

FARM AND GARDEN

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

THE SUPPLY OF POULTRY.

Notwithstanding the fact that all kinds of poultry and eggs are constantly increasing in price, the supply continues to grow also—and it is estimated that the supply in 1905 will be fully 25 per cent. larger than any preceding year. More of the products of the poultry yard are being consumed, and the demand keeps pace with the production.

The supply can never equal the demand, since modern poultry farming has taught us that at all times poultry and eggs can be produced for less money than beef, pork or mutton.

There is nothing that will ever take the place of eggs, and the demand for them will constantly grow greater.

Poultry flesh, in season, will like wise always be in demand, and we need never fear an over-production of either fowls or eggs. Look after your poultry and you will find the hens profitable.

SWEET MILK AND TANKAGE FOR PIGS.

I find that sweet milk from the separator mixed with corn meal and shorts or bran most excellent for pigs and young hogs, but I haven't enough of the milk and want to ask how a ration of tankage, corn meal and shorts or bran would do to supply the lack of skim milk to feed young hogs and pigs, and what proportion when mixed for feeding.—W. D. Severn, in Indiana Farmer.

—Replying to your inquiry of W. D. S., Macon county, Ill., I will say that a ration can be made of corn, shorts and tankage, which will be almost as satisfactory as one where milk is supplied. The ration should consist of five parts of corn, five parts of shorts and one part of tankage; as more fat is desired the shorts can be replaced by corn. There is nothing better than skim milk when fed sweet, but where the quantity is limited, tankage can be used as a substitute, as it is very rich in protein.—J. H. Skinner in Indiana Farmer.

FIRST-CLASS STOCK PAYS.

It costs no more on the farm to raise first-class stock than to raise poor or intermediate grades. This is an axiom. An axiom it will be remembered is a truth that does not need demonstration. Then if it does not cost more on a farm to raise the better class of stock the first thought in a stock breeder's mind should be improvement. This may, in some instances, be necessarily a slow process if one is limited somewhat in means. But persevere and start in a small way. One will learn gradually the best methods in feeding, breeding and general care. This will, when most needed, be a rich experience and with a start in stock of which one has a personal knowledge, much more can be accomplished than with several thousand dollars spent on a strange bunch of cattle. Decide as early as possible whether to raise stock for market or for milking and breed accordingly. A heifer with a thick neck and a tail bone that is too large had better be sold for beef—if she has a small tail bone and slender neck, keep her for a milk cow.—Cecil Abel Todd, in the Epitomist.

LATE MOULTING.

During the latter part of October we will find many hens only partly through the moult, and these are usually the lazy kind which stand idly around. The bustling, busy hen will begin to moult about the first of August, and by the middle of October she will have an entirely new suit of glossy feathers. In many cases she will continue to lay throughout the entire moulting season, and will keep it up all winter long.

The lazy hen, meanwhile, will stand around, and the first touch of winter weather will bring on an attack of cold, which frequently develops into croup.

This is the class which requires our attention, and they should have it before the season is far advanced.

They should be separated, and, if possible, given free range and be compelled to roam over the orchard or field. Make them scratch for bugs and grasshoppers, and they will gather material necessary for the growth of new feathers.

Green bone is excellent for moulting hens, but if this cannot be had give oil meal, sun flower seed, green clover and wheat middlings. Hens that have not completed their moult by the middle of November will not be likely to lay before March, so that we are forced to furnish a winter's feed and care and get nothing in return.

Don't trust to luck with your hens. Take good care of them and they will be profitable.

DEEP PLOWING.

I see so much said in regard to deep and shallow plowing, I will say I am an advocate of deep plowing, but am told here in Florida you must not plow deep, two to four inches being the proper depth. In Kentucky, where I learned to plow and have had plowing done for me many years, I have never yet seen the land broken too deep to suit me. In breaking, I use double disc breaking plows, with four good mules, all abreast and let the plow go down eight to ten inches and deeper if possible. I also use subsoil

plows on some lands to go in bottom of the furrow and root up about four inches more. This breaks the hard pan that has formed from plowing the same depth so many years. I use the subsoil plow about every two to three years, and I find it makes a fine water bed, as it allows the water to go down and the moisture to rise where the land is broken through the hard pan. Furthermore, your land will not wash so badly if broken deep. But in cultivating I want my first plowing of the corn to be the deepest, and get shallower as the corn gets older and the roots get longer. I do not believe in pruning corn. The weeder is a fine tool; when used at the proper time, it will kill more weeds than one would imagine. I try to keep the weeder and roller going with them and right back again thereby getting a fine dust coat all over the fields. I do not start in the spring to plow my corn three or four times and lay it by, but I plow every time it is needed. If I finish laying a field today and a hard rain should come tonight I scratch the top of the ground again to retain all the moisture possible.—Foster Threlkeld, in the Epitomist.

VALUE OF CLOVER AND COWPEA.

Nitrogen is to the soil in which our plants grow much what the oxygen of the air is to us, for without it the death of vegetation must ultimately ensue, says Connecticut Farmer.

For centuries farmers have known this. Scientific American, that different crops should be grown in the same field with such succeeding year. Some crops following clover and other plants were found to flourish admirably. Careful analysis by agricultural chemists have shown that the benefits derived by this rotation are due directly to the increased stores of nitrogen placed at the disposal of the benefited plants. It would necessarily have followed that plants of the clover type were able to render available nitrogen which would otherwise be unassimilated. Further investigation showed that this nitrogen was fixed in a manner entirely unsuspected, and that we need have no fear of the exhaustion of the nitrate beds which supply us with the chief ingredients of our fertilizers.

The Leguminosae family of plants, such as clover, the cowpea and the soy bean, have well-defined nodules at their roots, highly charged with nitrogen and constituting the habitat of certain bacteria indispensable in nitrogen assimilation. Elaborate experiments proved that the destruction of these bacteria was equivalent to the destruction of life itself. Bacterial life, then and nothing else, contains the secret of nitrogen production. It having been settled with reasonable certainty that the fixation of nitrogen in the case of Leguminosae is directly traceable to bacteria, the next investigation to be carried out had for its determination the life process of these bacteria—the conditions under which they thrive, the amount of light, heat and moisture that they require, the manner in which the plant appropriated the nitrogen brought to it from the air, and finally, the possibility of artificially stimulating plant life by inoculating soil with the bacteria.

These investigations have been carried out with striking success. At no very distant day the farmer will either inoculate his field with a culture of bacteria adapted to the crop he wishes to grow, or incorporate with his soil earth of a field where the crop has already been successful. The uncertainty of a good crop will then have vanished, and a farmer will be assured of the best obtainable crops from the seed which he has planted. Guesswork will have given place to absolute certainty.

Valuable Queen Bees.

Just as there are valuable strains in horses, cattle and other stock, so there are varieties of queen bees which are worth many hundred times their weight in gold. The most valuable strain is the Italian, and many Italian bee farmers demand and receive without question prices ranging from \$50 to \$200 for a single queen bee of a certain kind. Such bees are sent all over the world. The owner of a bee farm near Ottawa, Canada, goes to Europe annually and brings back with him bees of an aggregate value of thousands of dollars. He is enabled through the agency of an Italian firm to effect an insurance upon the most valuable of his queens.—Boston Transcript.

An Indian Coach for Carlisle.

For the first time in its history the Carlisle Indian football team this season will have a full-blooded Indian head coach and assistant coaches, with full authority to plan their own campaigns against the products of the white men's universities, in the persons of Edward Rodgers, head coach, and Frank Hudson and Bemus Pierce assistants. Never before have the Redskins been trusted to do the brain work incident to the planning for a football season, and in the past their victories have undoubtedly been due to the careful coaching of such men as Glenn S. Warner, Cornell and Bull Hickock and McCormick, Yale.—Kansas City Journal.

WHAT MOST WOMEN LIKE.

A woman likes to be truly loved and to be told so.

She likes some noble, honorable man to be thoughtful of her, kind and considerate of her welfare.

When well and becomingly dressed, a quiet notice of it is always appreciated.

A word of praise for a nice dinner or supper often more than compensates her for the worry and work of preparation.—New Haven Register.

TO CLEAN FURS.

It is impossible for furs to go through a whole season without contracting a quantity of dust and dirt. A light colored fur, of course, shows how soiled it is, but the dark ones, not displaying their dirt, are allowed to get dirtier and dirtier. Furs may readily be cleaned at home simply by rubbing them with bran. Buy a pound of bran, divide it in two portions and place one in the oven to heat. Spread the fur on paper on a table and rub it well all over with the cold bran. Then shake out the bran and brush the fur with a soft hat brush. When the rest of the bran feels hot rub it evenly into the fur in the same manner as before. Shake free from all bran and dust. The satin lining of the fur will also need cleansing. Squeeze out a clean sponge in warm water and rub the satin gently with it, but be careful not to let the satin get too wet. Rub it dry with a cloth and hang it in a warm place to dry and then in a cold draft to air it.

HAND WORK LAVISH ON HATS.

A good deal of delicate hand work is lavished on hats. Another black hat is covered partly with the new felt plush and partly with satin, seen in tiny tufts set close together and drawn up in gathers. For the moderately high crown the satin only is used, whereas the rim is half one, half the other, the line of demarcation between the inner portion of velvet and the outer one of tacked satin being deeply waved. For further trimming this hat has a plume of tips on the left side. Other black velvet hats I have seen were richly worked with jet. In one instance the jet embroidery formed deep vandykes, having their bases in the edge of the brim, where there was a bordering of large black beads. A plume of ostrich tips was placed rather forward, and a handsome sheaf of aigrette jutting out from the side across the front.

Smaller hats and toques are sometimes made of velvet, gathered full over circles of half-inch-wide ribbon wire. One, composed of a mid-diminished gray-blue velvet, arranged in this way, has the brim rolled rather high off the front and sides, but sloping down at the back. On the left it rests on a loosely tied bow of liberty ribbon, while above, on the edge of the brim, is a lyre-shaped ornament in blue enamel, set with pebbles, bordering a blue paradise tail.—Millinery Review.

THE LATEST ODORS.

Milady's latest fashions are rather expensive and luxurious. Her perfumes are, perhaps, among the extremes of these, and every season brings forth a new odor which is higher in price than the last. A pretty idea, when a woman can afford it, is to have perfume of the flower which matches her gown. This is being done by many of the society women, but there are many who retain the same perfume throughout many years and are practically known by it.

Violet will always be popular, and for those of modest taste this is the best. The scent of roses or carnations is always pretty, but as they have been imitated so many times in the poorer quality they are not very popular. Now that Japan is before the public so forcibly, her perfumes and scents are considered quite the thing, and although they are known by rather unpronounceable names, they are, nevertheless, very beautiful. French makes are in great demand, and our own makes also. It has always been said that women are fickle creatures, and this is one instance where her inconsistency of fashions is invariable. It is not considered good style at any rate to change one's perfume, and perhaps many will retain the one odor for at least one season.

THE NERVOUS CHILD.

Overstudy and the nervous school child—such are the topics earnestly discussed by societies for the study of school problems, by school superintendents, teachers, parents, physicians, and by editorial writers. An eminent professor of pedagogics in a vehement address repeatedly demands that the will of the bad school child shall be "broken" exactly as one "breaks a colt." This Rarey and cowboy type of child-breaker divides "the nervous child" into four classes. 1. With underdeveloped mind well-nourished, destructive, and extremely violent when angered, and even homicidal. 2. The anemic, active, alert, overstrung boy, liable to silliness and even epileptic fits when disciplined. 3. The high strung, over-sensitive girl, so sensitive as almost to go insane in trying to do right. 4. The vicious, self-assertive, ill-tempered boy with criminal tendencies. Such ill observation as this argues the poor diagnosis and treatment we find. In some cities the nervous

child is moving parents and physicians to appeal for fewer hours in the schools and less pressure. We do not much believe in the intellect, the morals or the pedagogics of the colt-breakers or the boy-breakers. There are better ways to break a horse or a child than to break his will, and the teacher that entertains such diabolic theories should be "broken." The noteworthy fact about the whole discussion is the utter omission from a hundred papers and editorials and discussions of the most important element of the entire matter. There are, it is true, many other factors; there is really overstudy and overpressure but the one cause of the nervous child which is ignored, but which is as prolific a source of evil as perhaps all others combined, is eye strain—American Medicine.

THE WIDOW.

The widow is undoubtedly the natural enemy of unmarried female society. Man may fear her but he loves her, while spinster and sweet sixteen alike hate and abhor her. This is only natural and inevitable, for there was never a widow who couldn't win out in the matrimonial running in a canter, leaving the debutante breathless and exhausted. But just wherein lies the winning wife of the irresistible widow is a mixed problem in science and psychology.

Why the average man, who for a dozen years more or less has secretly enshrined in his heart the ideal of a slim, shy young maiden, should fall helpless before the charms of the first second-hand matrimonial candidate who opens her eyes at him, passes the comprehension of women—at least that part of womankind who are not widows themselves.

The bachelor girl and debutante wonder secretly in their hearts and there have been unwise ones who sought the secret from man, only to be met with the vaguely evasive reply that she "understands us." In their foolishly feminine illogical way, the wondering and complaining sisters of the widow overlook the fact that experience in the matrimonial line has the same value as in the grocery, or real estate business. Neither managing mamma, nor maidenly instinct can equal the sometimes dearly bought experience of the widow.

When one considers the widow, one is inclined to wonder that mere un-married girls ever acquire matrimony, but then, of course, there are not enough widows to go around.

FASHION HINTS.

Belt, shoes and sailor hat of shiny black patent leather are smart finishings for the white frock.

Skirts are becoming alarmingly full. The shirred skirts take unlimited material.

It is considered quite fetching to have gay velvet cuffs and collars on white suits.

A decided color contrast fad is raging.

From appearances it looks as if women had rebelled against the sombre stockings. They have undoubtedly turned to brighter styles, judging from those on sale with hand-painted insets.

The new style in shoes is almost as noticeable, and the conventional black shoe has been replaced by those of light and brighter colors. The heels on many are colored to match the stockings worn.

The birds of Paradise are worn more and more, but owing to their scarcity they will never become common.

Handsome cut jet is used extensively as an up-to-date ornament.

Burnt orange-colored gloves are worn by the woman who is making a feature of that color in her wardrobe.

Amber combs are once more in fashion, and for the blondes who can afford such luxuries they are handsomer than those of shell.

Jealous of His Handsome Wife.

In the Woman's Home Companion Senator Dewey tells of a conversation between two men of his acquaintance, one of whom is the husband of an exceptionally handsome woman.

"It appears that one evening after dinner the second man remarked to the proud husband at a moment when the beauty's attention was given else where, 'Old man, your wife is such a beautiful creature that I wonder you are not jealous of her.'"

"To tell the truth, I am," answered the husband, frankly, and with fine disregard of the attempt of his friend to be facetious. "For that reason I never invite anyone here that any sane woman could take a fancy to."

The Diamond Hitch.

The "diamond hitch" is at once the pride of the woolly West and the despair of the tenderfoot. No cargo strapped on to a mule's back with it can possibly slip, no matter how rough the road. The invention of a Spanish muleteer, the hitch was first used in America by the Spaniards who conquered Mexico and looted the treasure houses of the Montezumas.

A Perfect Altruist.

Charles Kingsley was once talking of his wife to the mother of Canon Tetley, of Bristol Cathedral.

"She is the sweetest, kindest-hearted woman in the world!" he said, enthusiastically. "Why, Mrs. Tetley, if my wife were going to be executed her first anxiety would be that any one who wished to see it might get a good place!"

But for the need of horrible examples many a man's usefulness would never be properly listed.—The Philadelphia Inquirer.



WHAT SHALL WE PAY FOR FOOD?

At the risk of going counter to certain famous household economists I am forced, after mature consideration, to put down \$4 a week apiece as the average amount on which a family can be really well fed. Even with this they will not be given mushrooms and sweetbreads, squab, chickens and spring ducklings, fruit out of season and game in season. They can live as I have said the large majority of housekeepers of moderate means in cities and large towns desire to live if I omit those whose homes are in the country, it is because the latter by reason of such rural adjuncts as milk, cream, butter, eggs, fruit, vegetables, ice, cannot be reckoned in the class of which we are speaking.

Such a city housekeeper will give her family of four oranges or bananas or some stewed fruit for breakfast in winter. In summer she will plan for melons or berries for this meal, but she will feel that she must make one melon do for two persons, and that a quart of berries is a liberal allowance for four. If with the latter cream is eaten, she will thin this, or that she offers with the cereal, with a little milk, and will encourage herself in the idea that fruit is more wholesome without cream. She will also have to pinch a little in some other quarter to make up for the fact that the cost of the majority of summer fruits amounts to more than the winter oranges or apples.

A MAN'S RULE FOR COFFEE.

"The coffee at any breakfast table," says a veteran New York hotel manager, "is one of the most important elements of a satisfactory meal."

"Coffee should never be decanted. The pot must be fitted with a cover that lifts off, and not one which swings back. It must also have a cover for the spout. Make your own filter from a piece of not too fine white flannel sewn into a bag terminating in a point which must be long enough to reach half way down the pot and wide enough to fit snugly over the top. Have your coffee (two-thirds Java, one-third Mocha, or any mixture you prefer) ground as fine powder, says Good Housekeeping. It will require all your blanching to get your grocer to do this, but the secret of the excellence of this way of making coffee depends upon the fineness with which it is ground. Fill your pot with boiling water to heat it—pour it out, fit on the flannel bag, put in a heaping teaspoon for each person, and 'one for the pot,' and pour on one large cup of boiling water for each spoonful of coffee. The water must be absolutely boiling and it must be poured slowly. Let it stand for several minutes on the back of the range; lift out the bag and send it to the table. I will not say 'have hot milk.' For the perfect coffee you must have thick, sweet, rich cream; put in the sugar, then the cream, fill up the cup from the steaming vessel and you have that 'coffee which makes the politician wise.'"

HOUSEHOLD DECORATIONS.

The decline of the picture as a necessary feature of a house is interesting, writes Elizabeth Knight Tompkins in Good Housekeeping. Once they were, regardless of quality, as indispensable as chairs and tables and there is a survival of this feeling in people of a former generation who cannot reconcile themselves to pictureless walls. The best feeling now is that a picture must be distinctly worth while to justify its presence. Objects aiming solely at beauty that do not beautify are not admissible.

There is also, I am glad to say, a growing realization that ornament in a house belongs to the architect's domain; in other words, that the ornamental features of a house must be supplied in the building—in mantelpieces, windows, cornices, light fixtures, woodwork, etc. The result is that our homes are much more restful to the eye than in the days when ornaments and bric-a-brac were considered essential. Not to speak of the labor of dusting, the eye is wearied and the effect of a room as a whole is destroyed by a multiplicity of small objects. A safe rule for a homebuilder is this; let every necessary article be as beautiful, as ornamental as possible, but add nothing for ornament alone—flowers and pictures being exceptions to the rule. Let your clocks, lamps, inkstands and flower vases be delights to the eye, but avoid superfluous.

RECEIPTS.

Simmered Fowl.—No matter how tough or hopeless a fowl may seem, roast it first to give the meat a flavor. This must be done slowly and carefully, basting at frequent intervals. When it is nicely colored, split down the back and lay it flat in covered ham boiler. Pour in all the gravy from the roasting pan and rinse same well with an equal quantity of hot water. Add a liberal helping of canned tomatoes to gravy and dot the surface of the fowl here and there with tiny bits of onion. When these have become roasted, dredge with flour and keep up the basting through three or four hours of simmering. A fowl thus prepared will keep a week, and while it tastes delicious cold, does not betray the least "warmed-over" taste when heated through. It should be kept covered and allowed to remain in the pot in which it was cooked without being removed from the gravy, to which a little hot water may be added when required.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Russia's losses have been terrible, but soldiers are the cheapest raw material she has.

Prices for human hair are said to be advancing, in spite of the fact that there is promise of an unusually large supply of scalps that will be thrown on the market in a few weeks.

The world does not change much. Just fifty years ago the transports of the allied powers were leaving Sebastopol laden with men wounded in repelling the Russian sorties.

Nebraska authorities made a college student quit a football game because he was crazy. Nebraska never did show any real knowledge of sports, says the Atlanta Journal.

A London firm has purchased 2,000,000 Dutch cheeses for the use of the Japanese armies. About half that number of well-seasoned limburgers would have kept the enemy at bay twice as long, declares the Boston Transcript.

A Wisconsin court has decided that a parent may hurt his boy's physique with a paddle, but must not injure his dignity. Most boys would like to have that decision turned around, declares the Philadelphia Inquirer. The recovery would be sooner.

A new use for co-eds: At North western University the four prattiest and most popular girls gave first aid to injured players at a recent football game. What an incentive to valor! It is a wonder that nobody thought of this before.

A tramp running across a group of young college graduates up in New Hampshire found that his ability to sing "Gaudemus igitur" was a passport to their hospitality. He was lucky to fall among collegians who still knew enough Latin to remember that "Gaudemus" means something or other about a glad hand.

"A young woman copyist in Washington has set a new record by writing 23,000 words on a typewriter in seven hours. Hereafter woman should do all her talking that way." So says a contemporary from Alabama, Alabama of the chivalric south! Verily, we have fallen upon evil times. Contemplate the blankness, the blankety blankness of life if the rapid click of the typewriter superseded the voice that is sweeter music than the harp, more gladsome than the tinkling of silver rills over golden sands, says the Columbia State.

An imperial ukase recently issued in Russia puts women who wish to practice medicine on the same footing as men, says the Youth's Companion. The ukase entitles women both to a license to practice and to the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Women who offer a diploma from a foreign university may be admitted at once to the Russian state examination. If women attending the institute have neither home nor relatives in St. Petersburg, they are required to live in a hotel specially established for the purpose.

In matters of life and death expense has sometimes to be considered, Leslie's Monthly declares. It is, with every disposition to be reasonable, that the Interstate Commerce Commission has drawn a bill which demands the support of good citizens everywhere. This bill, which will shortly be introduced into Congress, prescribes that the increased expense necessary for the construction of signals, electrical wires and other apparatus necessitated by the block system, shall be distributed over a term of years, each railroad completing one-fourth of its equipment annually, until, on January 1, 1909, this basic principle of safe management applies to every foot of railroad track in the United States.

A Just Man.

"Down in Oregon, I won't say just where, there is a settlement of Scotch Presbyterians, who retain all their old country habits," said a globe trotter the other day. "Not long ago the minister, while in the midst of his sermon, noticed one of his parishioners peacefully sleeping. The divine suspended his discourse and addressed 'Wullie' in a loud tone, waking him up, and then gave him a severe rebuke."

"Wullie was very angry and after services were concluded went up to the pastor and made an indignant speech, protesting against the humiliation which had been put upon him. He concluded by saying:

"Your ain wife was sleepin' at the time. I saw her before I went to sleep myself."

"The pastor tried to smooth the matter over, and told Wullie that if he should ever see the pastor's wife sleeping in church thereafter, to raise his hand and she should receive the same correction which had been imposed upon Wullie.

"The next Sunday, when the sermon had reached about fourthly, Wullie's hand went up. The minister looked over at his family pew, and there, sure enough, his spouse was wrapped in slumber. Mindful of his word, the preacher thus addressed the wife of his brother:

"Susan! Susan! I dinna marry ye for your fortune, for ye had none, I dinna marry ye for your beauty—the whole congregation can see that; and if ye had nae grace I've made a sair bargain!"—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.