
From the sweet-voiced whip-poor-will.

When the pearly dewdrops glisten
In the moonlight's silver ray,
Then I like to sit and listen
For that farewell to the day
As it echoes through the valley
And across the silent hill;
'Tis the last song of the evening
From the sweet-voiced whip-poor-will.

GROWTH OF DUCK RAISING IN UNITED STATES.

Duck raising is conducted successfully both as a side issue on general farms and as a special business on a large scale. The Peking is the most popular breed for the production of meat, and the Indian Runner is the most popular for the production of market eggs. The rearing of ducks for market on a large scale requires extensive capital and experience, remarks a New York Times writer. Young ducks forced for rapid growth and marketed at from eight to twelve weeks of age are called "green" ducks. They weigh from four and one-half to six pounds each and are the principal source of income on commercial farms.

"According to the census of 1920," says Alfred R. Lee, of the United States Department of Agriculture, "there were 2,817,624 ducks in the United States, valued at \$3,373,966. This shows a slight decrease in numbers from the census of 1910, indicating that the production of ducks in the country as a whole is barely holding its own. The decrease occurred in the southern States, but several of the States in which ducks are raised on special duck farms showed an increase in the number of ducks kept."

"Massachusetts, California and Colorado showed an increase of about 5 per cent. New York, which contains by far the greatest number of duck farms, shows no change in the number of ducks, but as the number raised on commercial farms has undoubtedly increased materially in the last ten years, a decrease in the number of ducks on general farms must have occurred to offset this increase on duck farms."

"There are about the same number of ducks as geese in this country, and only about three-fourths as many ducks as turkeys. Ducks are most numerous in the following States, arranged according to their production: Iowa, Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York, Missouri, Minnesota, Tennessee, Ohio, South Dakota, Indiana and Nebraska, the number ranging from 235,000 head in Iowa to 100,000 in Nebraska."

"There are eleven standard breeds of ducks which have been admitted to the American Standard of Perfection. These breeds may be divided into three classes: (1) The meat class, including the Peking, Aylesbury, Muscovy, Rouen, Cayuga, Buff and Swedish; (2) the egg class, represented by the Indian Runner, and (3) the ornamental class, composed of the Call, the Crested White and the Black East India. The ducks commonly kept on many farms in the south and middle west are of mixed breeding, and are generally of small size, poor layers and undesirable types of market duck. Except the Muscovy, all our economic breeds of ducks are said to have originated from the Mallard or wild duck."

"Duck raising on a large scale has been developed as a special business to a considerable extent on Long Island, in sections within easy shipping distance of New York city, Boston and Philadelphia. Intensive duck farming on a large scale has been more successful than intensive chicken raising, as Peking ducks, especially, stand confinement well, are more easily brooded and are less subject to disease than chickens. Artificial methods of hatching and rearing and labor saving machinery have been used very successfully on duck farms."

"The demand for table ducks at good prices is mostly limited to a few large cities, and is not nearly so general as the demand for chickens or fowls. The demand, however, appears to be gradually increasing, but this lack of wide market materially influences the establishment and growth of duck farms. The market conditions should be studied carefully before making a large investment in ducks."

"A prejudice against the duck flesh and eggs exist in many places, caused probably by eating the common duck, which has been allowed to roam in places where filthy conditions exist. The rearing of ducks for market on a large scale is a business requiring capital and extensive experience. Practical experience on a large duck plant is the best teacher, but the novice can begin in a small way and enlarge as experience justifies. Ducks can be raised with success and at a profit on general farms, but do not appear to be so well adapted as a source of income to average farm conditions as fowl, although they serve to add variety of both meat and eggs for the farmer's table."

—The book of etiquette is silent about it, but it is always good form to attend to your own business.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT. BON VOYAGE.

Common sense, alas in spite of our educational institutions, is a rare commodity. —Bovee.

It is true—is it not, if you stop to remember it?—that when you have been wearing a white gown, some one has admired you and has said, "How becoming! You should never wear anything but white." And it has always been rather pleasant to contemplate that vision of oneself, consistently attired in white, striking the same note wherever one may be seen, a note of unflinching harmony.

Usually, there has been some drawback to the realization of this vision—black has been smart or colors have been the rage,—but now white has come into its own. This is a season in which all white is pre-eminently the vogue.

And, after all, nothing else is so universally becoming as white, for white evening gowns are the loveliest and coolest of all; white afternoon costumes are flower-like in the shaded dusk of summer verandas; white sports things bear the hottest rays of sun with no sign of fading; and sweaters, frocks, and skirts, all in white, requiring no consideration for their harmonious blending, are an unending satisfaction.

An all-white costume admits, too, of great artistry, for bits of color may be successfully introduced in the small details of one's attire. Dove grey, the fashionable tortoise shell shades, which range from pale amber to dull red shade—all these less obvious colors may be chosen for the accessories, and the distinction of one's costume still preserved.

Then, too, there is nothing like white for washing. All the simple crepes of this summer may be tubbed again and again without losing one whit of their freshness and charm, and white wool sweaters come out from careful laundering as snowy as in their first freshness. There are silks, especially heavy and thickly woven so as to obviate the necessity of interlined underskirts, that are designed for tennis dresses and, consequently, are intended to withstand laundering. Great coats and knitted frocks can be used many times at the seashore or in the country without being the worse for wear and, when it becomes necessary, may be sent to the cleaners without fear of injury to the texture of garments.

The parasol, which has been sadly neglected of late, finds itself restored to favor in the garden. One might say that it fills much the same roll as the scarf plays on too-decolette shoulders. It gives countenance, poise; many a coquette owes to its beneficent shade her most graceful gestures and engaging smiles. But one must choose neither green (unless one possesses a rosy coloring) nor violet (unless one be excessively pale). The best shades are pink, sometimes yellow, and bright red, which is invariably successful. In other words, in choosing one's parasol, one should follow the same rule governing the selection of window shades for one's boudoir. The end in view and the results are the same.

Did you know that the August Milton suggests that it was not the apple, but the juice thereof, which caused the excitement in the Garden of Eden? However, he neglected to add, in Adam's defense, that it must have been a warm summer, for no temptation is so utterly irresistible as a cool, luscious drink in hot weather.

One pleasing fact in connection with cold drinks is that one can never have too many recipes for them. But, before we begin to speak of such ambrosial affairs as honey blossom punch and grapefruit mint, certain important details in serving should be considered. Attractive glass is the first essential. It need not be expensive, for, today, exquisite shapes and lovely colors are within the means of even a moderate purse. But glasses must be thin, well polished, and, above all else, thoroughly chilled; for, surely, if one serves a hot course upon hot plates, one should follow the same logical method where cool beverages are concerned. A pleasant accessory to the tall glass is a spoon with a hollow handle which may be used in place of a straw.

Another important detail is the linen. It need not be elaborate, but it must be crisp white and dainty, for nothing contributes so much to the success of any food or drink as its mise en scene; and a snowy tea-cloth with immaculate little napkins is the perfect setting for a summer drink.

A few more details should be considered before we begin to discuss the drinks themselves. Recipes for beverages should be as carefully followed as the recipe for any dish. Careless measuring will often spoil a seemingly simple drink. Also, a large shaker is almost a necessity in making drinks to be served in tumblers, since it ensures two essentials—perfect mixing and that degree of coldness known as frappe. And be sure not to stir the ice. How often has the joyful anticipation of a delicious iced chocolate dwindled miserably before its realization—a tall glass of properly made, but lukewarm, liquid in which float two inadequate bits of ill-cut ice!

If one contemplates a summer of active entertaining, preparedness must be one's watchword. Certain ingredients should be always on hand—in the refrigerator! Juicy lemons are the foundation of at least a third of the most satisfying and cooling drinks. So are carbonized water and ginger ale or cider, and it is always well to have in reserve a bottle or two of the highly popular fruit syrups.

ICED COFFEE AND CHOCOLATE.
The most usual summer drinks are iced coffee, iced tea, and iced chocolate. Though iced coffee is a beverage too well known to need explanation, it might be wise to note that, in concocting it, it should invariably be made just before it is to be served, using ground, not pulverized, coffee. In making the coffee-pot should be one in which the grounds are held above the water.

A delicious recipe for iced chocolate is as follows:
One ounce of chocolate is allowed to each pint of liquid. To make one quart, two ounces of chocolate are put into a double boiler, and one pint of hot

water is added. This is stirred until the chocolate is melted and hot, then one pint of milk is added. This is beaten and stirred rapidly until the water in the under-boiler again reaches the boiling-point. Three rounded tablespoonfuls of sugar are added, and the mixture is taken from the fire. Two tablespoonfuls of cream are then added, and the whole is beaten with an egg beater. If desired, a little vanilla may be used to give it a delicate flavor. The chocolate should be on ice until the moment of serving, then poured into tall chilled glasses and served with whipped cream on top.

TEA RHUBARBADE.
Iced tea may be given infinite variety by means of a few slight deviations from the usual recipe. A most refreshing and original tea drink is tea rhubarbade.

Six stalks of young rhubarb are washed and cut into one-inch lengths. To these is added one quart of water, the rhubarb is stewed until tender and drained, and the juice is set away to cool. To this juice are added a pint of freshly made tea, the juice of one lemon, and two thinly sliced oranges. The whole mixture is sweetened to taste and poured over shaved ice into tall, thin glasses.

ICY SPICED TEA.
Another delicious variation of iced tea is spiced tea.

One quart of boiling water is poured over three tablespoonfuls of Ceylon tea and allowed to steep five minutes. The tea is strained. While it is cooling, four tablespoonfuls of sugar, three slices of lemon, two cloves, and four maraschino cherries are added. To serve, the tea is poured into tall glasses half full of shaved ice, and a spray of mint is placed on top of each glass.

(Cold Drinks for Hot Months," from "Vogue," to be continued next week.)

AMENDMENTS TO GET BALLOT TEST.

Harrisburg.—Four proposed amendments to the State constitution will be voted upon at the fall elections. Ten other amendments will come before the voters for approval within the next two years, according to George D. Thorn, Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth and head of the elections bureau.

The 1923 Legislature considered 36 constitutional amendments. The four which will go before the people in November are:

1. Authorizing issue of \$50,000,000 State highway bonds.
2. Sanctioning the legislative practice of classifying cities, counties, school districts and townships according to population and passing laws relating to each class.
3. Permitting free railroad passes for clergymen.
4. Permitting exemption from taxation of property owned, occupied and used by veterans' posts.

The Bureau of Municipal Research of Philadelphia, in discussing the other amendments, says:

- "One other amendment has been passed by the Legislatures of 1921 and 1923 and is therefore ready to be submitted to the people; but, by the terms of the resolution proposing it, it cannot be submitted until 1924. This is the amendment permitting a \$35,000,000 bond issue for paying a soldiers' bonus.
- The nine amendments which must be passed in identical form by the 1925 Legislature before they can be submitted to the voters are as follows:
1. To require titles of amendatory and supplementary laws to express clearly the subjects of the laws.
2. To permit an \$8,000,000 bond issue for new buildings at State College.
3. To permit an issue of \$5,000,000 for National Guard armories.
4. To permit an issue of \$35,000,000 for extension of forest preserves.
5. To permit the State to do its own printing and binding (a recommendation of the State Reorganization Commission).

6. To permit assessment of benefits upon non-abutting property in Philadelphia (a similar proposal for the whole State having been defeated).

7. To remove the constitutional limitation (a maximum of 250 polled votes) on the size of election districts.

8. To permit exemptions from the inheritance tax.

9. To set up an exceptive budget system.

"The system set up in the latter amendment is of indifferent merit due to unwise changes imposed by the Senate upon a very meritorious House bill," states the Bureau.

"Two constitutional amendments proposed by the Legislature in 1921 were not agreed to in 1923. One was relatively unimportant, its purpose having been to permit sheriffs to succeed themselves in counties having less than 50,000 population. It was not even offered to the 1923 Legislature. The other was the 'graded tax' amendment, which, if adopted, would have permitted the Legislature to classify subjects of taxation for the purpose of laying graded and progressive taxes and would have permitted exemptions from inheritance and income taxes."

Composition on Men.

A little girl wrote the following composition on men:

"Men are what women marry. They drink, smoke and swear, but don't go to church. Perhaps if they were bunnies they would. They are more logical than women and also more zoological. Both men and women sprung from monkeys, but the women sprung farther than the men."

MEDICAL.

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