

ARBOR DAY AT A COUNTRY SCHOOL.



NATIVE TREES FOR ARBOR DAY

IT is always a matter of pride and congratulation with us that we have the largest and finest flora of native trees known to any country in the world. In view of this fact, it must be admitted that we do not always rise to our opportunities. In the Eastern States we see

maples and elms planted everywhere and always; and if there are some poplars added in the Western States, it is chiefly because maples do not succeed there. Elms and maples are unquestionably the best street trees for the Northeastern States, but they do not thrive equally well everywhere, and even in New England there are many other species which do well and which ought to be planted for the sake of variety, if for nothing more.

These matters ought to be considered at the return of Arbor Day. Children in the schools ought to learn something about the great wealth which this country enjoys in its native trees. It is quite as important as to learn about rivers, railroads and industries. The tree planting which is done on the school grounds on Arbor Day should be something more than the setting of one elm, or even a row of maple trees. This should be a day for leaving the beaten path and doing something unusual, especially if it be unusually good. Let this be the time for adding to the collections on the school grounds some of those rare and curious trees and shrubs which are beautiful and worthy in themselves, but which on account of their rarity are seldom seen.

The oaks are neglected more in proportion to their deserts than any other native trees. There seems to be a notion current that oaks are very slow-growing trees; but the fact is that all the best species—the red oak, white oak, scarlet oak, pin oak, mossy-cup oak—are all good growers, and will make large, impressive, shade-giving trees almost or quite as soon as maples or even elms. The live oak, of course, enjoys a deserved pre-eminence as a shade tree in its own section.

The native linden, or basswood, makes a good tree. The buttonwood or sycamore is even better, and in middle latitudes can hardly be surpassed. The tulip tree is good. So is the white ash.

However, attention needs to be called particularly to some of the smaller and still rarer trees and shrubs as being especially appropriate for school grounds. The red oak, white oak, scarlet oak, pin oak, mossy-cup oak—are all good growers, and will make large, impressive, shade-giving trees almost or quite as soon as maples or even elms. The live oak, of course, enjoys a deserved pre-eminence as a shade tree in its own section.

This list is by no means complete. It is intended only to be suggestive. In the way of shrubs—which ought to be planted even more freely than trees on the school grounds—the opportunity for happy selections is even greater. There are dogwoods, barberries, buffalo berries, native roses, and other sorts galore, some of which can be collected in every neighborhood, and all of which can be easily secured through the plant dealers. These things ought to be on the grounds of every school, especially every rural school; and Arbor Day is the day to put them there.—The Country Gentleman.

Arbor Day.

How many rural schools to-day observe Arbor Day, a day in which every farmer should be interested; for the day is one of much importance to the farmer in general and especially to those that live on the bleak prairie.

Once when passing a well shaded farm home on a prairie farm I noted the different appearance in the looks of it and the unprotected houses in the neighborhood; when I had an opportunity I engaged the owner in a conversation, learning many useful facts. To my question of whether he observed Arbor Day, he replied, "Yes, I observe Arbor Day, but every day is arbor day when it comes to planting trees," which I considered good logic, as a person could plant very few trees, compared with what is needed, working only one day in the year.

Arbor Day at school, when properly carried out, is one of the most entertaining and instructing days of a school. There can be prepared a very pretty program suited to the occasion, occupying the morning hours; the afternoon to be spent in planting

THE HEART OF THE TREE.

An Arbor Day Poem.
What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants the friend of sun and sky;
He plants the flag of breezes free;
The shaft of beauty, towering high;
He plants a home to heaven high
For song and mother-tongue of bird
In hushed and happy twilight heard—
The treble of heaven's harmony—
These things he plants who plants a tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants cool shade and tender rain,
And seed and bud of days to be,
And years that fade and flush again;
He plants the glory of the plain;
He plants the forest's heritage,
The harvest of a coming age,
The joy that unborn eyes shall see—
These things he plants who plants a tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree?
He plants, in sap and leaf and wood,
In love of home and loyalty,
An earnest thought of civic good—
His blessings on the neighborhood
Whit in the hollow of his hand
Hold all the growth of all our land—
A nation's growth from sea to sea
Sits in his heart who plants a tree.
—Henry Cuyler Bonner.

Helpful Bulletins.

The nature study bulletins sent out from Cornell University will help teachers in planning work for their pupils. The literary selections found in the annual or gathered by teachers should be a means of impressing upon pupils that a close observation of nature and her ways has afforded pleasure and profit to people who are widely known through their writings. An exhibition of their drawings and the written accounts of what they have learned from some tree.



Reading Fortunes.
One of the newest fads in entertaining at luncheons, teas, etc., is to engage the services of a woman who is clever at reading fortunes by tea leaves. At a girls' tea party recently this amusement was the greatest hit of the afternoon, and now this woman is in great demand at girl graduation functions, lunch parties, etc., and, in fact, any time or place where women congregate over the teacups and desire a novel amusement.—New York Telegram.

Choice of Hats.
Among the between season hats there are three really sensible, pretty shapes to choose from, all equally fashionable. There is the natty, smart turban in horsehair, crushed novelty braid or jet for the elderly woman. A neat little high crowned narrow brimmed hat, becoming to the petite figure, possessing small features, but lacking height. And the bowl shaped toque or hat, named according to its size—for it may be an inverted bowl or an immense mushroom—that will suit the tall figure.—New York Telegram.

Dark Gowns For Evening.
It is interesting to watch the widespread acceptance of the decree that dark shades are for evening and light ones for day wear.

The fashionable woman now buys a coat suit of Chinese blue cloth for afternoon wear and one of intense peacock blue for her evening gown. Paris has always insisted upon a brilliant contrast between the gown and the bare neck and arms, but the majority of people have stood for pastel tints in the evening.

The English fashion of allowing the line of the material to come against the skin is not adopted over here yet. The French method of draping the material with fish-colored tulle is the accepted thing.

In many cases it must be admitted that the result is quite startling. A brilliant dark tone of satin ending at the bust line, with the remaining inches of the bodice made of this

Jugged Gravy.—Take two pounds of shin of beef, three slices of lean ham, two shallots, half a head of celery, one blade of mace, a bunch of sweet herbs, one carrot, a little salt and some whole peppers, one quart of water, a tablespoonful of catsup and one of soy. Cut the beef and ham or bacon into small pieces and put them into a stone jar with alternate layers of the spices and herbs, the latter chopped up. Pour in a quart of water and cover the jar with paraffine or buttered paper, tying down tightly to prevent the steam escaping. Set the jar in a moderate oven for eight or ten hours, then strain off the gravy. Add the catsup and soy. When cold carefully remove the fat from the top.

Alexandra's Ban on Diaries.
Queen Alexandra has exacted a promise from her maids that they will not keep diaries. This is like imposing a hardship on posterity, for many important conversations and little happenings of the courts of former days would have been lost to history had it not been for the diaries of ladies in waiting with a keen sense of news values. Fanny Burney's diary of the court of George III, is an interesting document and gains in value every year. Alexandra, like King Edward, is cautious and diplomatic. She knows that in court there are many conversations which in after years might make interesting and none the less embarrassing reading. So she has impressed upon her maids that any secrets they may feel inclined to give to the world must be sealed down after they have severed their connection with the court.

Women Who Marry at Thirty-five.
A German professor, after a long life spent in observation, says the woman of thirty-five is the one most likely to find happiness in marriage. He says when a woman waits to be thirty-five for marriage she is practically proof against such an anti-climax as divorce. Probably the professor is right, still there are few women of the temper to make the experiment. At thirty-five there is the chance that the woman will not find a husband at all. Again, it is

easy to comprehend why happiness awaits the woman who, after half her life has passed, enters wedlock. When the woman of thirty-five goes to the altar it is without one of the illusions of youth. She has had time to see the reverse side of romance; she is not filled with the belief that married life is one long, unbroken period of bliss. On the contrary, she knows that as soon as the honeymoon has waned she will descend to the commonplace. She knows that married or single life in the main is made up of cold, hard facts. She is ready for sacrifice and she has lived long enough to understand the whims and oddities of man. Besides, in nine cases out of ten, the woman of thirty-five marries for companionship and a home, and is fairly alive to the value of both. So, after all, the German professor has more than dwelt upon a truth which we all know.—New York Press.

Millions For Canals in France.
France is a land of "dugged ditches," and of many locks. She has spent \$300,000,000 in the last 100 years, and many millions before that, two-thirds of it on artificial channels and most of the rest on locks, dams and quay walls. And to-day a multitude of her population live upon these waters, drifting along in tow of one horse, two horses or a one-horse steam engine, carrying freight from some of the most amiable fashion from somewhere to somewhere else, or going where they think a new freight is to be found.—Boston Transcript.

FRILLS FASHION
There is a growing possibility of pleated skirts again. Gold tissue will be very much used for sleeves and yokes. Satin of the palest pink is the new color for evening wear. Abandoned is the shoe of varnished leather for evening wear. The "flower-pot" crown of 100 years ago bids fair to be a favorite millinery shape. It is said that light hued stockings will be worn, even with dark shoes or slippers. Colored net over silver or gold net forms sleeves and gumples in some recently imported models. Colored foulard with a black dot in place of the more familiar white dot has found favor in Paris. White braids, ornaments and buttons are being considerably used upon serge and cloths of light color. Embroidery in cross stitch and in bold colorings is seen upon some of the smartest new models in linen and pique. The modish linens for the new season are very soft and rather heavy, in order that they may be readily adapted to the prescribed frock lines. Ruffia has been woven into extraordinarily smart bags and belts, the straw often being oddly but delightfully studded with semi-precious stones whose color shows attractively upon the soft shade of the straw. Among the hand trimmings in embroidered net are some tarian plaid effects produced by darning with coarse silks. The colors are delightfully blended and the trimmings would be distinctly effective on a certain type of frock or blouse.

IN THE GREEN THEATRE.



one had thrown away after driving home the cows. With a case-knife from the kitchen he had sharpened the lower end, and was now gravely pressing the point down into the soft, moist earth! You see, Baby Ben didn't have to dig a hole in order to set out his "tee!"

"Oh, you funny little chap!" said Joe, lifting fine earth carefully about the roots of his own little elm, and pressing it firmly down. "I'm afraid you're going to be disappointed, if you watch for that 'tee' to grow!"

But, will you believe it, it grew faster than any of the other three—to the amazement of Tom and Joe and Hal! It sent out half a dozen branches before the others had reached the point of sending out buds; and all because Baby Ben had happened to pick up a willow twig with which to celebrate Arbor Day.

It was quite an "experiments," as Tom expressed it, but both he and the other two boys have since discovered that there are several other kinds of wood besides the willow that will often take root and grow quickly when planted with as little ceremony as Baby Ben made use of in planting his first "tee."—W. D.

Preserve Arbor Day Annals.
Arbor Day annals are the property of the school district and should be preserved by teachers and trustees for future use. Choose a committee of pupils, whose duty it shall be to care for the trees which are planted and report next Arbor Day.

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Framboyan Trees Lining the Roadway.



A FINE AUTOMOBILE COURSE.

coming established in Great Britain, France and many old world countries, and now it has crossed the Pacific to the west, and met with a hearty welcome in Hawaii and Japan.

In a Bad Fix.
In ten minutes the battle would begin. The enemy outnumbered them five to one.

"Boys," said the captain, solemnly, "we have had work before us. See that you are all armed to the teeth." Far down the line little O'Flarity nervously held up his hand.

"Please, captain!" "Well, O'Flarity!" "I—I haven't any tathe."—Chicago News.



Artistic Box For Cut Flowers.
One of the most unique as well as artistic arrangements ever conceived as a novelty creation for the presentation of flowers is the surprise gift box. At first sight the box might contain only bonbons, with a few flowers passed through the ribbon tied around it. The moment the ribbon is untied, however, and the cover of the box is lifted, the sides fall perfectly into the shape of a centrepiece, and a beautiful bouquet of roses, surrounded by bunches of violets, greets the eyes of the recipient of the gift.—Popular Mechanics.

Make Shoes Comfortable.

Is there any woman who has not suffered with half shoes and pumps that slip up and down on the heel? In spring the streets seem to be crowded with humanity with pained expressions on their faces, treading as though terra firma were a much more fragile substance than it is. A reliever, however, has at last been discovered by some wise person whom necessity transformed into an inventor.

Paste a piece of velvet inside the heel of the shoe, of course, with the side of the nap toward the foot, and this will effectually prevent any slipping or rubbing. It is very easy to do, costs but a very few cents, and any good liquid glue may be used, so that at last an effectual and easy preventative for slipping heels has been found.—Washington Star.

To Clean Velvet.

The method employed to clean light and dark velvet is a simple one. A lather of white soap is made, into which the velvet is dipped, then placed on a board or table and scrubbed the way of the pile with a clean nail brush until all dirt has been removed, when it is rinsed in clean cold water, but not squeezed or wrung, as this would spoil the pile.

It is dried in the air and sometimes the back is drawn over a hot iron, but this is not absolutely necessary. Light velvets are cleaned by gently rubbing with a flannel previously dipped in kerosene; or, if the material be soiled in spots only, by rubbing with a piece of fat bacon or butter, when the wrong side requires drawing over a hot iron in order to raise the pile.—New York Press.

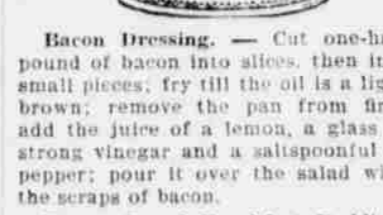
As to Sheets.

Every good housewife is interested in the care of sheets, and many of them will like to hear a few suggestions made by an economical and clever woman.

She said: "I never have my sheets made with a small hem on one end. There is always a three-inch hem on both ends—so there is no top or bottom—and the sheets wear just twice as long as they otherwise would. It is not difficult to do, for I always have my sheets made in the house by a seamstress, so they will be the right size. And, speaking of size, do you know what to do when ready-made linen sheets are too short for the beds?"

Of course I did not, so she told me that a false hem might be added and either fagoted or hemstitched to the one already on the sheet. In this way the sheet could be easily made as long as desired, and the embroidery only added to the beauty of the sheet.

This is certainly very useful information, for many a mother has a tall boy who is constantly complaining that the sheets are too short. The addition of the false hem is quickly done, and the extra material required does not form a very large item in the family expense account.—New Haven Register.



Bacon Dressing.—Cut one-half pound of bacon into slices, then into small pieces; fry till the oil is a light brown; remove the pan from fire; add the juice of a lemon, a glass of strong vinegar and a spoonful of pepper; pour it over the salad with the scraps of bacon.

Brown Bread Breakfast Pudding.—To two cups of hot milk, well salted, add one cup of dried brown bread crumbs and one tablespoon butter. Cook and beat steadily the first five minutes to keep free of lumps. Serve hot with milk. Prepare any quantity of crumbs by drying in oven.

Boiled Pudding.—One cup of vinegar, one cup of butter, one cup of molasses, two teaspoonfuls of saleratus, citron and fruit to taste, two and one-half cups flour. Steam three hours. Sauce—Three-quarters cup butter beaten to a cream, then add two cups powdered sugar. Beat well and stir in one tablespoon cold water. Cook until thick.

Stuffed Steak.—Make a slit four inches long in a thick round steak and make a cavity large enough for stuffing. Fill with bread stuffing and skewer the edges together. Rub the outside with hot pork fat and place in baking pan with a brown gravy. If you have no gravy use beef extract, one-third teaspoonful to one cup of hot water. Bake two and one-half hours, basting frequently.



WE LAY US DOWN TO SLEEP.

We lay us down to sleep,
And leave to God the rest;
Whether to wake and weep
Or wake no more be best.

Why vex our souls with care?
The grave is cool and low—
Have we found life so fair
That we should dread to go?

We've kissed love's sweet, red lips,
And left them sweet and red;
The rose the wild rose tree
Blooms on when he is dead.

Some faithful friends we've found,
But they who love us best,
When we are under ground
Will laugh on with the rest.

No task we have begun
But other hands can take,
No work beneath the sun
For which we need to wake.

Then hold us fast, sweet death,
So it may seem best
To Him who gave us breath
That we should go to rest.

We lay us down to sleep,
Our weary eyes we close;
Whether to wake and weep
Or wake no more, He knows.
—Louise Chandler Moulton.

Ways of Praying.
Some time since we indicated seven different ways of giving: "The selfish way, equal way, proportionate way, etc." It has often occurred to us that the Word of God hints many ways of praying also, and their mention may show their defect and necessary lack of prevailing power. For instance:

1. The formal way—when prayer is a mere form of words, with little or no heart, or when it is simply due to the force of habit which has lost its real motive power.

2. The hurried way—hastening through it as a disagreeable and irksome duty—a duty, indeed, but not a delight, and to be dismissed as quickly as may be.

3. The selfish way—when the real motive is to consume the coveted blessing upon ourselves—in some way to promote our own selfish advantage or pleasure.

4. The impulsive way—praying as the feeling prompts, and when we feel so inclined—without any definite plan of prayer in our lives, or devout habit.

5. The faithless way—with no real dependence on the promises of God, or confident expectation of receiving what we ask or seek.

6. On the contrary, there is the thoughtful way, seeking to meditate upon God, and intelligently understand both the nature of prayer and the good we seek.

7. The earnest way—with the attention of the mind and the desire of the heart absorbed in asking, with a determination to persevere.

8. The trustful way—coming in the spirit of a child, first believing that God's promises justify prayer, and then that we are coming to a Father both able and willing.

9. The consistent way—that is, living as we pray, and so walking with God as to be in the way of blessing, and by fellowship with God inviting it.

10. The spiritual way—so cultivating acquaintance with the Holy Spirit that He can and does breathe in us first the desires we breathe out in prayer.

It is easy to see why we so often fail, and how we may succeed.—Missionary Review of the World.

Just Criticism is Good.
Higher criticism has come to designate a higher form of modern unbelief. But when this use of the term is misleading. Criticism both higher and lower is a perfectly legitimate process for studying the Bible—the former having to do with historical and literary features, while the latter deals only with the text. It is the conclusions, which the student who has come to as a result of their study of the Bible by the higher methods, to which the term "higher criticism" is now usually applied. This is wrong; higher criticism leads as many to believe the Bible is leads to disbelievers, the corner arg believers, that is, infidels; thus, "higher infidels" and "higher infidelity" would be more correct, certainly easier to be understood, appellatives for both such critics and the conclusions of themselves and the school from whom they are wont to speak as "all scholars."—Detroit News-Tribune.

Big Results From Small Things.
When man would raise a shelter against the weather what preparation of materials, what scaffolding and crowds of workmen, what tranches and heaps of rubbish. But when God would do the same, He takes the smallest seed that a newborn child might clasp in its feeble hand, deposits it in the bosom of the earth and from that grain He produces a sturdy tree, the fruit of which results by imperceptible means, such is the law of God.—D'Aubigne.

Rabid Liberalism.
I must confess that the most rabid liberalism I have ever known that they were of the liberal school in theology. An intolerance that is based upon contempt for the old view of things is just as bad as a tolerance that is based upon fear of the new view of things.—Rev. A. J. Haynes.

Small Things.
The gentle traits, the modest qualities, the quiet tastes, the unobtrusive deeds, the unselfish attitude, the little attentions—it is just these small things which render our life fragrant, giving genuineness and character to our religion.

In Bad Taste.
It is little short of blasphemy to make devotion an occasion for display. Fine prayers are generally very wicked prayers.—Charles Spurgeon.

COURT HUMOR.
First Court Jester—"I fail to see what the king means. He pays about forty ministers, and they do absolutely nothing."
Second Court Jester—"Ah! The King of the King.—The Circle.

ROOMING.
Friend—"How's business going these days?"
Promoter—"Flourishing. We've just added two more stories to the rubber stamp of our thirty-eight-story building."—Puck.