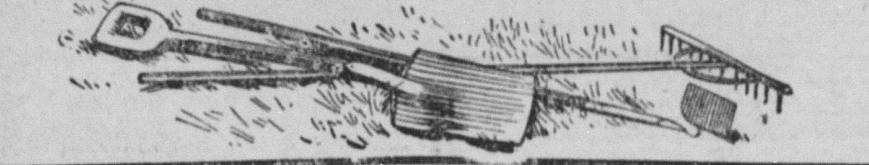


FARM AND GARDEN



SOUND FRUITS SECURED BY SPRAYING.

Insects are so numerous and diseases of trees are multiplying so rapidly that they will destroy the fruit unless checked by using chemicals. About three applications of Bordeaux Mixture are necessary per year to secure sound apples, peaches and pears. Any reader of the Southern Agriculturist can successfully use this chemical by dissolving six pounds of sulphate of copper in two gallons of warm water, and as many pounds of quick lime in a different wooden vessel, and mixing the two into a barrel containing forty gallons of water. The sulphate of copper will prevent leaf curl of the peach, leaf blight on the apple and pear, cracking of the pear and quince, and indeed all kinds of fungus troubles. It induces health in the tree, causes the fruit to be fair, and greatly improves the chances of a profitable crop. This is the formula for pear and apple trees, but it is too strong for the more tender leaf of the peach. The water must be added to the quantity to make the mixture amount to eighty gallons before using on peach trees. Every orchardist should own a sprayer to guarantee good, healthy fruit free from fungus growth.—Southern Agriculturist.

WORKED BY HAND.

It is of course always a good plan to have the garden in nice straight rows so that you can get at everything with the wheel hoe; but there are one or two exceptions. Outside of the hot-bed and the cold frames there are a few early crops which can be worked by hand in the old-fashioned way better than any other. Take for instance beets. Are you fond of beet greens? Best greens with the young beets included, when they are getting big enough to be called beets—perhaps the size of your little finger if you have a small one—make a dish fit for a king, and the peer of all the other greens. Well, if you do like them, throw up a little bed about 3-1-2 x 8 feet, high enough so that it will drain off with the first few days, and make it just as rich as it will hold. Then plant your beet seed in rows lengthwise about five inches apart and thick. Put in a few radishes if you like. These will come off early and get out of the way. If kept well weeded and scratched these beets will soon need thinning and this process can be kept up almost ad infinitum. A dozen or more messes of greens can be taken from this bed and finally leave a full stand of beets. There seems to be no end to the thinning required for such a bed.

RINGING THE PIGS.

Ring the pigs to prevent their rooting is a necessary evil at best, and should be done in the right way both for the accomplishment of the object in view as well as to cause the pig as little suffering as possible. To make the ring stay in well, see that it takes in all of the snout gristle, but have it large enough not to cramp or bind the flesh enclosed. In a young growing animal, if not properly adjusted, the flesh will soon fill out the ring and cause a constant irritation to the flesh, sometimes causing the snout to mortify and slough off. Most rings, too, close inside the flesh. This should not be. If this kind of ring is used take a small pair of pliers after the ring is closed in nose and turn ring gently around, till the points of ring are exposed and lap outside of flesh. Use bright new rings, free from rust, and apply few drops of turpentine to wound when ring is inserted.

HEN'S ECONOMICAL AGE.

The tendency of many chicken men is to keep hens far beyond the economic age. The Utah Agricultural Experiment Station and the North Carolina Agricultural College reports, in a bulletin, as the result of elaborate and careful experiments, "that for high production, weight of eggs produced, and economy in production, pullets far outstrip hens." A single white Wyandotte hen at the Maine agricultural experiment station laid 219 eggs the first year, 162 the second and 72 the third. There is no question that young, vigorous stock is the best to keep. Hens get lazy with age, and turn their food into fat instead of eggs. Kill them off, even at a sacrifice. They are seldom worth their rations after the first moult.

KEEPING LITTLE CHICKS HEALTHY.

The first day the little chicks make their exit from the shell they will want nothing but warmth. The second day boil a fresh egg and crumble the yellow part of it for the little chirpers. This feed can be continued about five days, then soak whole wheat bread in skimmed milk, squeezed dry and crumbled. For the next few days give fine cracked grain, principally wheat and oat meal, and seeds, fed in litter or chaff. During the day they should

be given what they will eat up clean of soft food, which should be dry and crumbly. Skim milk and cottage cheese are valuable foods. To raise chickens successfully you must keep them warm, dry, clean, busy, hungry and growing.

TO DEVELOP LARGE PEACHES.

Thinning fruit upon peach trees is a necessity for obtaining large fruit. There are generally two blooms where there should be but one. The fruit is a great exhauster of the tree. Be certain to pull off half of the small peaches when they are half the size of a plum. It is a wonderful strain upon the tree to develop a thousand peach stones. Knock off half the young fruit and at time of ripening there will be more peach meat than if all the young fruit had been left on the trees.

A GOOD IDEA.

It is always a good idea to make a small rich bed and sow half a dozen short rows of onion seed for growing "sets" for next year. The largest of these sets will make a fine little pickling onion. Sets sell at 20 to 25 cents a quart and is more of a pleasure than a trouble to raise a peck of them from such a little bed as above noted.

WHAT GIVES SUCCESS.

Crude carbolic acid should be kept on the farm where there are poultry. The kerosene emulsion can be made at any home where soap and kerosene oil are used. Add a pint of crude carbolic acid to two gallons of emulsion, and put a few drops about the fowl's neck, under wings and sprinkle it on the walls of the hen house. These little things are what give success to chicken raising.

WHERE THE LAUGH COMES IN.

The uneducated people once, and may now, laugh at articles in the Southern Agriculturist about insects, but when they learn that the insects are costing truck growers and farmers more than the education of their children, the laugh is on the other side of the mouth.

SUNFLOWER SEED.

Plant sunflower seed in the fence corners and other places that are vacant. The seed will be excellent for feeding poultry in the fall, and the oil in the seed will give a glossy color to the plumage.

BEEES ARE USEFUL.

Bees should be on every farm where there is an orchard or an acre of clover. The bees guarantee a better stand of fruit.

WHEN HENS ARE SET.

When hens are set put some powdered sulphur in the nest. The heat of the hen's body will cause the sulphur to give off an odor that kills lice and mites.

France's Educated Farmers.

In France, as in the United States, agriculture engages fully one-half of the population. Since 182, when the Institute of Roville was founded by Dombasle near Nancy, the French free training system has, with many ups and downs, gradually extended until it covers all France and all forms of soil culture.

French children under government training are first put in primary schools, thereafter to pass up through all departments to the National Institute. It must be admitted that the term "French peasant" means something vastly more than a farmer of any other nation. When the French boy emerges from the institute he is no yokel, but an educated man who can make the most of the smallest area of soil. He knows familiarly all life on the farm, animate and inanimate, also all objects, organic and inorganic. He is fully equipped to create wealth from the smallest means. Through him we understand the vast combined wealth of the French peasantry. Were such a system in vogue and compulsory in America, forty million farm workers would be elevated from a homely and commonplace existence to an educated class, capable of wresting untold riches out of the vast soil which today is often worked in the most ignorant and unhumane manner, producing a mere living per family, and generally mortgaged beyond its present worth.—Harper's Weekly.

An Italian Brigand's Horse.

Among South Italian brigands even their horses are taught to resist the officers of the law. During the encounter at Rana Boeca, in which the brigand Mirto was killed, the gendarme was amazed by the furious behavior of his horse, which lashed out on all sides, and succeeded in injuring one of the officers. On inquiry afterward among the prisoners taken it was ascertained that the horse had been trained to behave in this way by being repeatedly flogged until he kicked one of the brigands, dressed as a carabinieri, approaching him. The horse at last became such an adept that he might be relied upon to kick and rear furiously at the mere sight of a uniform.



WOMAN'S WORLD

WOMAN MORE SUREFOOTED.

Is a woman more steady on her feet than a man, and can she distance him in getting over dangerous places? An event in the Fox River Valley during the last week seems to aptly illustrate woman's agility and reminds one of the old school game of years ago, when boys followed each other over devious paths in "following the leader." During the recent flood in the valley and the moving of the heavy ice a portion of the trestle work known as the Five Islands bridge of the Elgin, Aurora & Southern electric line was partially damaged, so that it became impossible to run cars over it. To enable the pedestrians to get over without trouble a walk of boards was nailed over the cross ties. After this was done two spans of the south end of the structure were further damaged, so that several yards of the track sagged toward the water and left the rails and cross ties hanging at an angle of 45 degrees. The board walk that had been fastened to the cross ties was tilted up sideways, requiring one to bend his ankles in order to walk across. It was necessary to walk downward to the center of the sag and then up on the other side. The laughable picture of men helping each other over this place was witnessed. The women "went it alone." A girl with a big hat that threatened to be blown off would rest one hand on her headgear, gather her skirts about her with the other and then, setting her feet to suit the side angle of the boards, she would trip down the incline and clamber up on the other side without any trouble. It was jolly fun, besides. The track sagged down within a few feet of the water that was running twenty feet deep, and swift at that, but this seemed to have no terrors for the feminine passengers. The men would go through all kinds of motions to balance themselves, and some of them looked as if they would give \$10 for a hand rail to hold onto. As it was, some of them got down and slid across, holding onto the rails during the trip.—Chicago Tribune.

SCHOOLS FOR MOTHERS.

Paris now has 28 "Schools for Mothers." These extraordinary institutions were started two years ago, and are now to be found in all the cities of France. The figures for last year show that the death rate among babies is much less than it was before these schools were started. Every mother who becomes a student is obliged to come regularly and bring her children. At one of the Paris schools there were 712 mothers in attendance, all with sick babies, and during the year only 226 of the babies died. At another school 84 out of 87 babies were made well.

The mothers are taught how to feed their children, how to dress them, how to give them fresh air, etc. If a mother ceases to come to the class, a visitor is sent to find out the reason, and persuade her to come back. It is a peculiar fact, says one of the teachers in a mother's school, that the highest death rate among babies is found in that part of France where the "butter comes from." "The people send the cream to the dairies," he says, "and feed their babies on the skim milk." The schools in that district are teaching the mothers to think more of the babies and less of the butter.

WILHELMINA'S SHOES WERE TIGHT.

According to the opinion expressed by a Philadelphia traveler, Wilhelmina, Queen of Holland—one may no longer write it "Little Wilhelmina"—is said to be growing "very plain," but none has yet denied her a large share of very "human" qualities. In proof of this this same traveler tells a story which presents her in a pleasing light. It seems that a certain famous London photographer had been sent for to take the Queen's picture. It was the second such commission he had received from Amsterdam. When the sitting was over and the plates had been developed, Wilhelmina said delightedly: "Why, this is a much better picture of me than you took before. I wonder why that is?" "Your Majesty has now a more cheerful expression," ventured the artist. "Perhaps that is what makes the difference."

BECOMING AND NEW RINGS.

Rings and their suitability to the hands that wear them is just now the subject of serious preoccupation in Paris artistic circles, for fashion has sent forth the edict that they must in future be adapted to the wearer's special shape and color of hand, and no longer be worn merely because they are beautiful and costly articles of luxury. It is a fact remarked very frequently that some very pretty rings appear strangely out of place on some hands

and that the colors of the various gems do not always appear to adapt themselves to the shape and coloring of the person they adorn. In consequence of this edict, French artists and designers are very busy preparing some lovely creations of graduated rings, which will be specially adapted to the different fingers of the hand, and some startling departures in this direction will, it is said, very shortly be seen on the slender fingers of fashionable women.

LATEST FAD OF THE DUCHESS.

The latest fad of the Duchess of Marlborough is said to be a passion for recitation. She is an apt scholar has a remarkable memory, and at many of the social affairs that she attends she has been called on to entertain the guests by giving some portion of her repertoire. But it goes further than this, according to the stories told in the clubs that the Duke of Marlborough frequents. Whenever the Duke, who is at heart a true son of his father, strays away from the beaten path of work and steady habits, it is said that the Duchess takes him to a room apart and then recites to him some of the more impressive poems in her collection. Gray's Elegy, "Curfew Shall Not Ring To Night," "Thanatopsis" are among her favorites.

MRS. ASTOR'S SWIMMING POOL.

Dividing from a spring board into her marble swimming pool is a part of the daily physical exercise Mrs. John Jacob Astor enjoys in her new \$200,000 gymnasium at Ferncliff-on-the-Hudson. The indoor tennis courts are the finest in the country, and the entire gymnasium is the most complete in the country. Every outdoor game, with the exception of golf, can be played within its spacious walls. This "Tennis House," as Mrs. Astor calls it, is Grecian in design, one story high. Here Mr. and Mrs. Astor spend much of their time playing tennis and squash, swimming, fencing, or swinging Indian clubs.—New York Press.

BE WARY OF THE ROSE.

Don't you find the single rose behind the ear, when becoming, the most charming of coiffures? Much depends upon the expression of the face, in which there must be a sentimental note to produce harmony. Otherwise, do not attempt this arrangement, but gather the hair so as to create a triangular effect on the top of the head, taking the width from ear to ear at the base, or twist up your soft fluffy puffs with or without some short curled ends, or roll a pompadour so that there shall be no other line above it, the front hair alone being visible in an unbroken line.

MOTHERS' VOCAL DUTIES.

Mothers and those who have the education of children in their hands are chiefly responsible for our abuse of the English language and our elocutionary shortcomings. A mother should make it a special duty to correct every mistake in the sound of her child's voice and in its choice of words; and if voice production, the right pronunciation of words and distinct reading aloud were made part of a child's training we should soon become an intelligent and musically-voiced people. Unchecked, we shall ultimately bark.

FASHION'S FRILLS AND FANCIES.

The rhinestone bar is a favorite stock pin. Straw passementerie is a trimming novelty. Button roses in straw decorate many of the newest toques and bonnets. White is destined to retain during the coming season the vogue it enjoyed last year. Spangled and bead effects are conspicuous in the season's neckwear. Floral buckles for evening gown garniture represent a Parisian novelty. Ostrich feathers are finished with a touch of gold or silver in ornate design, oftentimes studded with colored stones. Gooseberry green and old rose are leading shades in millinery. Oyster white is a tint in pongee that is much admired. Chiffon and lace coats are somewhat shorter this season than last. For bridesmaids, beautiful and costly gowns will be fashioned of hand embroidered nets and handkerchief linens. Suits of white embroidered pique will be worn next Summer. Val lace is promised pronounced vogue as garniture for Summer dresses. The wheat pattern is conspicuous in the new laces. The shepherdess hat remains popular.

The Tall Missourians.

Missourians are said to be the tallest men, on the average, in the world. They average, it is asserted, 5 feet 9 inches.—Kansas City Journal.

A Winter Rainbow.

In Siberia a winter rainbow sometimes lasts all day. It is caused by fine particles of snow suspended in the air.



HOUSEHOLD TALKS

SEALING FRUIT CANS.

When canning fruits, the juice should be allowed to overflow the top after the rubber has been put on. Seal the can without wiping this juice off, as it thickens when cold and helps to make the can air-tight.

WHEN BOILING VEGETABLES.

When boiling vegetables be sure the water is not at boiling point before putting in the vegetables to be cooked. If it is cold or lukewarm the freshness and flavor will soak into the water. Place the saucepan over the hottest part of the stove, so that it will boil as quickly as possible, and be careful that the boiling does not cease until the contents are thoroughly cooked and ready to be dished.—Chicago Daily News.

DO YOU EVERYDAY CLOTHES.

Do you ever think of airing your clothes? No? You think that when you wear them they get aired. So they do, but not thoroughly and properly as they ought to. To keep your clothes in really good condition you should brush and shake and air them every little while. The dress or suit you wear every day should have a daily shaking and brushing and thorough going over once a week. You will be rewarded for your pains, as your clothes will last much longer and look much better. If it is wool or dark material the dust gets ground in and very soon the whole dress has a rusty appearance that with a little pains and care you might have avoided. Pressing is a great renovator and skirts particularly need it once in a while, as they get hard wear and are apt to be pulled out of shape and get knee holes, which certainly are pretty. There is another advantage about airing your clothes that is most important. It keeps them fresh and clean. Nothing is more advantageous than an odor of cooking or stale perfume on any ones' clothes. To be fresh and clean and neat is the way to be always attractive, and every girl can be and should be all three.—New York Journal.

CLEAN HOUSE TOO SOON.

Most housewives commence to clean house too soon. When it is too early to dump the furnace or put away the stoves, for fear of "colds" for the family, it is too soon to think of housecleaning. Housecleaning before the furnace is out, means a house that must be cleaned again before the summer is over, declares Mary Taylor Root in the April Housekeeper. Then too, if it is too cold to have the house open, and the things out of doors airing. So try, first of all, postponing the date of cleaning house until much later than usual. Wait until it is sufficiently warm to have the stoves taken down, or the furnace dumped, until all the windows can be thrown wide to let in the air and sunlight that are worth more than all the scrubbing to make the home a healthful place in which to live. What would we think of a dressmaker who could not tell what she had done with our goods, our trimmings, or our linings? What would we think of the lawyer who said, "Oh, yes, I remember seeing such a paper somewhere, but I can't just remember where; I'll hunt it up in a few days?" This in reply to our request for a certain paper we had entrusted to his keeping. We would at once say that it was a very poor sort of a lawyer, and a worse kind of dressmaker who didn't keep track of their client's belongings in a more businesslike way! And yet—remember the things you put away last year when you cleaned house, that you have not been able to find since! Think of the numbers of things you find every time you clean house; articles you had forgotten that you possessed! This speaks for itself, and no home can be run without friction until business methods are applied to the machinery of that home. Then will there be no more "Americanitis" among housewives.

ALL ABOUT THE HOUSE.

A comparative novelty in portieres is one made of denim with border of applique leather. Curtains of Arabian and Cluny lace retain the prestige which they have enjoyed for some time past. In curtains the leader is the flet Italiane, a handsome drapey, the cost of which puts it beyond the reach of any but the most wealthy householders. A pretty fancy in the form of a bon-bon dish is a Japanese design in bisque or porcelain representing a young girl carrying a basket in either hand. Each of the receptacles is filled with bonbons. A new kind of orange knife has made its appearance this spring. It has a hook of barb at the end of the back blade which prevents its penetrating beyond a certain depth of the rind, which is more easily removed than with the ordinary knife. The reverse side of this knife is a regular blade.

THE KEYSTONE STATE

Latest News of Pennsylvania Told in Short Order.

Dr. Ellen Brown was summoned before the Chester Board of Health and charged with being negligent in failing to report two cases of smallpox at the residence of Austin Worrell, in West Eighth Street. The action of the board was deferred until the charges can be further investigated.

Oliver E. Erb, rural mail carrier of Shoff, put himself in line for a Carnegie medal by boldly risking his life to save a child from a frightful death. A 5-year-old girl had run out of a crowd at the Lancaster Pennsylvania Railroad Station directly in front of a moving train. While others stood helpless with the tot in grave peril, Erb jumped across the track, picking up the child in his arms, the engine barely grazing him.

James Doolin, 30 years old, after cutting his throat, ran through the village of Buck Run, terrifying women and children. His suicidal attempt failed and Squire Flinn sent him to prison in default of \$500 bail.

In her efforts to escape from a cow Mary, a 3-year-old daughter of Edward Sweeney, of Yorktown, stepped into a burning pile of wood. Before assistance reached her she was burned to death.

Joseph Dellet, one time a prominent cigar box manufacturer, was found dead on the street in a suburb of Lancaster. In his pocket was a half empty bottle of laudanum and it was apparent that the man had committed suicide. It is believed that the deed was prompted by Dellet having been told that he had to leave the county hospital, where he had created a disturbance.

John Gantz, of Reading, brought a damage suit to recover \$10,000 from Joseph Marks and Miller Richmond of Martintide, for the death of his father, William Gantz. On October 10, 1903, the latter was driving a four mule team when it is alleged that the defendants, who were in separate teams and were racing at high speed passed him, frightening his mules. The latter ran off, Gantz was thrown under the wheels and fatally injured. Carlisle Ralph Stanton, Violet White hill and Jessie Snyder, aged from 5 to 7 years, found a box of waters containing deadly rat poison while playing in a barn at Warren. One of the children suggested that they play at "tea party." The waters had nearly all been eaten when the children became violently ill. The attending physicians say all the little sufferers will recover.

Masked highwaymen near Lansford held up Mike Putnoski and John Munsky. They beat them into a state of insensibility and decamped with \$6. Alice Steele, a little girl of Court-dale, has been missing since Monday night and searching parties and the police have failed to find any trace of her.

While the health authorities were fumigating a residence in Shenandoah, they neglected to close the rear door and a three-year-old daughter of Mrs. Whitehouse wandered into the front room into which formaldehyde was flowing through a keyhole. Thomas McHale rushed in and rescued her.

President Baer and Vice-President Voorhes, General Manager Richards, Superintendent Dice and Turk and Trainmaster Keffer, of the Philadelphia & Reading Company, visited the collieries in Shenandoah. Many important improvements are contemplated.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Schaeffer appointed the following trustees for State normal schools. West Chester—John I. Pinkerton and William S. Mindle, West Chester. Millersville—Milton Heidebaugh and Andrew F. Frantz, Lancaster. Kutztown—R. W. Young, Slatington, and Prof. Alvin Rupp, Allentown.

East Stroudsburg—George F. Davis, Lansford, and W. B. Holmes, Honesdale. Mansfield—H. B. Packer, Wellsboro, and F. E. Zimmer, Mansfield. Bloomsburg—Dr. J. C. Philadel, Bloomsburg, and R. C. Neal, Harrisburg.

Lock Haven—J. A. Bickford and O. S. Kelsey, Lock Haven. Indiana—S. M. Jack and Rev. G. T. Reynolds, Indiana. California—G. M. Mitchell, Monessen, and E. F. Acheson, Washington. Slippery Rock—John M. Greer and Thomas Robinson, Butler. Edinboro—D. Ware, West Springfield, and Rev. G. H. Stuntz, Erie.

Clarion—James T. Maffett and S. F. Brush, Clarion. The men appointed will represent the State in the various boards of trustees.

The Auditor General's Department has compiled a statement making comparison of the business done by the last two Auditor Generals in their respective terms to show the great increase in the State's revenues. Major McCauley, in 1898, succeeded to a balance of \$4,557,184.04. He collected in the three years of his terms \$49,490,301.47, which was considered phenomenal, and paid out \$22,689,370.93 the largest up to that time in the history of the State. When he left office he turned over to Mr. Hardenbergh, in 1901, a balance of \$11,341,300.09. In three years Auditor General Hardenbergh collected \$50,275,042.08, and paid out \$24,154,990.84, retiring with a balance of \$16,256,310.98. In other words, Auditor General Hardenbergh began business with \$6,784,115.15 more than his predecessor, collected \$2,784,540.61 more, paid out \$11,465,019.89 more, and closed with \$5,215,019.89 more of a balance.

At the burning Locust Gap colliery Shamokin, several heavy internal explosions occurred, flames and gas shooting from the openings. No damage was done to the surface. Superintendent P. F. Brennan directed all persons living in houses close by to vacate, as a cave-in is feared.

W. W. Kehoe, Philadelphia, and William Titus, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania Railroad employees, were held up by footpads on the Lancaster cut-off while going West on their train. The robbers at revolvers' point compelled the trainmen to give up their watches and \$15.