

FARM AND GARDEN

SUCCESS IN POULTRY BUSINESS.

If both meat and eggs be the object a cross of Plymouth Rock and Leghorn will be satisfactory, though the body will be of moderate size. The selection of breeds is largely a matter of taste. If we know just what we want to do with poultry, we will be able to find in these two breeds and Brahmas, Cochins, Langshans, Wyandots, Hamburgs or Minorcas what we need.

If one has very little money let him buy two hens and one cockerel. Put this trio in a pen, give them good attention and they will begin laying early and continue till late in the season. The result ought to be at least 50 chickens raised. Supposing half these to be cockerels, there are left 25 pullets, which should be bred to new blood. Let the cockerels all be sold and buy two new blood cockerels to mate with the pullets.

Provide comfortable shelter to protect the fowls and be sure to feed right. Overfeeding produces indigestion, inaction of the stomach and their attendant evils. One-third corn meal and two-thirds bran, with a small per cent of beef scraps or cracklings and wheat and oats make a good chicken diet. Potato parings, cooked potatoes and other scraps from the kitchen all heated well and mixed while hot are excellent. A good plan is to occasionally crumble in the food six or eight red peppers to the gallon of above mixture and mix with sweet milk. Oyster shells or cut green bone should be freely supplied. Keep a good supply of sand convenient.—T. E. Richey, in the American Agriculturist.

EARLY SPRING PLOWING.

Corn ground should be plowed, if possible, as soon as the weather permits, as the action of the frost will render it fine and save much of the labor of preparation later in the season. One mistake usually made with corn is that of not thoroughly pulverizing the soil previous to putting in the seed. As the ground cannot be planted before danger of frost has passed, time may be obviated by performing the work of preparation early, not only by plowing but by frequent harrowing. If plowed as soon as the frost is out of the ground, and the land left in the rough condition (without harrowing), the clods and lumps will be torn to pieces by expansion and contraction due to heat and cold. The land may be left until nearly time for planting, which will give the early grass and weeds a chance to germinate, when the pulverizer and harrow should be used. These implements should be passed over the ground until the soil is as fine as it is possible to make it.—Philadelphia Record.

ROOT CROPS FOR STOCK.

A correspondent objects to advocating the growing of root crops for stock, saying that he did not find it profitable. Inquiry showed that the seed had been sown on poor soil and with but little fertilizer and quite indifferent care. Under such conditions it is no wonder that the crop was not a success. To grow root crops for stock profitably, the soil must be put in good condition, and must be made fairly rich, especially in nitrogen and potash, and during the growing season the weeds must be kept in subjection and the soil cultivated. In short, grow root crops on the same plan as any vegetable would be grown and the results will be satisfactory.—Philadelphia Record.

THE POULTRY HOUSE.

The poultry house should have the door and windows open at night and ventilation induced as much as possible. If it can be done with safety from loss, the most suitable place to allow the hens on warm nights is an open shed and even a roost in the open air will answer if there is no liability of sudden storms during the night. Comfort in warm weather is as important to egg-production as comfort in cold weather, and to provide for comfort, the hen must be inspected for lice daily, and the fowls should not be crowded.

TAKING UP THE CANNAS.

Canna plants may be scorched by the frost before lifting, but should be taken up before suffering a freeze hard enough to kill the stalks more than halfway down; otherwise the sour and frozen sap returning down the stalks into the roots may poison them so they will decay during early winter, says Gardening.

A DAIRY POINT.

It does not require much arithmetic, but the average dairyman, who is generally in partnership with the average cow, does not want much arithmetic. There are many things about farming, as well as about other things of life, that the uncertainty of not knowing is preferable to actual knowledge.

SHADE IN THE PASTURE.

The shade for the cow-pasture should not be a single tree, so that the cow must keep moving around like the shadow on a sun-dial, but the

pasture should contain clumps of trees of sufficient scope so that the whole herd may be able to enjoy the shade at the same time and as the individuals choose.

AN OBJECT LESSON.

Breed the two-hundred-and-fifty-lb. dairy up to a three hundred pound one, and contrast its operation with the two hundred pound twenty-head old herd, and we have a home-made object-lesson illustrating the difference between productive and non-productive labor.

LAKES OF NAPHTHA.

Springs Are Found All Over the Eastern Part of Asia.

The chief source of the world's supply of naphtha promises to be shifted to the eastern part of Asia, which has been found to be one of the richest mineral fuel regions in the world, according to a recent consular report. The area of all the paying coal layers in Europe comprises only 27,760 square miles, an area equal to that of one of the Russian provinces—the Kazan province. The area of coal layers in eastern Asia, though not yet estimated, is considered incalculable.

Besides immense coalbeds, eastern Asia possesses wealthy underground naphtha lakes that will soon be the foundation of a great industry. Naphtha springs are found everywhere in China and Manchuria, in the Ussuri district in Japan and on the Sakhalin Island. The latter island not only possesses very rich coal mines, but also large naphtha lakes.

The chemical engineer, K. S. Platonoff, after having examined the coalbeds and naphtha wells in Texas and Pennsylvania, made an investigation of the naphtha springs of Sakhalin Island, and on his return to Baku declared that all he had seen in the United States was nothing in comparison to what he found on Sakhalin. The naphtha springs near the River Nootovo, on Sakhalin, excel those of Baku in every respect. Seven underground naphtha lakes are there, the area of the largest one being 63,000 square metres (75,320 square yards).

Notwithstanding the chief output of the Japanese naphtha industry, Japan must still import foreign naphtha. In 1900 she imported more than 60,000,000 gallons and in 1901 more than 61,000,000 gallons. The export from Japan is inconsiderable, so that the Japanese naphtha does not threaten to become a rival to Sakhalin naphtha. On the contrary, Japan promises to become a good market for the Sakhalin naphtha.

The development of the oil industry on Sakhalin Island will help the river navigation of the Amur and in the Far East generally. The ministry of agriculture and imperial properties has ordered that the 33-mile line along the south-eastern coast of Lake Baikal be acknowledged as actual naphtha-producing land. It extends from Kultchuy to the mouth of River Chermushan (fifty-four degrees north latitude) to the north from Syatroy Nose. A party of five Englishmen arrived recently on Sakhalin to examine the coal oil regions lately discovered on the eastern coasts of the island. Among the party there is one geologist and one engineer.—Chicago Chronicle.

Twelve Was This Man's Hoodoo.

The big clock in the bankruptcy clerk's office in the Monadnock Building was striking twelve recently at noon when a man with a disappointed look on his face sauntered into the room and leaned heavily on the desk of Assistant Clerk John E. Fay.

"My debts are twice as much as my assets," he said. "I want to be a bankrupt."

As Mr. Fay recorded the man's name he ventured, smiling: "All right, on the stroke of 12."

The clerk's words produced an effect almost magical in the would-be bankrupt.

"What do you know about that?" the man almost gasped, becoming much excited.

"About what?" asked the clerk.

"On the stroke of 12," replied the man. "That sentence has been a hoodoo to me for years. I was robbed on the stroke of 12, almost scorched by fire at 12, I awoke in the night as the clock strikes midnight, and the reason I am filing a petition in bankruptcy is because, fool that I was, I attempted to launch a theatrical company producing a play of that name."

As the man turned away, Clerk Fay numbered the petition, "10412" and entered it on the twelfth page of his ledger.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Chicago Typographical Union, No. 16, is to have a woman's auxiliary and is to have illustrated lectures to instruct apprentices.

Senator Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana has been chosen as the speaker for the commencement exercises at the University of Illinois next June.

One person in every 575 in the United States is a physician.



FADS MAKE INTEREST.

"There is nothing like a fad to make life interesting," said the girl with a collection of art posters to a writer in the Philadelphia Inquirer. "There was a time when people thought it silly to be faddy, but show me the woman without a fad and I will show you the one who is the least interesting of her sex. Of course I mean the girl with leisure. The girl who works in an office or the girl in a profession has no time or money for fads, as a rule, but the woman who has nothing to do but dress and see her friends, to go here and there more to kill time than anything else, needs a fad."

"I know a girl who disliked classical music, had grown tired of society, her friends and her gowns, lost her appetite and interest in things. Some one told her to brace up, take hold of a subject, find out all about it and run it to the ground if necessary. So she began to go to the opera, concerts and recitals, all of which she had deemed a torture. She studied the lives of musicians, began a collection of their pictures and little marble and bronze busts of the composers."

"She became engrossed in the study of music, and in a year, through her development of a fad, she had become as interesting person to herself and others. She had so many autograph letters and photographs from great pianists, violinists and music writers that she speedily made friends among people interested in music, and the first thing she knew life had taken on a rosy hue."

"Rugs are an expensive fad, but a most wonderful study. You can go positively daft about them, and when you know all the names and patterns and meaning of the designs you possess a mine of information. A fad for antiques gives one dignity and requires study, while a fad for athletics brings health and color and pleasant companionship. A fad for the theatre keeps one's knowledge for the drama brushed up, and even the girl who makes a sincere study of gowns will seldom tire everybody as a companion, for she knows all the newest fashions and makers and colors far in advance of other people, which will surely find favor in the estimation of many."

"Fads tend to broaden the mind and keep up one's interest in life, which is the surest way to become interesting to others. When a woman allows herself to settle down in a rut, she speedily becomes tiresome to herself and a deadly bore to others. Get out of the rut while you are conscious you are in it, else you may grow accustomed to its restrictions and conceive your own little furrow is the only one in existence."

GOWNS FOR OCCASIONS.

The taffetas, so eminently suitable for the 1820 frocks that promise to be successful throughout the summer, are lovely in the small pattern of shirt waist type and in the flowered designs, but are perhaps at their best in plain tones, to be made up with ruchings, bouillonnages, laces and all the frivolous details of the 1820 modes.

Silks in heavier weaves and novelty weaves are many and the liberty satins, plain or figured, are among the loveliest of the new materials. Brocades with white or delicate pastel tints brocaded with flower and vine in the faintest and most shadowy of colorings are charming stuffs for the Louis Seize frocks that are more and more popular, and these brocades must have, in coloring and design, no touch of the flamboyant and striking—must be dainty, delicate, suggestive of panniers and powdered heads, and patches and subtle coquetry, says the New York Sun.

In fact, such a motif is the latest cry of fashion, and, while bold and striking effects are occasionally worn by the well-dressed woman, the frock per excellence of the season will be one of refined and subtle shadings, of soft stuffs in soft lines veiled or frilled in soft laces.

The chiffon velvets in their lightest weight forms are still selling merrily and will evidently be much worn this spring when winter wraps are laid aside, and even throughout the summer. The material is really little warmer than voile or silk and would be comfortable on three out of five days of a season like last summer.

SPENDING MONEY WISELY.

We do not consider ourselves at all extravagant," said one of two sisters who work all day in downtown Detroit offices to a writer in the Detroit Free Press. "But when we do spend our money we try to spend it advantageously. We have a friend who comes up to our house—we live at home—who always looks around and says with a sigh, 'Oh, dear! You girls are forever buying such pretty furniture and such lovely pictures and books. I wish I could afford to fix up our shabby old house.'"

"As a matter of fact that girl earns more than either of us. But a good deal of her salary goes for candy, hot chocolates and sodas, and little fads and knickknacks, which count for very little except to give pleasure for the moment and to make a

hole in her bank account—if she happens to have one.

"Of course we occasionally indulge in such things, but it has always been a hobby—and a good one, we think even if it is our own—that one fine picture or one good bit of furniture is a better investment and in better taste than a dozen things, either cheap, useless, perishable or faddish. Thus we have something to show for our work which not only gives pleasure to our own selves but to other members of our family and our friends as well."

NEW COLORS.

The colors to be fashionably worn this season are in their variety bewildering; not that there are so many new colors, but there is such delicacy of nuance in every color. The shades seem to have matched with those of flower petals, for they have the same delicate, velvety tones.

In the new reds we find exactly the lovely tints of the geranium and carnation; greens are faithful reproductions of the artichoke and the pale, creamy green of asparagus. Violets shade from aubergine to pale orchid mauve. Then from mandarin orange and banana we arrive at bois de rose. Reds and brown have a great vogue; puce we have already noted; dead-leaf and bronze are particularly pretty when exemplified in the new thin supple taffetas, especially the shot and shaded varieties, which will be so immensely popular; the dull greens mingle charmingly with the other effects introduced into the fancy silks, in which we find delicately tinted checks, spots, squares or large pastilles, carried out in blue, green or grisaille, on a ground of a different shade.

SEASONABLE MATERIALS.

Crepons have reappeared in renewed beauty; some are gaufré, others woven in a new way, making them more like Japanese silk crepons. Among the greatest novelties are the canvases and voiles in open drawnwork effects, which, though woven, have all the appearance of handwork. They are charming when mounted transparently over color. Other materials have the effect of being woven in thick guipure lace designs, a thread of white or red outlining the pattern with chic result. Altogether we find a wide range this spring of distinctly new fabrics.

The fashion of bouillonné, plaited, flounced and ruffled skirts lends itself happily to conjunction with these new supple silks, and this year this genre will reign supreme among our vraies elegances.

For trimming these costumes we find a profusion of embroideries and laces which are more suitable for them than for woolen materials.

SECRETS OF HER BEAUTY.

"One of the most charming women, whose unadorned complexion is dazzlingly fair, whose eyes shine like stars and whose figure is an artist's dream of perfection, on being asked for some of her 'secrets of beauty,' emphatically expressed her opinion that care as to diet is one of the greatest factors in the preservation of that freshness and youthfulness which is so fascinating," says the Chicago News.

"The items she chiefly avoids are sweets, pastry, cakes and puddings of all sorts, tea, coffee, chocolate and wine; her usual beverage being new milk, brought to the table cold and then diluted with boiling water, and whatever she takes to eat or drink, it is in the strictest moderation, so that her petite but perfectly proportioned figure may retain its youthful slenderness, as well as her complexion's beauty."

FASHION NOTES.

Fashion is said to be fickle, but of late she seems to have gained the virtue of fidelity. For brown is still as much to the fore as it was last November, and pastel shades appear as popular now as they did a year ago.

Several smart models were in pale green, another was in pastel blue, and a third in deep cream color, touched with dull gold. Not many skirts are made long, except for ceremonial occasions; they touch the ground, and are made the same length all the way round.

White frocks are greatly favored, and—rather oddly—smart Parisiennes seem to have a craze for black, even in these hushy days of early spring.

A three-tier skirt is one of the newest fancies, made with three deep flounces, each flounce bordered with a narrow band of velvet in the same shade, or of a contrasting color.

Fashion is as faithful to boleros as she is to the color brown; many of the smartest Paris models had this form of outdoor coat. Ah, underneath, a beautiful blouse of cream muslin, inset with many rows of delicate lace.

Golden beige is a favorite shade. Have an Easter veil to match your hat.

A yoke and a pair of sleevelets is a clever bit of trimming to buy nowadays.

WOMEN'S WOES.

Much of women's daily woes is due to kidney trouble. Sick kidneys cause backache, languor, blind headaches, dizziness, insomnia and urinary troubles. To cure yourself you must cure the kidneys. Profit by the experiences of others who have been cured.

Mrs. William W. Brown, professional nurse, of 16 Jane St., Paterson, N. J., says: "I have not only seen much suffering and many deaths from kidney trouble, but I have suffered myself."

At one time I thought I could not live. My back ached, there were frequent headaches and dizzy spells, and the kidney secretions were disordered. Doan's Kidney Pills helped me from the first, and soon relieved me entirely of all the distressing and painful symptoms."

A FREE TRIAL of this great kidney medicine which cured Mrs. Brown will be mailed on application to any part of the United States. Address Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y. For sale by all druggists; price 50 cents per box.

AT HOME ON THE SCAFFOLD.

Bashful Contractor Not Fitted for Public Speaking Gives Odd Excuse.

Elmer E. Johnston, executive commissioner of the Washington World's fair exhibit is attracting a great deal of favorable attention in St. Louis. Recently Mr. Johnston gave the St. Louis people some strong advice against extortion, and the other day he told a reporter a little story.

"Seeing all these buildings up," he said, "reminds me of a hospital dedication that I attended last October. We had the builder of the hospital there and we called on him to make a speech. He was a big, ruddy chap timid and embarrassed. He got up bowed awkwardly and began:

"Ladies and gentlemen, I guess I am better fitted for the scaffold than for public speaking."

The word Niagara means thunder-water.

GRASS TO HOLD CANAL BANKS.

Experiments Made by the Engineers in Charge of Ditch at Suez.

It has been discovered by the engineers who are occupied with the maintenance of the Suez canal that the best of all methods of protecting the banks from crumbling and decay is provided by the natural growth of reeds which fringe the channel for some distance below Ismailia on the African side and some rather interesting attempts have been lately made to plant new beds in other parts of the canal.

It is stated that the local species of reed with which the experiment has been so far made will not live in salt or very brackish water in the early stages of its growth, though it will bear transplanting later, and that at present the serviceableness of the natural means of protection is consequently limited.

Where the water is sufficiently free from brine, however, the network of roots is found to put a facing on the loose soil of the banks more successful and permanent than a wall of brick or stone, and it would probably not be difficult to discover and establish some coarse sedge or other plant of the sea marshes.—Country Life.

Not Guilty.

"A friend of mine keeps a hotel on in Ohio," said Representative Beldler, "and the last time I saw him he had a tale of hard luck that made me pause and consider."

"He had a good hotel, and to clinch this idea with his patrons he put up a sign, 'A week's board free if you can beat this hotel at a dollar a day.'"

"A chap came along and staid for two days. Then he left by way of the window without paying his bill. He was captured in the next town brought back and placed on trial before the justice of the peace."

"The justice heard the case, and decided that the man was not guilty as he had certainly beaten the hotel for two days' entertainment. Then he shoed the man out of town, and went around to the hotel and collected the week's board for himself."—New York World.

The electrical railways of the United States have 24,000 miles of track. The motor has displaced 8,000 horses. But 281 miles of horse car lines remain.



The letters of Miss Merkle, whose picture is printed above, and Miss Claussen, prove beyond question that thousands of cases of inflammation of the ovaries and womb are annually cured by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Gradual loss of strength and nerve force told me something was radically wrong with me. I had severe shooting pains through the pelvic organs, cramps and extreme irritation compelled me to seek medical advice. The doctor said that I had ovarian trouble and ulceration, and advised an operation. I strongly objected to this and decided to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I soon found that my judgment was correct, and that all the good things said about this medicine were true, and day by day I felt less pain and increased appetite. The ulceration soon healed, and the other complications disappeared and in eleven weeks I was once more strong and vigorous and perfectly well."

"My heartiest thanks are sent to you for the great good you have done me."—Sincerely yours, Miss MARGARET MERKLEY, 275 Third St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Miss Claussen Saved from a Surgical Operation.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—It seems to me that all the endorsements that I have read of the value of Lydia E. Pinkham's Compound do not express one-half of the virtue the great medicine really possesses. I know that it saved my life and I want to give the credit where it belongs. I suffered with ovarian trouble for five years, had three operations and spent hundreds of dollars on doctors and medicines but this did not cure me after all."

"However, what doctors and medicines failed to do, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound did. Twenty bottles restored me to perfect health and I feel sure that had I known of its value before, and let the doctors alone, I would have been spared all the pain and expense that fruitless operations cost me. If the women who are suffering, and the doctors do not help them, will try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, they will not be disappointed with the results."—Miss CLARA M. CLAUSSEN, 1307 Penn St., Kansas City, Mo.

\$5000 FORFEIT if we cannot forthwith produce the original letters and signatures of above testimonials, which will prove their absolute genuineness. Lydia E. Pinkham Med. Co., Lynn, Mass.