

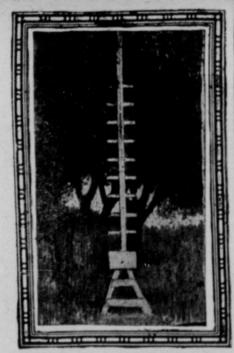
may be exchanged for a bolt of muslin or calico, or something else needed in the house. But this is not very profitable. larger amount of money.

Just when to pick is one of the se crets of the trade which all orchardists do not appreciate. The time of picking red apples is commonly guaged by their color and that of yellow apples by the color of the seeds. The latter is the only reliable test of ripeness, for an apple picked just as the seeds have turned a light brown, and before they become dark around the edges, will be found to have not only full flavor, but the best keeping quality. But red apples are often left for some time after the seeds indicate maturity to allow them to put on more color, which they do rapidly under the influence of the bright days and frosty nights of autumn; and indeed this is the only way of obtaining color on fruit in the shady portions of the tree. Growers should bear in mind, however, that to defer picking after the seeds indicate ripeness, invites watercore and shortens the life of the fruit in storage, often to a serious extent with the midwinter varities.

TOO LATE PICKING

Much of the complaint recently lodged against the Jonathan because of rotting at the core, according to a report of the Idaho Experiment Station, is believed to be attributable to late picking. Unless this trouble is corrected the sale of this valuable varlety is sure to be hurt. The purchaser is completely deceived by the perfect appearance of the fruit, not a sign of decay being visible until it is cut open, when the flesh for some distance about the core is discovered to be brown, radiating in narrow rays towards the skin, which, however, it seldom reaches. It is worse than a worm hole, for that can be cut out. A box containing even a few such specimens makes the consumer distrustful of the variety, while half or more sickens even the most enthusiastic friend of "Brother Jonathan."

Few farmers are considered capable of packing their own apples, as the statement is made that, as regards



SINGLE RAIL LADDER. A Very Light Form for the Orchard.

seeing worm holes, their eye-sight is deficient. Where there is a fruit union, the Idaho bulletin suggests that a rule should be adopted forbidding any members thereof from doing their own picking, but, they should profit by the employment of the same body of trained pickers successively at the various orchards. Even the isolated growers should endeavor to have a group of expert pickers, and employ the same ones, as far as possible, year after year. This is the way to build up a reputation that has a great cash

PACKING IN BARRELS

While the simplest method of packing apples is the old barrel of the east in which the bottom and top are faced, the apples in the middle being simply poured in, this is a slovenly, not to say deceitful method, for it requires no grading expert to sort out the best ones for facing. The Western box method, on the other hand, is more desirable, especially in cases where one wishes to cater to the fancy trade. One of the pretty points about the box package is that the exact number of apples contained therein is always known, and if stamped on the box as it should be, gives information much ap preciated by the buyer. Of course this only applies where the packer adopts one particular method of placing the

apples in the box. A prominent orchardist made the of time in climbing up in order to tied by pouring, unless the picker ness in the soil. Chicken, pigeon, and reach the uppermost branches of the stands on his head. Clean boxes will sheep manures rank high as fertilizers,

the orchard, shake or pick the apples ground or with a very low ladder, these are hauled to market they should Nevertheless you can scarcely make a always be covered with a tarpaulin to off the trees and throw or drop them dwarf tree by any amount of pruning, keep off rain or dust. If box material

HANDY TYPES OF LADDERS

Of all the numerous styles of ladders. some form of step ladder is best adapt-

into barrels for hauling to the town or and in every apple orchard ladders of is carried over from one year to ancross roads grocery where the fruit some kind soon become a necessity. other it should be carefully housed and covered to keep it clean and bright.

HONESTY THE BEST POLICY

Two essentials of a perfect packing The progressive farmer has found that ed to the orchard, whether the welfare of apples are honesty and uniformity it pays to give strict attention to the of the tree is considered or the comfort -that is the apples in the middle or sorting and packing of his crop in or- of the picker. Any ladder which must bottom of the pack, whether it be a der that it may bring for him a much be set against the tree is a constant box or barrel, should be just as good menace to it. Probably the best type as those on top and all perfect; all of of tall step ladders is one having three an even size and properly colored and legs, two comprising the legs of the every package packed with the same ladder proper and the third acting as degree of care and skill, so that the its support. It is easily set up securely buyer may feel certain that it is not



APPLE SCENES IN IDAHO Picking Aprons and Ladders Designed by the Idaho Experiment Station.

on uneven ground and the wide spread a case of sight unseen. Attractive of legs at the bottom makes it especial- labels add much to the appearance of Japanese style of ladder, in which the of advertising and building up a spesteps converge to a point at the top cial trade. Whether labelled or not, is easy to manipulate. Lightest of all the tall ladders is a single rail with the end with the name of the variety pegs projecting from the sides, but it and number of apples contained, and is least safe and comfortable for the the grade, especially if the latter is user, and is not liable to become wide- anything but firsts. ly used.

Every picker has his own opinion as to the best style of receptacle in which to place the freshly picked fruits. Buckets, baskets and bags have their devotees, and some even go so far as to provide the pickers with coal scuttles. The latter, however, too strongly suggest pouring and such rough treatment is not to be thought of with apples any more so than with eggs. Where bags are used, as is commonly the case, they should be lined with burlap though this should not cause any relaxation of care in placing fruit in them. Bags are open to the objection that the fruit in them is easily bruised where the bag brushes against a limb or ladder. The usual form of packing does not admit of removing the fruit except by pour-ing, and this is objectionable. The bottomless sack overcomes this difficulty as it allows the fruit to roll from the bottom when the chain is released. Such treatment might do with oranges, but with apples-never. The average picker could never withstand the temptation to let them shoot from the bag the moment the foreman's back was

turned. THE IDEAL PICKING BAG

Perhaps the best picking bag is the apron bag. It is cheap, being easily made of a heavy grain sack, hangs in the most convenient position for a few years ago, when the crop of change, in a few years, would result in filling and leaves both hands free. It



A SUBSTANTIAL THREE-LEGGER.

can carry, and finally cannot be emp- will have a tendency to produce sourso that it is considered advisable help to bring better prices for apples, their value being somewhat greater

ly stable. For work on tall trees the the boxes, and are a valuable means

HE SECURED TOP PRICES



SCENE IN AN IDAHO APPLE ORCHARD.

influence on the price than quality it to produce good trees.

Barnyard Manure.

For garden crops there is no fertibut the results are rarely so satisfactory. In selecting manure for the garden, care should be taken that it

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VILLAGE.

THE SCHOOL HOUSE WITH NO TREES AND NO PLANTS IS AN ECONOMIC MISTAKE.

Government Bureau of Forestry Has Issued an Attractive, Illustrated Free Bulletin on School and Home Tree Planting.

scenes and amid such environment,

THE COUNTRY HOME.

Lecturer Advocates Small Indepen-

Land

dent Homes, Each on a Acre of

An address on "The Significance of

the Country Home" was delivered by

Edward H. Chandler, secretary of the

Twentieth Century Club at the recent

graduating exercises of the School of

Domestic Science of the Boston Young

Women's Christian Association. In ad-

vocating a deliberate system of train-

ing nature study by means of school gardens, he said: Most important of

all is the beginning of a national move-

ment for the making of "home-

crofts" or small independent homes

rural life. It would be an absurd er-

ror to suppose that such homes are now

lacking. There are multitudes through-

out the land. What is new is that these

homes are coming at last to their own.

Instead of continuing to be "e insig-

nificant haunts of one's childhood, of

which one who has risen to distinction

is expected to be a little ashamed, they

are being sought out as typical of the

best in home life and as models to be

reproduced in essentials with some

adaptations to the new needs of the

FLOWERS AND BIRDS.

the flowers and shrubs and trees and

to learn to care for the birds, squir-

rels, rabbits and domestic animals is

a training whose influence on character

can never be over-estimated. An acre

of ground is enough for Nature's pur-

poses if he who lives on it wishes to

be her pupil and helper. The country

home makes possible the simplicity of

is both noteworthy and somewhat pa-

thetic that hosts of city dwellers should

rush to welcome and listen to the pro-

phet of the simple life who came to

us from France. Yet he had no other

Live among the real things of life in

contact with elementary forces. Live

simple in your tastes and straight-

forward in your motives. Be a good

neighbor and a true friend. This is

the life which the country home fos-

ters. There you may not have so much

money to handle, but you do not need

of in the city but it is felt in the coun-

try. A town meeting is the highest

type of democracy yet attained. There

is a common interest which binds all

THE STRENGTH OF NATIONS.

Not all who live in the country

realize its significance. Here and there

is a decadent home and a degenerate

strength of nations is found among those who have been fostered near to

nature and have become free beings

by working together in honest labor.

This is a home ideal to be placed

among the highest. There is little

danger of its over emphasis. No mat-

ter what one's work or how heavily

the burden of the city presses the de-

most the most powerful influence in

making a successful life!"

country dwellers together.

above conventionality. Learn to

essage than that of the country home.

living and fosters true democracy.

To grow up, Mr. Chandler said, with

Thousands of school houses entirely sturdy sapling, and finally become a ack the simple surroundings that great tree, leaving forth each year would insure beauty and contentment. and affording shade and comfort for We mean by this not a paucity in archi- the occupants of the home. If the tectural design, but in the simple mat- young mind grows up among such ter of beautification through planting, which, in many cases, can be attained it will prove a mighty factor in the by arousing the interest of the scholars material prosperity of the community. themselves. Some city schools have no space for planting at all, although some contain a good arrangement of flower beds and shade trees. In the towns and villages, also, it is possible to point out many examples showing great care and attention. It is in the country, however, that the improved school ground is rarely found.

The ideal school ground, which should really be as much a part of the building itself, and where the pupils can be shown the wonderful operations of nature, serves two distinct purposes.

First, it becomes a technical laboratory, where the intelligent teacher can point out the marvelous chemical changes which occur with each appearance the seasons—the starting of plant life, with the warm days of spring, the fuller growth of summer with its blossoms and fruit and the matured wood

growth, when the leaves drop in the fall—a cycle in the plant's history and Second, the influence that such study has upon the growing mind. With a reasonable amount of this sort of edu-

ation, coupled with the three R's, the child will never develop the tendency to rip to pieces the shrubbery of his own home or dig out and trample under foot the young plants in thegarden. Furthermore, he will likely take his school garden for his ideal, and use his influence to make the home yard 4ts equal in appearance, if not its superior. The object, too, of school yard plant-

ing is strictly utilitarian. School house, some of them splendid brick structures as well as sod house buildings, can be found which are absolutely devoid of tree or shrub planting. Both the winter winds and the summer heat operate upon them with un-checked yiolence. Why not plant trees and inaugurate the assistance of the pupils in so doing, which will not only act as wind breaks, but afford shade?

In connection with this subject the Bureau of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture has issued a Farmer's Bulletin (No. 134) on Tree Planting for Rural School Gardens. This can be obtained without cost, by writing either Gifford Pinchot, Forester, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., or to your U. S. senator or member of Congress. It contains much information which is useful and outlines several practical plans for not only the beautification of barren schoolgrounds but for a primary study of forestry-tree planting and tree

USE AND INFLUENCE OF TREES.

What a tremendous influence for good in every town, it would be, if every school boy and school girl should ecome interested in tree planting and shrub planting. Arbor Day has become a great institution. Its observance has resulted in the planting of millions house? of trees every spring. Suppose that it were universal, and that every child in every town should become as enthusiastic over the planting of a tree each That careful packing is as essential year, and watching and attending to

story of a potato grower in Colorado Fourth of July, what a wonderful potatoes in the east was immense. the appearance of most of our towns

Colorado had, as usual, raised many thousands of sacks, but found the price so low that it scarcely covered ward making tree planting a success the freight charges. In the emergency with the children. It is not enough "The Man of the Hour" appeared in that when Arbor Day rolls around a the person of a grower who washed tree should be planted by each juvehis potatoes carefully, put them up in nile member of the family. Unless the neat 10-pound sacks with attractive youngsters realize that considerable labels and sent them on to Chicago. care is required the first year or two, A very fancy price was asked, but the the trees will die, and unless they have potatoes went off with a rush and been taught how to care for their trees, netted the grower the highest returns dead and dying specimens—failures he had ever received. Cases similar will distress and discourage the youthto this are known to most farmers. ful mind, possibly beyond redemption. Very often the manner in which fruit but with reasonable attention the poorand vegetables are put up has more est and the rocklest soils can be made

A SCHOOL TREE NURSERY.

Certainly there could be nothing nore fascinating than the starting of a tree nursery, of several good varieties, lizer that will compare with good, well- in each school ground. These nurserrotted barnyard manure. In localities ies could be started from the actual where a supply of such manure can- seed, acorns, beech nuts, hickory nuts, not be secured it will be necessary to chestnuts, seeds from fir cones, and depend upon commercial fertilizers, the seeds of other trees thriving in the locality, and all these could be gathered by the children, and brought is so shallow that the first apples can does not contain any element that will they had reached the proper age for the Galveston-Bremen service. statement that it costs money to step on a ladder in an orchard. This orchard owner finds that there is a waste homes, and participate in the trans- ports by finding and insuring them planting of the seedlings, into their employment in the interior and by in permanent locations. There is an in- forming them of opportunities elsethat effort should be made through pruning to start the head of the tree low and keep it low in order that the most profitable investment can be made out of the trees. It should be made out of the trees. It should be possible for several years to gather a (A 50)

help to bring better prices for apples, so that it is considered absolutely ession that it is a white and clean. No thing that the packer should use only almost as great as some of the lower. Where, will do much to improve containts that it is considered absolutely ession that it is considered absolut

Improving School Grounds.

In Rochester, N. Y., the school authorities grade and sod the school yards, while the shrubbery and other planting is by private effort in conjunction with the school children. Ample land is furnished for decorative playground purposes, and most exemplary results have been obtained.

Poor Chance In the Cities.

Life in a metropolis makes young children sharp, but not clever; it often destroys their chance of ever being clever, for it hastens the development of the brain unnaturally; it makes them superficial, alert, but not observant; excitable, but without one spark of enthusiasm; they are apt to grow blase, fickle, discontented; they see more things than the country-bred child, but not such interesting things; and they do not properly see anything, for they have neither the time nor capacity to get at the root of all the bewildering objects that crowd themselves into their little lives.

JOB OFFICE WANTED.

I WANT TO LEASE—A good job or newspaper office in live town of 1500 or over. I will pay monthly rental (in advance each month), until January I (I, when substantial payment will be made. Address A. I. Boreman—Colo, Iowa.

STENOGRAPHERS: Bright young men who or nake dictation rapidly and do rapid work on nachine. Salary \$55 to start. Write to-day: Office as 12 cities. HAPGOODS, Suite 143. 36-35 Broadwith perhaps an acre to enable eacn family to find out the true values of

WANTED: A Hundred Firemen and Brakemen co-different railroads. Age 20 to 30 good sight 110 hearing. Experience unnecessary. Firemen \$10 monthly, become Engineers and earn \$20 Engle-men \$70 monthly, become Conductors and earn \$10. Positions awaiting competent men. Send stamps for, particulars. Name position preferred. Railway Association, Room 65, 227 Monroe Street, Brooklyn

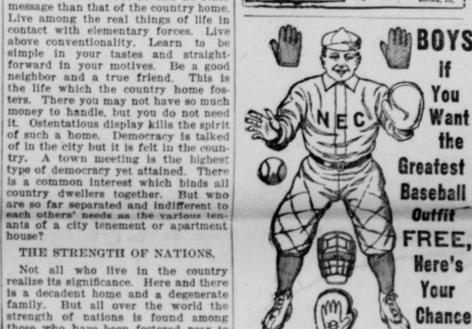
SHIRT WAIST HOLDER EXTRAORDINAL



Big Profits in Capons iponizing is easy—soon earned. Complete outilt with free instructions postpaid \$2.50. ape Worm Extractor 25c

Poultry Marker.....25c French Killing Knife 50c Capon Book Free. O. P. PILLING & SON, 2312 Arch St., PHILA. PA





This cutfit consists of PANTS made of strong regulation cloth, with waist strains, well padded, remotored; buttons will stay on SHIRT of same material, regulation make throughout and full around shoulders. BELT is made of special material and fitted with fancy nickel and japanned buckles that will not rust. The CAP is regulation make and matches the outfit in quality and make. We also give an outfit consisting of MASK, FIELDER'S and BASEMAN'S GLOVE, CATCHER'S MITT, and Regulation BOYS' BASEBALL. Sent free to any boy selling 31 andkerchies at 10c. each. We send the handkerchiefs free of expense to you, to be paid for when sold. WOOD WOOD CO. 2 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

WRITE TO-DAY

Parking for the Town.

The town parks, or the town or village square are the lungs of its citizens.

If the town is growing, it is none too soon to start a movement to provide for the securing of ample town parking. The land is increasing; when the town has doubled and has become a small city, it will not be so easy to secure sites, readily accessible to the people, without paying an exorbitant price. Secure first the land; it is not Important that a large amount of money should be at once expended upon its beautification, possibly it needs but little, since nature may have made it more beautiful than can man. It is not necessary that it should be transformed into carpet bids of flowers and trimly kept lawns. If it affords sunlight and a green relief of grass and trees for the eye, it becomes a civilizer and an equalizer, for the poor as well as the wealthy, a resting place where a man may forget, for the time, some of his struggles and his anxieties in a contemplation of what God has made.

The park should be kept, in fact, as natural as is consistent with its use as such. It is never too early, however, to secure its site, with a view to the building up of the community, when land values will necessarily increase.

Distribution of Immigrants the Solution.

If there were only some practicable way of distributing immigration more equally among all the ports of the country the congestion and segra-gation phases of this problem would be nearer solution. It can be accomplished in but a small degree, since it will only be done if answering an economic demand, as in the case of

Wherever anywhere in this country

there is Any One

who has the

Spirit of True Patriotism

Genuine Love of Humanity in his or her heart.

"The Coming People" By CHARLES F. DOLE should be the first book to be read

There is a multitude of thinking people who see the dangers the future holds for our country unless we reach a wise solution of the tremendous social problems that confront us. The spirit in which we should approach

the consideration of these problems is set forth in this remarkable book in a way that must be an inspiration to every truly humane and patriotic heart.

Let the spirit of common sense and optimism and fundamental economic and philosophical truth that pervades this book be taken as the underlying motive of the movement, and the Creed and Platform of the Homecrofters as the practical plan to work to, and the rest of the great social questions are certain to be rightly solved by application to them of the sound and humane principles that will guide the action of our people upon all great national ques

One copy of "The Coming People" postage prepaid will be mailed to any address in the United States for twenty-five

One copy of both "The Coming People" and "The First Book of the Homecrofters" and "Maxwell's Talisman" monthly for the rest of the year 1906 will be mailed to any address in the United States for fifty cents. Remit in postage stamps to The Home crofters, 143 Main street, Watertown, Mass.