



### GARDEN

#### Renewing the Lawn.

If you wish to renew the lawn this fall use Kentucky blue grass and white clover, as they seem to stand the dry seasons better than some kinds. If sown in the fall the grass will get a good start and be ready to grow rapidly in spring. Sow in August and September.

#### To Secure Good Cows.

Good cows can only be secured by keeping the good calves that are from animals which are known to be meritorious, but the farmers who buy their dry cows and sell their calves when they are but a few days old destroy all opportunities for selection. A good calf, however, is one that is bred for a special purpose, and the farmer, therefore, knows in advance what it should be when matured, and the calf will, if it is from good stock, probably not disappoint him.

#### No Rule for Feeding.

There is no rule for feeding, as each individual must be considered separately from the others. It is not an uncommon error to suppose that the animals which eat but little are the most profitable. So long as an animal is capable of digesting and assimilating food the greater the amount of food it should consume, and the more profitable the returns, especially with producers, such as cows. The proportion of food required to support an animal and supply waste of tissue is less when a large amount of food is eaten than when a smaller quantity is consumed.

#### Hardening Off.

"Hardening off" is a term well understood by gardeners, but whether it is properly carried out in practice is another consideration. We see so many plants injured or irretrievably lost by hastily pitching them out of the houses and exposing them at once to the burning sun, that it appears only right to convey a few words of caution to those who adopt this method. It does not pay any one to get his plants burned up or injured, as the appearance of his flower beds or even pot plants thus treated would be very unsatisfactory for a long time afterwards. When the plants are removed from the greenhouse, they require to be gradually exposed to the full influence of the sun. Of course, where there are plenty of cold frames, this can be easily done, but such is not often the case.

A good warm sheltered position should be chosen, under a wall fence of some kind, when first exposed, and if a covering of tiffany or other light material can be placed over them so much the better, so as to admit of air and to screen them from the sun. This can be removed after a few days, if possible, choosing dull weather to do so. If tiffany is not procurable, a few branches of evergreens placed over them will answer the same purpose, or many of the harder kinds of plants can be placed under shelter of trees or shrubs until wanted to plant out. The same caution in the matter of hardening off, applies to such things as Azaleas, Lilacs, azaleas, etc., which, after having done their portion of the decorative work must not be hastily pushed away in corners or out of the way places to be burnt by the sun or parched for the want of water. They will in the near future amply repay us by giving forth their rich store of color, if properly treated and cared for.—F. H. Sweet, in The Epitome.

#### Cauliflower on Sandy Soil.

The general impression is that cauliflower cannot be successfully grown on sandy soils, and for the best results it should be grown on a lively loam. Experience has proven to the Long Island growers most conclusively that it is not the character of soil, but its condition, that insures success. The cauliflower, in common with all other plants, does not feed upon soil, but upon the elements of plant growth contained in the soil, and these can be furnished by the light as well as by the heavy soils. Then the question arises can it be grown without the aid of commercial fertilizer? Yes, but I should prefer, under some circumstances, its use. For instance the cauliflower has a decided thirst for salt, an element that can only be furnished by the use of chemicals. On saline coasts the atmosphere will furnish that to a considerable extent, but not sufficient for its needs, which on Long Island is furnished by the salts used in the commercial fertilizers.

Last season was one of vicissitudes with this crop, and showed in a few instances the value of salt. Let me state an instance. One of our best farmers had a field, in which he was to grow cauliflower the past year, completely flooded by a remarkably high tide, the first in the history of the farm. When the time for setting the plants came they were set here the same as in the other fields, which had been given the same proportion of fertilizer. When the harvest came the flooded field produced one of the heaviest crops ever known, and it has been stated that profits were more than \$1000 per acre, while most other fields were total failures.

If I were to grow a cauliflower on a sandy soil, I should take a piece of sod and treat it liberally with well-rotted manure, which should be put on the surface and plowed under

about June 1, then harrowed smoothly, and left until about time to set the plants. Then I should cultivate as finely as possible, without disturbing the sod, and at the same time work in 800 pounds common salt to the acre, and look with confidence for a satisfactory crop.—C. L. Allen, in New England Homestead.

#### Unprofitable Fruit Trees.

In some cases it will be found that old fruit trees, though profitless at present, consist of good salable kinds, and the question is, By what means can such trees be brought into fruitful or profitable condition? A fruit tree of this kind need not necessarily be unprofitable because it is old, though if it is old and has been neglected it must be. We find that many of this class of tree are what they are through neglect. The heads have for years been allowed to become a tangled mass of growth. The head wood has become crowded, so that too many fruits set, and in the end do not come to a salable size, neither do they color up as they should do. In such cases the remedy is simple. The old, dead growth must be cut out thoroughly. The moss covered boughs must be cleaned. All branches that cross and rub against each other must be regulated by removal, and generally the pruning or thinning out process must be carried out in such a way that when finished the heads of the trees will be open and airy, which will insure a free crop of the best fruits.

If any one will look into the matters with which we deal they will find that the majority of the profitless fruit trees we refer to are planted in grass land. The fact is instructive, and it justifies in the most emphatic manner the denunciations that we launched against the system for years. It is utterly impossible to grow the best apples and pears in grass land—there can be no doubt about that. If we pay a visit in the fruiting season to the fruit trees set in grass we shall be struck with the small size of the fruits the trees usually bear. There may be plenty of apples or pears, but there will be few good sized fruits to be seen among them. Tillage is of the utmost importance to fruit trees, but this important operation cannot be carried out when the trees are surrounded with grass. Aeration, so necessary in the production of large sized fruits, becomes impossible, and the fine surface tilth that is so needful under good culture cannot be produced unless the land is open and uncropped by grass or any crops growing right up to the stems of the trees.—London Globe.

#### Hay and Fertility.

A good way to run down the fertility of a farm is to raise successive crops of hay on the land without any special attention to improve methods of restoring to the soil the elements which the hay takes from it. In many parts of the country, where haying was formerly very profitable, it is now a pretty poor sort of farming, simply on account of this robbing of the soil. The hay was raised continuously, and money was made thereby; but gradually the hay crop proved smaller and less profitable, and in time the land was good for nothing else. There are at present many such run-down farms, and the owners will tell you that there is no money in raising hay, nor in any other kind of farming. It is not that the price of hay is not satisfactory, but the land which formerly yielded such good crops fails now to respond.

I believe in raising good hay for market, and do it every year, finding therein as good profit as in any other crop. But years ago I came to the conclusion that hay as a market crop would not pay unless it was raised as a part of a good system of crop rotation. Consequently while other farms around me have in many instances shown unmistakable signs of degeneration through too heavy hay cropping, mine is really in better fertility than at the beginning. I have always contrived to get back to the land as much if not more than I took from it. The soil must be in the right condition to yield a heavy crop of timothy, and timothy takes from its more life and fertility than any other crop. That is one reason why fancy timothy hay always brings the highest price in the market. Yet with forethought and planning a big crop of fancy timothy can be raised almost as easily as any other hay grass. It is all in the rotation and the method.

In this rotation clover must always play a conspicuous part. Let clover follow wheat to add to the soil all the rich fertility that this plant carries with it. The clover crop must be planted often to make it possible to secure a good catch without difficulty. The trouble often is that clover is used only as a last resort. Other crops are planted and harvested until the soil is robbed of nearly all its fertility; then it is expected that clover will suddenly restore the land to its normal condition. This it would do if the clover could be made to grow luxuriantly, but the fact is the soil is then so poor that the clover fails to make a good catch, and as a result efforts must be made to induce the clover to grow. This is much like the other crops. It does not pay to let the soil run down too much. The time for repairing it is when the degeneracy first begins. Each year the repairs to the soil should be made. Then we would have no run-down farms and soils that will not produce paying crops.—C. S. Walters, in American Cultivator.

Money takes the man, but man has to make the money first.

### HOUSEHOLD HINTS



#### Stains on Furniture.

The white stains on polished furniture caused from the spilling of spirits or too hot plates can be removed by pouring in them a few drops of spirits of camphor, wiped off quickly with a flannel cloth. Follow this treatment immediately by a vigorous rubbing with good furniture polish.

#### Hints on Cake Baking.

Light cakes require a rather brisk oven to raise and set them. Cakes raised with baking powder also need a quick oven. Much sugar in a cake will cause it to burn quickly. Therefore, the oven must not be so hot for them. Large, rich cakes require long and careful baking. Small sugar cakes need a slow oven. Gingerbread, too, should be gently baked. The oven door should be kept closed until the dough sets, and all the time the cake is baking the door of the oven should be opened as little as possible and the door very gently closed, as slamming the door, even to shut, will make a cake heavy.

#### Pretty Hammocks This Season.

Hammocks this year come in colors beautiful enough to tempt even the most economical summer woman to purchase one. Some of the prettiest are in solid colors, the tints being vivid scarlet, olive green and ivory white. Then there are pink and blue hammocks that seem unsuited to anything but comic opera. Hammock cushions have taken on a literary and artistic tone. Only the erudite can understand this year's crop. Gibson pictures are embroidered on many of them. Scenes from some of the historical novels are reproduced and quotations from all the poets are there.

One odd thing about the age we live in is that cushions supposed to be purely feminine luxuries are now made up specially for bachelors. For the summer man's hammock cushion there are pictures of poker chips and pipes, gay old monks with upraised staves, yachts in full sail, ballet girls and diving girls all ready to be embroidered by feminine fingers. Intended finally to form a resting place for the head of a summer bachelor.—New York Sun.

#### Daintily Served Meals.

The person who says that food tastes just as good without so much trouble being spent on the prettiness of a meal should not be allowed to influence the housewife.

It is a fact that the laboring man satisfies his hunger from the meal he carries with him and eats at the wayside, but he looks forward to the enjoyment of his Sunday dinner, served on a clean, though perhaps coarse, tablecloth, with well-polished plates, dishes and glasses. To him the meal tastes twice as good as any other in the week, and because he enjoys it more it does him far more good.

Table influences are great factors in the refinement of human beings. A pleasant, well-prepared and daintily served meal will give a feeling of peace and good will to those who partake of it, while one that is the reverse of this causes a feeling of vexation and irritation which by no means tends either to good digestion or to domestic harmony.

To this being the case, it is the duty of every housewife to see that meals are as well cooked and prettily served as possible and to teach her children the refinements of the table.—Washington Star.



#### HOUSEHOLD RECIPES

Farmers' Muffins—For one dozen muffins take one cup cold cooked oatmeal (or other breakfast cereal) and beat in one-fourth cup milk until smooth; add a saltspoonful of salt and one cup of flour. Beat two eggs separately until very light, add yolks to batter, beat well, fold in the stiff whites and pour into hot, greased gem tins. Bake in rather hot oven from 20 to 30 minutes. Serve promptly.

Carrot Soup—Take half a dozen small French carrots, wash and scrape them, put in a saucepan with boiling water and cook until tender, remove from the fire, mix with milk and press through a sieve. Melt two ounces of butter in a saucepan and rub into it a slightly heaping teaspoonful of flour, add a few grains of cayenne pepper, and stir in a little at a time the carrot puree until smooth like cream, add a few slices of cooked celery root (celeriac) and salt to taste, and pour into the puree. Serve with fried croutons.

Dressing for Beets—Four table-spoonfuls of butter, one table-spoonful of flour, one teaspoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of dry mustard, one cup of vinegar, one cup of milk, three eggs and a speck of cayenne pepper. Heat the butter, add flour and stir until smooth, but do not brown; add the milk, stir and boil up once; place saucepan in another pan containing hot water, add beaten eggs, salt and other ingredients, with the exception of vinegar; allow to boil up, then add vinegar; continue stirring until it thickens. Allow it to cool before pouring over the chopped vegetables

### BREACH OF THE CONTRACT.

How a Man Got the Best of a Subscription Book Scheme.

A citizen of Buffalo has just won his case from a subscription book concern. He subscribed for a set of Balzac's works with the understanding that the edition was to be limited to 1,000 sets. He thought he was to be just one of a thousand out of seventy-odd millions in the United States to be envied the possession of the Balzac sets. He learned afterward that there were two other "limited editions" of the same work, that all three editions were printed from the same plates on the same quality of paper and differed only in the illustrations and the color of the binding. The Buffalo purchaser contended that the publishers had violated their contract with him and refused to complete his payments for the set. Whereupon the publishers brought suit to recover. The case has just been tried in the municipal court in Buffalo and has been won by the defendant, the court holding that a mere color of the binding did not constitute a new edition, and that the defendant was the victim of a breach of contract. This was good law and a correct result. The tricks of the subscription book publishers and their agents are many. When a man finds he has been cheated he should resist. The courts will protect him.—Utica Observer.

#### Shifts of Arctic Seals.

Lake Balkal is a remarkable body of water lying in a longitudinal trough on the edge of the central Asiatic plateau, whose surface is 1,600 feet above the sea with which it is connected by the Yenisei river after flowing across the northern plains of Siberia for a distance of 2,000 miles. A most curious fact, long known to scientific men, is that this lake is occupied by a species of seal almost identical with those found in the Arctic ocean. The same species, with slight variations are also found in the Caspian sea, but not anywhere else along the 3,000 or 4,000 miles which separate these bodies of water. The most probable explanation of this fact, and the one usually accepted by scientific men is that these species of seal were thus widely distributed during a continental subsidence in which the waters of the Arctic ocean covered all of northwestern Siberia and extended up to the base of the great Asiatic plateau which we followed for such a long distance on elevated shore lines of Turkestan, says McClure's Magazine. When this depressed area emerged from the sea, it left the seal isolated in the two great bodies of water which still remain on its former margin. So lately has this taken place, that there has not been time for any great change to be effected in the specific characteristics of these animals.

#### A Rural Minister's Mistake.

An unsophisticated young minister in rural Pennsylvania, recently ordained, not long ago wrote to a theological professor in Philadelphia as follows: "I am a poor speaker and find it hard to utter my thoughts clearly and forcibly. I have decided, therefore, to take a course of instruction in speaking, and, learning from the papers that there are a great many speak-easies in your city, I would be obliged if you would recommend me to one." The professor broke the news to him as euphemistically as possible that a "speak-easy" is merely an unlicensed drinking place.

#### Illiteracy Causes Odd Statement.

A Topeka medicine company has put out a lot of testimonials. The first is from a woman, who says: "Having suffered fifteen years from a fatal disease, I am happy to say that I am now entirely cured."

#### When the Earth Will Be Full.

Although it need cause the present generation no worry, it is interesting to know that, according to a careful computation by a statistician, when 350 years shall have passed the density of the earth's population will be such that each person will have only two-thirds of an acre. That space, fifty-five and one-half yards square, will have to suffice for all purposes—agriculture, roads, houses, parks, railways and so on. It is estimated that when the globe's population reaches density, which is about 1,000 persons to the mile, the earth will be full. This conclusion is reached by a careful analysis of the growth of population in the nineteenth century, and upon that basis the population of the earth in the year 2250 is computed.

Present populations to the square mile are: Russia, 15; United States, 21; China, 95; Spain, 96; France, 186; Germany, 263; Italy, 289; United Kingdom, 339; Holland, 411; Belgium, 572.

#### The Early Use of Coffee.

About the year 1600 coffee began to be talked of in Christendom as a rare and precious medicine. In 1615 it was brought to Venice, and in 1621 Burton spoke of it in his Anatomy of Melancholy as a valuable article which he had heard of but not seen. In 1652 Sir Nicholas Crispe, a Levant merchant, opened in London the first coffee house known in England, the beverage being prepared by a Greek girl brought over for the work. Other coffee houses in abundance were soon opened.

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Great Britain and Ireland, according to the completed census returns, have a population of about 42,000,000.

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Pisco's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colds.—N. W. SAMUEL, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

Ocean steamers can ascend the St. Lawrence River 986 miles.

W. H. Griffin, Jackson Michigan, writes: "Suffered with Catarrh for fifteen years, Hall's Catarrh Cure cured me." Sold by Druggists, 75c.

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Projects often succeed, not on their real merits but because of man's fidelity to his ideals.

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That's what you need; something to cure your biliousness and give you a good digestion. Ayer's Pills are liver pills. They cure constipation and biliousness. Gently laxative. 25c. All druggists.

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