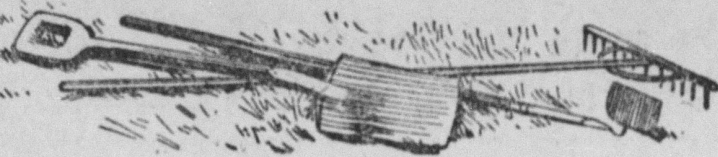


FARM AND GARDEN



CLOVER AND FERTILITY.

A recent report from the Ontario experiment station says:

"Clover is one of the most valuable farm crops. It is generally recognized by farmers to be a heavy yielder of hay, which furnishes a large amount of valuable food constituents. Its beneficial effects upon the soil, however, do not seem to be so clearly understood. Scientists who have made a careful study of the influence of clover on the soil tell us that after large crops have been removed from the land the soil is actually richer in nitrogen after growing clover than it was before, owing to the large amount of nitrogen which the clover roots have obtained from the air. As a rule, farmers grow clover and timothy together, and are therefore unable to ascertain the comparative influence of each of these crops on the soil.

"We have conducted a series of experiments at the agricultural college, Euclid, on three different occasions, in order to ascertain the comparative value of clover and grass sod for crop production. We first grew clovers and grasses upon separate plots and removed the crops, after which the land was plowed and other crops were sown. The results, therefore, show the influence of the roots remaining in the soil upon the productiveness of crops following the clovers and grasses. In 1902 barley was sown after each of four varieties of clovers and three varieties of grasses, in four different places in our experimental grounds. The average results of the four tests in pounds of barley per acre were as follows: Red clover, 1,516; lucerne, 1,450; alsike clover, 1,427; mammoth red clover, 1,408; meadow fescue grass, 1,608; orchard grass, 1,015, and timothy, 946. It will, therefore, be seen that the red clover sod gave an increase over the timothy sod of 570 pounds, or nearly twelve bushels per acre.

"In another experiment, which was completed in 1900, in which winter wheat was sown on both clover and grass sods, it was found that an average of 3,194 pounds of wheat per acre was obtained from the clover sod, and only 2,500 pounds from the grass sod.

"In 1899, a mixture of oats and barley was sown on clover sod, and also on grass sod. The results were very marked, as an average of 2,256 pounds of mixed grains per acre was obtained from the clover sod and only 1,078 pounds of mixed grains per acre from the grass sod. By averaging the results of these three grains, we find that the crop grown on the clover sod gave an increase over the crop grown on the grass sod by fully 56 per cent.

"The results of these experiments help us to appreciate the beneficial influence on the soil from growing clover. It also indicates the suitability of a properly cultivated clover sod as a preparation for winter wheat or for spring grains.

Those who have not been able to grow clover should find the cause of their failure and apply the necessary remedy. It is only a question of time until the soil will be come depleted of its nitrogen. If no legumes are grown or nitrogen added in some form of fertilizer. Besides adding nitrogen to the soil, the legumes very greatly improve the mechanical condition of soils, especially where the latter are heavy clay."

POULTRY NOTES.

The mongrel is a thing of the past in profitable poultry culture. An overfed hen is stupid, lazy and unprofitable. The eager, active, hungry hen is the profit maker.

Fowls must have a variety of food to do well. No one grain will long be relished by the fowls if made an exclusive diet.

In breeding high class fowls it is quality, not quantity, that counts. A combination of both is desirable, but not always obtainable.

A little linseed meal in the mash occasionally will tend to add luster to the plumage and promote digestion, but it must be fed sparingly.

Every poultryman should be a student. He should by careful study and close observation equip himself to master the emergencies that are certain to arise sooner or later.

If living on a farm don't fail to lay aside a few bundles of unthreshed grain. The hens will enjoy tearing it to pieces next winter and the increased egg yield will pay you for the trouble.

A hundred lice in a poultry house will multiply to a thousand in a short time, and to a million within a month, unless checked. It's much easier to kill the hundred than the million.

Never since poultry first began to attract particular attention have the prospects been so bright, and never before has the demand for pure bred poultry been so good as at the present time.

There is no economy in buying poor or musty grain. Aside from the fact that it lacks nutriment, it is often the cause of sickness, especially among the young stock. Better pay a good price and get good, sound grain. It is cheaper in the end.

The early laying pullet should be marked and kept for the breeding pen next season, provided she is otherwise a good bird. In nearly all cases the

pullet that begins to lay early in life is the one that will lay the largest number of eggs in a year.

Every poultryman should own a good bone cutter. It will pay for itself in a short time in increased egg production and growth and general health of the flock. Fresh ground bone should be fed twice a week at least, about an ounce to a fowl at each feed.

Any man or woman of ordinary intelligence, with the proper appreciation of industry and perseverance, can make a success of the poultry business. The man who says "can't" simply admits that he is lacking in the qualifications that are essential to success.

See that the growing chicks get a variety as well as a sufficiency of food. Their needs differ from those of the laying hens. They must have plenty of bone and muscle forming food in order that nature may build a good, strong frame, and a sufficiency of carbonaceous food to supply bodily heat and energy and make flesh.—Indianapolis News.

MAKING CLAY SOIL FRIABLE.

Clay soils are always originally full of vegetable matter, because they hold the water, and the vegetation grown on them decays slowly. But continued cultivation so reduces the vegetable matter that the clay runs together in wet weather, and when plowed comes up in hard clods that plant roots cannot penetrate. As clay contains much mineral fertility, these clods need only to be broken up by freezing to enable the plant roots to use it. But experience has demonstrated that a small dressing of available potash and phosphate has even better effect on clay soils than it has on sand or gravel. It is needed on the clay to start the plants to growing, after which their roots will help themselves to whatever is in reach. On sandy or gravelly soil there must be a larger dressing of fertilizer as such soils furnish less plant nutrition than clay soils. Of course, sand added to clay makes it friable but as it requires at least 100 or more loads of sand to cover even lightly the 42,500 square feet in an acre of land the labor and expense of hauling and spreading the sand even a short distance would be too great to be even considered. In fact the cost would be more than the benefits would be worth, except in gardens. Usually the application of manures, and the plowing under of clover or cowpeas and the under draining of the clay will make all the change needed, and do it much more cheaply than can be done by spreading sand on it. So soon as clay soil is underdrained the frost mellow the surface, so that clover growth is secured it will so increase the amount of vegetable matter that there will be no difficulty in keeping the soil friable, at least to the depth of cultivation.—B. C. Williams in the Epitomist.

JERSEY FOR PROFIT.

While the experts are figuring out all the details of the great dairy demonstration held at St. Louis last summer, which takes time, that part of the public interested are eagerly awaiting the official results. Some figures are already at hand, however, from reliable sources. In test "A"—heards and individual cows entered for demonstrating the economic production of fat and butter—the Jersey herd is far in the lead, with the Holsteins second. As there were twenty-five Jerseys and but fifteen Holsteins entered in this test, it is necessary, for comparison, to take the average net profit per cow. The Jersey herd yielded during the 120 days 124,524.2 pounds milk, containing 5,810.69 pounds fat, equivalent to 6,844.99 pounds butter, which valued at twenty-five cents per pound, amounts to \$1,711.25. The feed consumed cost \$722.40, leaving a net profit to the credit of the Jersey herd of \$988.85, or a profit of \$29.55 per cow for the 120 days.

The net profit of the Holstein herd is \$429, or \$29 per cow. Thus the Jerseys have surpassed the Holsteins as profitable butter makers by \$10 per head.

In regard to the relative standing of individual cows, four Jerseys lead all the herds in net profit, while the best Holstein comes fifth, followed by ten Jerseys. In the best fifteen cows there is but one Holstein; in the twenty leading cows there are but three Holsteins.

The figures given may be somewhat modified by the final official computations, but no material alteration is likely. What has been demonstrated in test "A" is plainly—"Jerseys for profit."—R. M. Gow in The Massachusetts Ploughman.

General Schaumann, the Finnish ex-Senator and father of Minister Plehve's assassin, has been set at liberty, and the further proceedings in his trial have been "adjourned."

The music of the triumphal march in Handel's "Judas Maccabaeus" has been adopted by the Imperial College of Music at Tokio as a Japanese air, entitled "The Victory on the Yalu."



FASHIONABLE SHOE FOR WOMEN.

Styles in footwear for women this season are very becoming. A noticeable fact is that the heel for street use is not so high as it has been. Women perhaps have awakened to the fact that the very high heel is extremely injurious to the health, and they are seemingly content to wear the Du Barry heel, as it is called, for evening purposes only. The shoes with the patent vamp and calfskin top is one of the most popular models. So is the soft kid shoe suitable for the women with tender feet. The tops of the shoes this season are very high. This is a good point, as they are very much more warmer and the cold weather often results in much illness occasioned from the feet. The laced shoes is as ever a favorite. Many women who have always worn the buttoned shoe have changed for the laced and are praising its results.

A new point in fashion is the lacing of black shoes with white. It is a most attractive fad for women with small feet, but for those who are not blessed it is best to retain the black ones. The Cuban heel is rather low this year, and the shoes which have the French heel are often spoiled by its being too low. The shoes minus the tips are always liked by women with delicate tastes, but it is a surprising fact that they are not made to any great extent. The smart set have launched a fashion of wearing shoes with colored heels to match the color of the gown worn, and it is to be sure a decided relief and a very pretty folly. The horse shoe made a very good display of footgear, and never before have the feet been so well shod as now. For evening wear the slipper should be made of velvet, and many are spangled, while others are lavishly trimmed with jet. The black slipper with the gold heel is a rage at present, and it looks indeed fascinating when worn with an all-black gown. Straps are a universal favorite, and when the toes are strikingly beautiful it makes a pretty effect. Notwithstanding the fact that gowns are not so long for evening wear as they have been, the shoes are taking a turn to show low heels. Many handsome models are displayed with a rather low heel, which in some cases spoils the effect.—Newark Advertiser.

WHERE TO PUT THE PIANO.

The ordinary upright piano, with or without its "mechanical player" attachment, may be a joy forever to the music lovers of a home, but it is never a thing of beauty. In many an otherwise artistic setting the very prospect may please, and this very necessary instrument be the only object of drawing.

Since a piano most of us must have, and as in many instances it needs must turn its back to the company, and do so with the rest of the compromising severity of most backs that are turned to the rest of the world, the tactful softening of its angularities remains among the difficult smoothings away, both actual and metaphorical, which fall to the lot of the mistress of a house.

The vexed question of what to do decoratively with the upright piano has been answered better rather than a negative than a positive viewpoint. Most of us have satisfactorily decided what not to do with it in the way of draping it with art fabrics and decorating it with Japanese fans or a collection of jangling china, but really good effects with the reach of the average pulse are not so ready to present themselves.

The happiest and most artistic way of dealing with the obstinate squareness is to treat it as you would any other case of obstinacy—simply make it of as little importance as possible. In other words, merge the fractious piece of furniture into the general scheme of the apartment not as one important detail, but as one that may be turned to account in breaking up the floor space and doing duty as a screen.

OLD-TIME "FACE CULTURE."

No one had ever heard of "face culture" or "beauty promotion" in those happy old days, but women 20 years ago and longer tried to look their best, as they do now. Rice powder and milk of oranges were deemed eminently successful. The latter was quite easily made by mixing enough benzoin with orange-flower water to render the mixture milky. They tinted their cheeks, those young and middle-aged beauties of 1002 ago, with cream of strawberries that gave a pink glow to the skin. It was only a mixture of almond oil and strawberry juice heated, with a lump of sheep's fat dissolved in it. It was poured into a jar and all the moisture removed. Sheep's fat figures also in the mint cream, so useful for sunburns and the hands. An ounce, with a little mint and sweet oil poured hot into a jar and kept handy, did wonders toward the culture of hearty. Fat and oil and camphor made what is known as camphor tea. Scented baths were prepared with bath vinegar and milk of cucumbers in the water, and the fair women of that period took good care to insure the necessary amount of exercise, with dancing and horse-riding. We are not restful enough now

to consider poses as they did then, when young ladies sat with a dainty finger resting on the left chin or a dimple in the cheeks. Let automobilists of today remember that cold cream is a wonderful preserver of the skin, to be washed off carefully when the journey is over.—The Queen.

BOLERO STILL IN FAVOR.

Perhaps nine out of ten of the street or walking suits one sees nowadays have the long-fitted or semi-fitted coat. But this does not mean the demise of the bolero. This charming and charitable little shape is seen in many of the dressier cloth costumes. The wide girdle in its natural accompaniment in many cases the girde and bolero being built on one lining, this being the method usually followed by Paris makers.

The distinctive note in the boleros this season is the postillion or tabbed back. These are seen in both the fur and cloth models, and have certainly an honest right to the favor they are enjoying, since they are so generally becoming. They are irresistibly smart on the slender, trim girl and are certainly charitable to that much-to-be-pitied woman who possesses an ugly back and hip line. And, by the way, it is worth noting that the woman who lacks symmetry in this particular—and she is very many in numbers, sad to say—had best set down in her book of sartorial "don'ts": Don't wear a costume with plain, snug back lines. "Do hide deficiencies beneath the kindly grace of tabs or sashes or full flowing draperies."—Rochester Post-Express.

A BUSY WOMAN.

The Woman's Journal reports Mrs. Mary Ranlett of Rockland, Me., as engaged in the coastwise shipping business. The work came to Mrs. Ranlett; she did not choose it. Some 32 years ago she married John S. Ranlett, who keeps a sailors' boarding house and shipping office, and who was shipping commissioner for five years. Then he became unable to act as commissioner, and his wife took the work upon herself. This office was called upon to furnish sailors for Rockland, Rockport, Thomaston and all along the Kennebec, and Mrs. Ranlett has supplied the trade at Rockland with as many as 3,000 in one year. Not only that, but she has often conveyed ships' crews to Boston, reaching there with the entire "outfit" on schedule time. Mrs. Ranlett has not only proved herself a good business woman, but able to cope with difficulties and command the respect of sailors. Besides all her legitimate duties, she has for the last 20 years bred and sold Angora cats, having sold thousands of them for fancy prices. She now raises, exhibits and sells fancy dogs.

JEWELS AND THE WEATHER.

The up-to-date girl no longer wears her rings to match her costumes, but to match the weather. During the hot summer she discarded her diamonds and rubies for topazes, moonstones and turquoise. She declared the more ardent stones made her feel warmer than the weather. With the nippy fall days she puts on her emeralds and sapphires. On a bright, sunny day she wears pearls, but never on a gloomy day, for she says pearls are nothing but tears anyway, and the combination of pearls and clouds would be too depressing to endure.

On rainy days she wears opals because they promise brightness and clear days to come. Her rubies, garnets and diamonds she saves for winter wear.

The diamond is a good cold weather stone, even if it is somewhat stately, because it is constantly giving out flashes of brilliant color. Amethysts are always suggestive of thick clothes, and should be worn just as summer is changing into fall.

FUR TRIMMED HATS.

Fur trimmed hats are legion. A very beautiful mole turban was seen lately. The fur was pulled in the crown and put on smoothly over the rolling brim. On one side, for sole trimming, was a bunch of red ostrich tips, the color shading from a pale red to a very deep wine.

A chinchilla turban has a crown of the fur, and a brim made of silver spangles and spangled ornaments. The trimming was one fancy feather, ostrich, and a thin, filmy feather-like aigrette, pale blue in color.

Ermine and tulle were combined in a third hat. The brim and the top of the crown were of the tulle, which was folded intricately to suggest braiding, while the ermine appeared as a band about the base crown. A most luxurious paradise plume in pale yellow tones completed the hat. The touch of yellow in the fur was brought out by the feather, and the effect was beautifully harmonious.—Rochester Post-Express.

HAT FASHIONS.

Colored hats are the proper thing at present. Hats and bonnets with strings will be attempted. Ribbons are more popular now than for some time past.



BAKED SQUASH.

Select a firm squash; wash thoroughly, cut into sections, orange fashion, and place in a pan and bake. If preferred, the squash may be parboiled with maple sugar before placing in the oven to bake.

CHEESE SOUFFLE.

Sprinkle the bottom of a pudding dish thickly with cracker or stale breadcrumbs, pepper and salt; then drop bits of butter over it. Next add a layer of chipped American cheese, 1/2 lb so on, alternating the layers of crumbs and cheese till the dish is filled. Over the top turn a lightly beaten egg. Set in the oven and bake for a half hour.

MINCED MUSHROOMS.

Rinse, drain and dry the contents of one can of mushrooms, then cut into small pieces. In a saucepan melt two tablespoonfuls of butter, add one of minced onion and another of minced carrot; cook two minutes, add the mushrooms, together with a dash of pepper and a pinch of salt. When this is cooked, say in about five minutes, stir in two tablespoonfuls of sifted flour and two cupfuls of tomato liquor. Allow the mixture to cook slowly until thick and smooth, then serve in pastry shells.

CREAMED DRIED BEEF.

One pound of thinly-shaved beef, one-fourth teaspoonful of soda, one cupful of cream or milk, two tablespoonfuls of butter, two slight tablespoonfuls of flour, and salt and pepper to taste. Rinse the beef well in warm water; put in a stewpan, put over just enough water to cover, and add the soda to it (this counteracts the sour in the dried beef). Set the pan for half an hour on the back part of the stove where it will keep only just warm, then turn off this water; put in the cream of milk, season and let come to boiling point. Cream the butter and flour together, add and let it boil up. Send it to the table in a covered dish.

TOMATO SALAD.

This is as multiform as the various ways of stuffing. You may have small whole tomatoes peeled, and set each one on a crisp, curly leaf of lettuce, then crown with a spoonful of mayonnaise; may slice the fresh fruit, lay on a bed of watercress and dress with a mayonnaise or French dressing; you may slice again and stew thickly with sweet green peppers, chopped or cut in fine strips with scissiors, and over all a French dressing, or combine them with thin rings of Spanish or Bermuda onions, thinly shaved, crisp, tender cabbage or spicy nasturtium leaves.

HOUSEHOLD HELPS.

Sweet oil and putty powder followed by soap and water, are all that could be desired to clean brass and chopper.

If the water is blued when cleaning windows, they will retain their brilliancy longer and polish much more quickly.

For starching muslins, gingham and calicos, dissolve a piece of alum the size of a hickory nut for every pint of starch. This will keep the colors bright for a long time.

When grease is spilled on the kitchen table or floor, pour cold water on it at once to prevent it soaking into the wood. It will quickly harden, and can be lifted with a knife.

To clean leather, use equal parts of boiled linseed oil and vinegar; shake well together; pour a very little on a flannel, rub well into the leather and polish with a soft cloth.

To remove rain spots from your silk dress, iron on the wrong side with a moderately hot iron. A piece of muslin laid over the silk as it is ironed will prevent any possibility of its acquiring a shiny look.

To clean a clock, lay in the bottom a rag saturated with kerosene oil; the fumes will loosen the dirt and place another saturated rag in the clock, the fumes of which will lubricate the works.

Wall papers that have become bruised or have been slightly torn, and which cannot be watched, are not necessarily ruined. They can be touched up with water color paints, so that at a very little distance no damage is perceptible. The paints from a child's box will be good enough; but you must mix the colors to get the right shades and then touch in the broken pattern.

To make a damp cupboard dry stand in it a bowl of quicklime, which must be occasionally renewed, as it loses its power.

To fill cracks in plaster mix plaster of paris with vinegar instead of water, and it will not "set" for twenty or thirty minutes. Push it into the cracks and smooth off evenly with a table knife.

It is quite easy to remove the ugly green marks caused by damp on stone, tile, and brick floors and steps all that is necessary being a good scrubbing with water in which a small quantity of chloride of lime has been dissolved.

Sprigs of wintergreen or ground ivy will drive away red ants. Branches of wormwood will serve the same purpose for black ants. The insects may be kept out of sugar barrels by drawing a wide chalk mark around the top near the edge.



AN AGRICULTURAL TRUTH.

The youth who sows wild oats, 'tis true, Must reap as he hath sown; But then his father ought to do Some thrashing of his own. —Philadelphia Press.

THE REAL END.

"Yes, he was killed by a blow from a policeman's club." "Sort of hard-wood finish, eh?"—Puck.

JUSTIFICATION.

"And you went to that immoral play? I'm shocked." "But you saw it, too." "Yes—but I had a free ticket."—Flegende Blaetter.

THE SIMPLE AND THE ANXIOUS LIFE.

"Are you interested in the simple life?" we inquired. "No," replied the wild eyed man, "it takes all my time avoiding a simple death."

BENDING THE TWIG.

Cora—She is a better talker than listener. Merritt—That's the result of education. During the season she attends the opera every night.

TERMINAL FACILITIES ABRIDGED.

"What did you cut off your dachshund's tail for?" "It was an accident. Elevator started up before I had got quite all of him inside the door."—Chicago Tribune.

TOOTH AND NAIL.

Mrs. Stubbs (reading)—John, the late election reports say there was much "scratching" in Colorado. Mr. Stubbs—H'm! That's where the women vote. Does it say anything about the hair-pulling, too?—Chicago News.

THE GIRL AND THE SECRET.

Clara—We girls are getting up a secret society. George—What's the object? Clara—I don't know yet, but I'll tell you after I am initiated.—Jester.

LIKE BETTING ON A SURE THING.

Cholly—Do you think that Miss Oldmaye is really very anxious to get married? Polly—Well, I think that before a man proposes to her he had better be mighty certain that he loves her.—Somerville Journal.

THE BOY'S WAY.

Senior Partner—Didn't I hear that new office boy call you "Jones" this morning? Junior Partner—Yes; but he's only been here a week. Give him time; he won't begin to call me "Bill" until next week.—Philadelphia Press.

NOT USING IT.

Mr. Green—Miss Passay says she has the prescription for perpetual youth. Miss Sarcasitic—It's a wonder she wouldn't take it to a drug store and have it put up!—Detroit Free Press.

HOW IT OCCURRED.

"That fisherman appears to be offering us something," said Rojstevensky. "He is holding up some fish," replied his lieutenant. "Oh, shoot the fish!" exclaimed the admiral, peevishly. And that is how it happened.—Houston Post.

THE YONKERS WAY.

She—And what did she say when you attempted to kiss her? He—She said she thought I was a gentleman. "Well?" "Oh, after I got through kissing her she didn't think anything about it; she knew it."—Yonkers Statesman.

KNOWN.

Badger—Are you acquainted with the people who live in the 9th house on the other side of your street? Tolman—In a sort of way. None of the family has ever spoken to me, but their dog always barks at me when I pass the house.—Boston Transcript.

WHEN CONGRESS MEETS.

"Who is that man walking up and down the corridor, with frowning brow and shoulders weighted with the heavy burden of legislation? Some distinguished statesman, no doubt." "That, my dear sir, is the assistant secretary and stenographic clerk of the new Congressman from Alabama."—Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune.

PROSPERITY PENALTY.

"Of course you are glad your country is so prosperous?" "Of course. But I don't think there is any necessity for making so much noise about it." "What's the harm?" "Why, every time my wife hears the word 'prosperity' she strikes me for more money."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.