



FARM AND GARDEN

DWARF APPLES.

G. T. Powell of Columbia County, N. Y., has been conducting some interesting experiments on the value of dwarf apple trees in business orchards. It is the idea of Mr. Powell that trees of a low habit of growth will be required more and more because of the need of convenience for spraying and harvesting. The scale insects make it almost impossible to thoroughly treat large trees, and the cost of labor makes a saving at harvesting time of great importance.

Two styles of dwarf trees are under trial. The so called Paradise is very dwarf and is short lived. The Doucin stock is half dwarf, making trees sixteen to eighteen feet high, and promises good results in commercial orcharding. The trees are planted two or three inches below the union of stock and top. In Mr. Powell's orchard the trees of Paradise stock are set as fillers between those of the larger dwarf kind. The rows in the orchard are twenty feet apart and the trees ten in a row. The wide spaces between the rows allow plenty of room for cultivation by horsepower, while the trees in the rows will be thinned out as soon as they become crowded. The dwarf trees give fruit in a few years from planting, and the amount gradually increases. The small dwarf kind lasts six to eight years and the semi-dwarfs for about twenty years. For dwarf trees the Spitzenberg, Jonathan and McIntosh are found successful. They produce fruit of very fine appearance and quality, suitable for packing in boxes for the choicest trade. For the half dwarfs the Northern Spy, Roxbury Russet, Twenty Ounce, Astrakhan, Baldwin and Greening are satisfactory.

The dwarf trees must receive good culture, with plenty of plant food and careful cultivation. The soil is plowed and harrowed in the Spring and is kept in a cover crop of clover during the summer. Scale and other insects are easily treated in the dwarf orchards. The idea appears so promising to Mr. Powell that he is pruning his larger trees on the dwarf plan, cutting back the tops of the standard trees in order to cause them to spread out and to remove the high parts of the tree, which make so much difficulty in spraying old trees.—Weekly Witness.

DO CHICKENS PAY?

We heard a farmer say the other day that he had a great notion to quit raising chickens, as he could buy his poultry meat and eggs for less than they were now costing. It is doubtful if this man or any other farmer would stand by such a statement if it came to a test, so it will be well to sound a note of warning against "knocking" poultry raising on the farm.

The man who stops to think knows that he would not buy one-fourth the amount of poultry and eggs he uses so liberally on his table if he had to go down in his pocket for ready cash every time instead of simply going into his own poultry yard. Besides, it is not pleasant to be constantly paying out cash for products decidedly inferior to those that could be produced on one's farm. The buyer has not the advantage of ample selection and certain quality like the producer has.

Then again, to this payment of money must be added the trouble of going after the poultry products, which would sometimes amount to more than the cost of the products themselves. Very often the farmer is too busy to go to the city at all, when there are extra hands to feed, who expect (and should have) roast and boiled chicken and eggs in abundance. What if such large quantities had to be purchased in the open market? As it is, they cost so little that the farmer always is, and can well afford to be, very liberal in the use he and his good wife makes of them. The trouble is that very few farmers appreciate what their fowls really mean to them. They also fail to keep accounts. It is only the city man who appreciates the invaluable pleasure of strictly fresh eggs and milk and tender chicken meat.—Epitomist.

FARM NOTES.

No cow should be allowed to be in a herd unless her work entitles her to it.

No farmer should lay claims to being intelligent as long as he permits the good cows in his herd to pay the feed bill for the poor ones. The best bred hog of the best breed in the world cannot give his owner something for nothing.

If necessary to wean the pigs, shut the sows up and give the pigs the run of good pasture.

The experiment stations declare that 100 pounds of ground corn and cob just as far as the same weight of pure corn meal, the cob giving it more bulk, and rendering it easier digested.

Shredded corn fodder makes good feed, good bedding and good manure. Spread when perfectly dry and store under a rain-proof roof, in not too great bulk, and it will keep all right.

Hogs can not be well kept on slop and milk alone, but these go a long

way in furnishing them food. A pig is a difficult animal to raise in a healthy condition, but proper management will bring it through all right. It can not be well dispensed with when there are cows on the place.

Pigs farrowed in March will overtake the fall pigs in growth, if they are kept under shelter and in a warm place. By giving them extra care they will get a good start and grow rapidly until ready for market. A well-grown hog can never be stunted. You can never feed economically after that.

CARE OF BROOD SOWS.

Corn alone fed to the brood sow carrying a litter is almost sure to cause bad results; the pigs will be farrowed very weak, with hardly vitality enough to even hunt for their dinner; and it is quite likely to produce a feverish condition in the sow, with a tendency for her to destroy her pigs. One other very necessary thing in the successful handling of brood sows is that they must absolutely have abundant exercise for the best results. With the above combination of feed for a regular ration and with plenty of exercise, one may be sure of good results at farrowing time, and that the youngsters will be strong enough to meet every little trouble that comes along during their first few weeks of pig-hood. There is still another matter in the care of the sows, and especially of the sow with a litter—an absolutely dry bed, warm if in winter but always dry. Keep this clean, dry and well disinfected with an occasional spraying of the animals with crude petroleum or some other of the many disinfectants, and you will avoid that pest too often found—the hog louse.—Colman's Rural World.

CULLING OUT.

It doesn't pay to carry culls any longer than it takes to determine that they are culls. Prices are better for old stock now than they will be later on, and the birds that are not good layers or breeders should be promptly marketed. Close culling pays not only because it raises the standard of the flock, but also because it saves feed and house room that may more profitably be spent on good fowls.

Remember, in this connection, that roosters do not lay. Keep enough to insure fertility, but no more. Surplus males only serve to make constant strife and require extra feed and house room without paying any profits. If the eggs are not to be used for hatching it is unnecessary to have any males at all. The hens will lay just as well and the eggs will keep better. These are not theories, but proven facts. The male has no influence over egg-production.—Epitomist.

TRAINING THE COLT.

The task of training any colt, if properly managed, is a lengthy one. Lessons must be repeated time after time, in order to make sure that the colt is learning, and after having been taught, to make sure that the colt has not forgotten.

It is a wise precaution to always hitch the colt with a good old traveling horse. The colt is thus apt to acquire the same gait. After the colt has been driven a few times, so that it seems to know what is required of it, then it should be driven every day.—W. G. P., in American Cultivator.

FOUNDATION STOCK.

When a man buys his foundation stock and gives it intelligent care, he has a reasonable assurance of success in producing the same kind of hogs; but no breeder should be satisfied with producing just as good stock as he started with. It should be his hope and ambition to produce something better and he has more than a reasonable assurance that with good judgment and intelligent care he shall be able to do this.—Farmers' Home Journal.

PRESERVE THE MILK.

Milk should be removed from the stable and strained as fast as it is drawn from the cows for some foulness may have fallen in it and this should be removed before it becomes soluble and thoroughly mixed with the milk. Great caution should be observed in caring for the cloths used for strainers, for they are in many instances responsible for the loss of a number of cans of milk, besides being a source of danger to those who consume the milk.—Farmers' Home Journal.

Scott's Mount.

When Sheridan was dying he could look out of his window upon the statue of General Winfield Scott, "Mike," said he to his brother, who was caring for him, "if a grateful republic should ever see fit to raise a statue to me, for God's sake see that I have a better mount than Scott's got." Mike must certainly be forgetful, else he would put in a protest.—New York Press.

"ONE TOUCH OF NATURE."



—Cartoon by Robert Carter, in the New York American.

1908 Made Big Suicide Gains

10,852 Persons Ended Their Lives, Making New Record in Line of Endeavor.

Chicago.—The crime and casualty records for 1908, as collected by the Chicago Tribune in its annual summary, show some interesting phases. Probably the most striking feature is the steady increase in the number of suicides and the great percentage of these that are traceable to the business depression and embarrassments of the year. Self-destruction due to these causes grew fivefold over the record of the year before, despite the fact that the financial squeeze began early in the fall of 1907. As a weapon of self-destruction the revolver gained greatly in favor.

Embezzlements involved a larger total than in 1907, and a peculiar phase of this record is that more than two-thirds of this crime, figured on a monetary basis, is chalked up against bank officials and employees. The reform wave seems to have had a good effect on public officials.

The homicide record—deaths of all kinds by personal violence—increased over 1907, but fell short of that of the previous year. The death toll for holiday sports aggregated 268 deaths and 2829 injuries.

The number of suicides for 1908 was 10,852 as reported in the public press. The following list shows the steady increase of self-murder: 1899, 5240; 1900, 6725; 1901, 7245; 1902, 8291; 1903, 8597; 1904, 9240; 1905, 9982; 1906, 10,125; 1907, 10,782; and 1908, 10,852.

The causes of these suicides are stated as follows, the classification, as in the case of homicides, being a general one: Despondency, 5318; unknown, 1541; insanity, 310; domestic infelicity, 778; ill health, 718; business losses, 632; liquor, 536, and disappointed in love, 519.

Three thousand one hundred and two persons shot themselves. In the remaining cases 2735 died by poison, 1936 by asphyxiation, 1041 by hang-

ing, 1004 by drowning, 825 by cutting throat, 85 leaping from roofs or windows, 65 by throwing themselves in front of engines, 31 by stabbing, 27 by fire, 3 by dynamite and 1 by starvation.

Embezzlements, forgeries and bank wrecks, amounting to \$13,555,538, are in excess of those of last year. Ten bank presidents, twenty-eight cashiers, eleven bank clerks and four brokers have made way with \$10,085,472, while agents, forgers, postmasters, public officials, loan association managers and ordinary clerks combined have stolen only about \$3,500,000. Some slight moral compensation was made on the part of thirty of these fifty-two financiers, who committed suicide.

A noticeable feature of this record is the steady increase of murder by highwaymen and thugs, being 101 more than in 1907.

That more care has been exercised in hunting is shown by the decrease in casualties. During the hunting season proper 75 persons were killed and 91 injured, and out of season 109 killed and 35 injured, a total of 166 killed and 126 injured, as compared with 191 killed and 155 injured in 1907.

The principal epidemic was the cholera, which prevailed in Russia and Eastern Asia and the Philippines; 7700 died in Russia, 12,000 in the Philippines and 30,000 in China.

In the innumerable baseball fields 65 were killed and 59 seriously injured, nearly all of whom belonged outside of the league clubs. In the football field 18 were killed and 318 injured.

The persons who rock the boat have drowned 8, and the criminally reckless who didn't know it was loaded have killed 41 and wounded 21.

France is the World's Banker

Enormous Yearly Savings—Great Investments Abroad—Wealth is \$1100 Per Capita.

Paris.—Although general trade conditions in France, as in other European countries, suffered in 1908, largely because of the reduction in American demand, following the financial crisis, figures submitted by M. Leroy Beaulieu and other statisticians at the end of the year regarding the wealth of the French people demonstrate the imposing strength of France's financial position and her right to the title of "the world's banker." France's fortune is growing steadily, as the result of an annual saving of \$1,000,000,000, which must seek investment abroad.

M. Leroy Beaulieu's figures show that France now receives \$360,000,000 as an annual income from foreign holdings, which are principally government stocks, the amount having been almost doubled in the last fifteen years. He estimates the present wealth of the French people at \$45,000,000,000, or more than \$1100 for every man, woman and child, and as the estimate is based on de-

clared succession taxes, it is admittedly far below the real figures.

In addition, Mr. Leroy Beaulieu takes no account of the great amount of gold and securities which the French, especially the peasants, keep concealed. These probably rival the hidden treasures of India.

During the last fifteen years \$521,400,000 in gold was loaned abroad, yet the excess importation amounted to \$785,800,000. In 1900 the gold holdings of the Bank of France increased by \$200,000,000; they now stand at \$700,000,000, the largest in the history of the bank. The other banks hold \$833,800,000.

The balances of trade, which in 1893 amounted to \$140,000,000 against France, are now in France's favor. Increased taxation, however, keeps pace with the increased wealth. The budget of 1908, owing to the purchase of the Western Railroad and extraordinary expenses in connection with Morocco, being the highest in the history of the country, not excepting the war period.

Sergeant Draws Big Sum

Through Army Deposit Plan. San Francisco, Cal.—Charles Harvey, a retired soldier, who has been post quartermaster sergeant at Fort Rosecrans for some time, drew from Colonel George R. Smith, chief paymaster, \$13,000, the amount he has saved from his pay through the army deposit plan.

This is the second largest sum the chief paymaster of this department has ever paid to a soldier. Besides this amount Harvey will receive for the rest of his life \$57.50 a month.

Color Rays a Cure For

Inebriety and Crime. Philadelphia.—Cases of drunkenness and of juvenile depravity cured by application of vari-colored lights were presented by Dr. J. Frank Wallis, of the Norristown State Insane Asylum before the Philadelphia Medical Society.

"Light starvation," the doctor declared, "causes criminals." "With the development of the use of light energy as a curative agent drunkenness and crime will disappear."

The HOME

THE RIGHTS OF THE ELDER SISTER.

Unfortunately it too often happens that the beauty which would sit so well upon the elder sister passes her by and alights with all its light and bloom upon No. 2.

This is hard enough to bear, but is preferable to the spectacle which one frequently sees of a flock of plain girls, while the only brother has long eyelashes, limped, melting eyes, a skin like a peach, and—heavens, O heavens! how can we bear it?—hair which curls naturally. That, I grant you, comes under the head of real calamities.

However, whether the elder sister is plain or beautiful, if she remains too long upon the parent stem she is obliged to contend at last with one enemy which women of every age dread, and that is the woman of more youth, says a writer in the Chicago Journal.

Youth is the one dread foe which vanishes the most valiant spirit. Frequently the woman armed with it lacks contour, purity of feature and soul, yet she captures every cup offered by the sheer exuberance and freshness of her abounding youthful charm.

Between sisters that breeds trouble. The elder, having held precedence so long, naturally has her eye on all usurpers of her superiority, and when she sees the eyes of her own admirers wandering wistfully to the corner where little sister, with her roguish eyes and tumbling curls, sits, drawing attention which should by right be hers, she naturally takes steps to perpetuate her own hard-won supremacy.

This, of course, takes its first form in an appeal to mother, because mother understands. Father doesn't. He, poor, fond soul, often finds himself wishing that "the children" would not marry at all, or, at least, for a very long time, because it is such a sweet picture to see the young faces grouped around the table and to hear the fresh young voices make music in the house.

So father would do nothing to adjust a state of things which he never understood anyway.

But mother! Mother knows. Because as likely as not, she had to go through with the same experience when she was a girl. She knows that each one of her girls must marry or else work for her living at some trade. She doesn't stop to think that marriage is often the hardest trade a woman can work at, and frequently with the least pay.

So mother interferes and "has a talk" with the younger girls. She points out to them that until the eldest sister has "had her chance" they, the younger ones, must keep out of sight of the prey being hunted lest they interfere with sister's "chances." An odd thing, life.

Isn't it?

FASHION NOTES.

One form of wrist ornament is the band of black velvet clasped with a square black velvet buckle.

The wide Gibson plait remains in vogue for tailored blouses.

Embellishments of lace or embroidery form one of the most important of the season's bodice decorations.

A considerable number of late evening wraps show buttons and buttonholes, either real or simulated, along the entire length of the underarm seam.

Fashionable Parisiennes are wearing face veils with an inch-wide edge of fur about the bottom.

As to belts, fashionable woman will wear house frocks of white silk or cloth, encircled with a wide, soft belt of colored velvet, four inches wide and worn quite plain.

In place of the becoming ribbon choux which finish the ties of automobile bonnets over the ears, there are often seen big discs of fur, matching the fur coats or neckpieces of the muff.

The lace fans are exceedingly pretty this year and are such a fascinating finish to a dainty toilet.

The thin silk and lace combined are equally attractive and, perhaps, more practical than all lace.

A very nice fan of marcelline silk, hand painted and lace trimmed, is only \$1.50 for nine-inch sticks, and another eight inches in length, of silk with hand painted and spangled lace top, is only 93 cents.

Even cheaper prices prevail. A pretty lace fan mounted on fancy sticks is only 25 cents, and a really dainty affair with carved bone sticks is marked as low as 49 cents.

The woman with strong features should wear her hair arranged loosely and the lines should be in harmony.

The up-to-date girl is using ivory instead of silver mountings for article of the toilet, a hint to those who are thinking of making gifts of these dainty necessities.

It is surprising how a hand-decorated band edging the square neck opening and arm holes, say, dresses up and individualizes a simple blouse or gown.

The ivory is, of course, much easier to keep in good condition than the silver, which requires constant polishing, and is really much prettier as well.

SHYNESS.

Shyness is usually the result of

inexperience. Contact with the world will always lessen and often cure it. A bashful person is agonizingly conscious of herself and fancies that other people are thinking about her. She forgets that each person is necessarily much occupied with his ego.

A friend of mine who lived in the country received a visit one day from a rural neighbor. She was distressed to find, on looking down, that there was a hole in the hem of her dress. The visitor also seemed to have his eyes fixed on this unlucky rent. Presently she could bear it no longer, and said: "Mr. X, I see that you are looking at the hole in my gown. I must apologize for it, but the truth is I did not know it was there till just now." To which her visitor replied: "Oh no, indeed, Mrs. Z. I did not notice your dress was torn till you spoke of it. I was looking at a hole which has suddenly appeared in my shoe." "Qui s'excuse s'accuse." One should rarely apologize.—Florence Howe Hall, in Harper's Bazar.

HERE IS THE LAW.

The National Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers met at Toledo, Ohio and issued this official decree on styles:

Two Piece Tailored Suits.—Hipless and half fitted jackets. Cutaway and straight fronts.

Skirts.—To be gored and of diminished fulness with a tendency to high waisted effects.

Three Piece Suits.—Without sleeves, with net or lace yokes, or made to be worn over waist with hipless jackets. Cutaway fronts predominating. Long small sleeves.

Tailored Dresses.—One piece complete dresses in both princess and raised waist effects. Glimpe dresses more particularly for misses and juniors.

Separate Coats.—Hipless and semi-fitted cloth jackets, with some tendency toward cutaway effects.

Coat Tailoring or Touring Coats.—Half-fitted Empire or hipless effects. Silk and Satin Coats.—All lengths.

Separate Skirts.—Similar to suit skirts, but show more trimming, mainly in vertical effects.

WOMAN'S REVOLUTION.

Woman is no longer afraid of freedom. She can make her own way. Spinsterhood has ceased to be inevitably a burden. Marriage when it becomes a disaster or a despotism need no longer be borne as the penalty of dependency. In her new spirit of independence woman may turn naturally enough to politics, though the suffragist movement in the United States is thus far least important among feminist agitations. Other revolutions have changed maps, dynasties and governments. A woman's evolution may greatly affect the destinies of the whole race. An issue is presenting itself which no prudent statesmanship can safely underestimate or ignore.

WOMEN IN NORWAY.

Miss Marline Johannessen is a Norwegian leader in social reforms and politics. She is the national president of the Norway W. C. T. U.

Norway women have now the privilege of the ballot. The Norwegian women can not only vote on all questions, but they are also eligible for the National Parliament. Single women, who pay taxes for an income of 400 kroner in the towns or 300 kroner in the country, and married women, whose husbands pay the said taxes, have the franchise.

Miss Johannessen has been foremost in securing the franchise for the women of Norway, who now rank among the first women of the world in the breadth and importance of their opportunities.—New York Sun.

GUIDE AT THE LOUVRE.

Miss Florence Haywood of Indianapolis has installed herself as a guide to the Louvre in Paris. She conducts through the galleries and museum parties which vary in number from sixteen to sixty, and which usually are made up of her compatriots. She is original, animated, learned, and critical, and lectures on the Louvre's artistic treasures to her patrons. She has written a book describing and explaining the pictures in the Louvre and dedicated it to Miss Flora Wilson, daughter of the American Secretary of Agriculture, who is studying singing in the French capital.—Argonaut.

FIRST CLASS ALDERMAN.

Mrs. H. P. Gates has just been elected one of the six aldermen of Magee, Tenn. For several years she has taken an active interest in the educational work of her town and wanted to be elected Alderman because it would help her in this work. She is reported to have made about the most aggressive campaign ever witnessed in Magee, if not in Tennessee. The town people seemed pleased with her election, and even those who voted against her believe she will make a first class Alderman.—New York Sun.

When we hear a girl refer to her dresses and shoes as frocks and boots we know, insists the Ohio State Journal, her father is making more money than he used to.