



THE EIGHT HOUR A DAY PLAN.

An Advocate of the Reform Makes Suggestions to Housewives.

While the eight-hour plan for domestic service has fallen far short of success in the quarters where its trial has been given most publicity, its impracticability has not yet been so far proved that advocates for the reform have ceased to recommend it.

In a comparison between the trades and domestic work, Mrs. Richards argues that because the eight-hour trades worker chooses his work, he has opportunity to do it until he becomes proficient and from that fact comes the pleasure of accomplishment, because work well done is always a delight.

As a rule, the eight-hour wage earns when he leaves his work at night, knows what he is to take up in the morning; there is no waste of time, no leaking away of the morning's enthusiasm.

"In the trades a morning's work ends with the stroke of 12—an hour for luncheon, rest, the newspaper (the painter and carpenter who come to my house are always interested in the daily and weekly illustrated papers).

Among the thousands of occupations open to women, a New York woman has found one in which she is entirely alone. She is a bird doctor. Besides traveling all over the Eastern States to visit thousands of little patients, she keeps a hospital and boardinghouse for the feathered tribe.

"How did I start, and how succeed?" she said, in answer to a question. "Well, my work grew out of my realization of how much a bird doctor is needed. Before I started, there were no specialists in bird ailments. There is very little literature on the subject. Courses in ornithology may be taken, of course, at our colleges, but these treat mostly of the lives and habits of wild birds. There is no place where one may learn the care and treatment of caged birds, and those in aviculture."

"Then, too, a knowledge of medicine is necessary. I have taken courses in both homoeopathy and allopathy. The simpler surgical operations came to me naturally. As a child I doctored my pets and set their broken limbs."

"However, as there is no course of study especially for the treatment of birds, most of one's knowledge on this subject must come from years of experience. Birds have as many ailments as human beings. I have sat up until late at night with a single little patient, watching every phase of its disease. Each variety requires treatment peculiar to itself, so one's study is never ended."

"Big Army of Women Buyers." Women as professional buyers are becoming so numerous that before long merchants say they expect to see women control this particular field.

These women may make very few mistakes. Let some rival house secure a better supply of a free-selling, fashionable commodity than the firm she represents—let it happen that the rival has bought in such a way that it can undersell her firm—and there will be another buyer in her place next season.—Brooklyn Eagle.

style may be obtained by the method. Take a picture hat, a soft top shape. Take a picture hat, a soft top shape. Take a picture hat, a soft top shape.

Double breasted effects are general. Ultra fur garments are combined with embroidered materials in the shape of girdles and collars.

For dresses and carriage wear fur coat sleeves are flowing, but for the street they are gathered into some sort of a cuff bishop fashion.

Plain round muffs are the sanest investment. Mink and sable tails are the best hat decoration in the shape of fur.

If more fur be liked, let it be of the finest, real chinchilla or real baby lamb (broodtail).

Sable or mink tail bindings are still used to cleverly outline lace collars and the like.

Frogs as a fastening give quite the Russian look.—Philadelphia Record.

Straighten Your Knees. "I read much," says a middle-aged woman, whose erect, graceful carriage, by the way, is noticeable, "of this, that and the other thing that should be done in order to stand properly and improve the figure, but I never pay any attention to any of the suggestions."

"All that is needed," she used to tell me, "in order to stand well is to keep the legs straight. Notice yourself a half-dozen times during the day, and you will see how useful is this advice. Constantly the knees are too much bent. The figure sags in consequence, and its lines of elegance are lost. Straighten the knees every time you think of it, and the rest of the figure falls naturally in the proper position."

Simple Dresses. There is nothing very difficult in the construction of any of this season's dresses, as they are plainly made, and there is very little trimming to be seen upon any of them; all the newest women fabrics are wider than usual, consequently they can be cut to better advantage, and the skirt of a dress can be made with one or two seams, according to the width of the material.

For dress garnitures squares of passementerie are taking the place so largely occupied by medallions.

Fancy buttons are seen even on the new gloves, and an extreme but stylish button is of gun metal with rhinestone buckle.

Ermine sets for children are very fashionable and look particularly well with the black velvet coats, which so many little folks are wearing.

Toques formed of flowers or foliage are very fashionable in Paris. Also velvet or panne toques embroidered with flowers in natural size and shadings.

In the jewelry line the most beautiful corsage ornaments are in floral design. An exquisite example is a rose spray, with leaves of diamonds set in platinum and centres of pink coral.

Buttons, fashioned from fibrous nuts, set in a frame of gold and with gold shanks, represent an extreme fancy for the adornment of smart tailored gowns. The idea is Parisian and the entire nut, in its natural color, is used.

Keelian has been carried to the limit in floral garniture for millinery purposes this season. A wreath of magnolia blossoms in black and white, with slightly decayed leaves, and roses, accompanied by the inevitable thorn, are instances.

A handsome belt that is costly enough to keep it entirely out of reach by the bargain hunter is made of black silk elastic, studded with small steel beads and fastened with a buckle, showing an iridescent background and openwork design of finest steel beads.

AGRICULTURAL. Provide Green Food For the Hens.

Those who keep hens must not forget to provide something in the way of green food that may be used by them when the weather gets real cold and the ground frozen hard, for under such circumstances it is impossible for them to get any grass or something that will take its place.

From a two acre hog lot sown to rye last fall and pastured through the winter and early spring, I threshed forty-six bushels of rye. To get a full yield from a rye pasture it should not be grazed on very long in the spring or when it is ready to shoot upward.

A grain crop that can be pastured six months in the year and almost a full crop of grain harvested therefrom "to boot" is certainly a valuable one for the stock and grain farmer to take hold of.

Many of the odors that affect milk and cream are exceedingly volatile, or evaporate quickly if the milk is quickly cooled and is exposed to the air in a thin sheet, as it is in the aerator, where it runs out over cold pipes or through a cold air, in a slow flow of thin stream or drops.

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Prospects For Dairy Farming. Taking the country in general, the field of dairy farming never held forth better promises than it does at present. During the last year the price of cheese and butter has been uniformly high, especially that of cheese.

The impending doom of the colored oleomargarine interests also gives great hope to the dairymen. The victory of the dairymen of this country over the manufacturers of colored oleo is simply a question of time.

It is essential for every fruit grower to have some means of cold storage at hand, for it is only by such methods that he can hope to reach the highest prices. Moreover, if fruit is properly stored in a cool place, the loss from shrinkage and rotting will be comparatively small.

When only a few insects are present on a tree the San Jose scale is not easily detected. If there is fruit on the tree, particularly apple and pear, the pest may be often seen long distances.

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GOOD ROADS. The Road-Makers' Laboratory.

ACCORDING to experts the cost of building the best sort of macadam road is about \$10,000 a mile, and that of building the poorest is about \$8,000.

The accompanying illustrations convey an idea of an improved corn house and granary. The corn crib and grain bins may be made self-discharging, without opening any part of the upper portion or without the use of a ladder or steps, by placing floor joists at an angle, as shown by the dotted lines, Fig. 1.

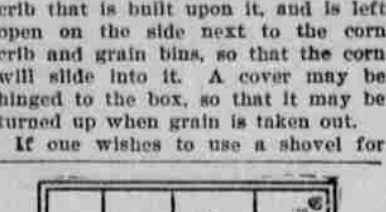


FIG. 1—SECTION OF FRAME.

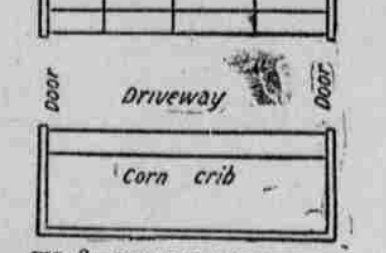


FIG. 2—INTERIOR ARRANGEMENT.

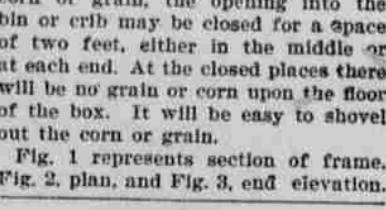


FIG. 3—END VIEW OF BUILDING.

Dimensions—Twenty-eight feet long by twenty-eight feet wide. Height, twelve feet to plate line. Driveway, nine feet wide. The building is designed to have stone foundation, and the exterior is covered with seven-eighth inch siding.

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AMERICA'S WILD RICE.

Furnished Wholesale Support For Traders and Hunters Years Ago. In the early days the extension of the fur trade in a territory unsurpassed for richness in pelts was actually made practicable by the wild rice, which furnished a wholesome support for the traders and hunters.

Most of the cruisers, explorers and homesteaders take it into the woods with them," he says, "and they claim that it is better than tame rice, because it does not take so long to prepare." It is largely consumed in lumber camps in the region where it grows.

The wild rice that comes to market in this way is all of it gathered by the Indians, the work of harvesting and preparing the grain performed almost entirely by the women.

Wild rice is more nutritious than any of our common cereals, such as wheat, rye, corn, barley, oats and ordinary rice. It is richer in starch and sugar than any of these, and contains more of the stuff that makes muscle and blood.

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APPLE PICKING TIME.

Long in apple-picking time there is something 'bout the weather. 'Tat'll set your spirits dancin' till they're lighter than a feather.

When the crib is full o' corn an' the crib runnin' over, 'An' the crickets finish chirpin' in the straw stack an' the clover,

Then the echo on the mountain sends your voice a-callin' back, 'An' you hear the far-off rumblin' o' the freight train on the track;

'An' the mowin' 'Where you turned the cows to browse, 'An' the flurrying 'An' the flurrying up the house;

'An' you hear the wind an' the weather when the snow's a driftin' in, 'If the mows are full o' fodder an' there's apples in the bin.

Every critter is a-tir with the news o' changin' weather, You can hear the wild goose honk as he calls his flock together,

'An' the hounds on the mountain an' the woodchuck in his lair, 'An' the squirrel in his cellar in the hollow brook there;

'An' the singin', 'O' the axes on the hill; 'Gettin' ready 'Workin' steady 'All the empty bins to fill;

'An' when you get behind you an' your life is past its prime, 'You will feel your homie comin' back in apple-pickin' time.

Some-times the lover thinks that he holds to his lady's heart the key, 'An' finds, when he is forced to knock, 'Some other swain has picked the lock.

Wife—"When we go anywhere now we have to walk. Before marriage we always called a carriage. Husband—"That's why we have to walk now."

"He likes excitement," said the young man. "So I supposed," replied the dear girl. "Why?" "Well, his choice for a wife made that the natural inference."—Chicago Post.

"The church bell in the steeple That to worship calls the people; 'Tis the church belle in the choir Calls the young men to admire."

Specialist (irritably)—"But, madam, you must chew your food. What were your teeth given you for?" Female patient (calmly)—"They weren't given to me—I bought 'em."—Tit-Bits.

If women ever get to vote, You can depend upon it, 'Their party emblem, without doubt, 'Will be a fancy bonnet.

"The worst feature of this submarine navy business," said the chronic objector, "is that it will be sure to lead to a revival of the tank drama after our next war."—Baltimore American.

Mamma—"Why, Susie, you've offered your butterscotch to everybody but your little brother. Why didn't you hand it to him?" Susie (with innocent candor)—"Because, mamma, little brother always takes it."

FLASQUE'S OF FIVE.

Herr Svenson (after a tumultuous domestic scene)—"If you are my better half what an infernal monster I must be!"—Sondags Nisse.

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Reporter—"How did your club banquet go off?" Smithson—"Not so well as it might have done, you know. The chairman called upon me (who have lost an eye and a leg) to answer to the toast, 'Our absent members.'"—Tit-Bits.

Mr. Goodman—"Your little playmate seems sad." Willie—"Yes, sir. He had ter stay home from school yesterday." "The ideal! And he's sad on that account?" "No, sir; it's because he had ter come back ter school to-day."—Philadelphia Record.

"You never heard a chicken snore or sneeze?" asked the poultry raiser who has a big farm of fancy chickens over in Maryland. "Well, you ought to learn something about chickens. Just go into a chicken house any night and you will hear chickens breathing heavily in deep sleep. In different parts of the house you will hear chickens actually snoring, making a noise loud enough to locate the birds that are guilty of this reprehensible conduct. Whether the nearby chickens object to this barbarous habit I don't know, but there is never so much noise in a chicken house in the early part of the night. If there is a particularly loud noise around the house a rooster will wake up and give a warning to the slumbering fowls, but in a few minutes all of them will settle down to as sound a sleep as before. You may take a sleeping chicken off the roost in the night, and if you hold it a few minutes the chances are that it will go soundly to sleep in your hands. Yes, chickens sneeze when they are taking a bad cold. When I hear one sneeze I always give it a small piece of camphor to drive out the cold, and the chicken is soon well. Chickens cough and have colds, catarrh and diphtheria just like people."—Washington Star.

Stops Train to Save a Horse. Clara Schloesser, eight years old, has received congratulations for her bravery, and also her humane action in stopping a train to save a horse.

Clara discovered that the horse, in crossing the track, was caught in the culvert.

To save the animal the girl ran to the center of the track, which makes a sharp turn near the place where the horse was entangled. She waved her coat at the train. The engine driver heeded the warning and brought the train to a stop within a couple of rods of the horse.

Unfortunate Discovery. The New York papers have discovered an able artist who lives on \$15 a month and is content. Poor man! This is the last of his happiness. He will be lionized how and probably develop a whole lot of artificial waste.—Buffalo Express.

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