



Club of Oklahoma Women.

A woman's club has been formed in Ponca City, Oklahoma, the rules of which prescribe that the candidate must remain single, make a verbatim report in open meeting of every proposal of marriage received, learn how to smoke cigarettes, write a poem or story every month, perfect herself in pistol practice and learn fencing and boxing.

Her Fortune for Science.

Miss Alice Bates Gould, daughter of the late Dr. Benjamin Apthorp Gould of Cambridge, Mass., who died a few months ago, has lately donated to the National Academy of Science \$20,000 as a trust fund, whose income shall be used for the advancement of scientific knowledge on astronomical subjects. This is a tribute to her father, one of the ablest and most active astronomers of America, who was at one time director of the Dudley observatory in Albany, and from 1868 to 1885 had charge of the astronomical observatory in Cordoba, Argentine Republic. Thus has the father's fame been continued by the devotion of the daughter.

For the Complexion.

The scrubbing brush treatment is a cure for those blackheads which are the bane of a woman's life. Be sure you get a good face brush. Purchase a cake of pure hygienic soap. The brush should be used at night before going to bed. Immerse the brush in hot water. Rub the soap over it until a good lather is obtained. Scrub the face carefully—not violently, but thoroughly. One minute should suffice for the scrubbing process. Rinse with warm water and again with cooler water. Dry with a soft towel. If the skin is irritated by the unusual friction try a good cream or other emollient. The greasy look will disappear under the face scrubbing brush also.

Simple but Dainty Dresses for Baby.

Except for the christening robe, the dresses, slips and wrappers are all made quite plain, but of the finest French nainsook. When laces and embroideries are used, only those of daintiest pattern and finest quality are in good taste. Plain hems at the bottom, hand finished or hemstitched, are simple, babyish and always in good taste. In most dresses the trimmings are confined to the yoke, neck and sleeves, with perhaps a band of trimming to mark the waist line. Many have the fullness at the back held in by a sash of the same material, starting from each side of the fullness in the front of the waist, which makes a garment easy to launder and fashion.—Louise Merion in Woman's Home Companion.

The Women of Paris Are Very Beautiful.

"I like the way the French take their amusements," writes Miss Lillian Bell, in a letter from Paris to the Ladies' Home Journal. At the theatre they laugh and applaud the wit of the hero and hiss the villain. They shout their approval of a duel and weep aloud over the death of the aged mother. When they drive in the Bois they smile and have an air of enjoyment quite at variance with the bored expression of English and Americans who have enough money to own carriages. We drove in Hyde Park in London the day before we came to Paris, and nearly wept with sympathy for the unspoken grief in the faces of the unfortunate rich who were at such pains to enjoy themselves. I never saw such handsome men as I saw in London. I never saw such beautiful women as I see in Paris. French men are insignificant as a rule, and English women are beefy and dress like rag bags."

The Woman in Business.

If a woman is ever to retain her present position in the business world she must look to it that she makes her value felt. She has many advantages—she is punctual, painstaking, patient of monotony, amenable to discipline, ready and willing; indeed, she errs, as a rule, rather from the excess of zeal than from its defect. But she has two things to learn: First, that her health is her only capital, and secondly, that to rise above mediocrity it is necessary to think for yourself. For this last shortcoming her educators have much to answer for; but it cannot be too clearly understood that in the struggle for existence there is no room for the typist who has not at any rate the intelligence of the average compositor, nor for the secretary who forgets to post important letters, or enclose the letter to "Dear Mr. A." in the envelope addressed to "Mrs. B." It is lapses of this sort which mar at present so much of women's work and to which apparently all but the very few are so singularly liable, largely, I fancy, because they have been studiously taught to leave out of account physiological facts.—St. Louis Star.

A Unique Calling.

It would indeed be difficult to find a field of occupation that women have not invaded. An alert young dame in New York follows a unique calling which was disclosed the other day when there was an accident on the

THE FARM GARDEN



Eggs With Soft Shells.

It is usually the inactive breeds of fowls which at this season show the effects of indigestion by laying eggs with soft shells. The remedy is to make them scratch among straw and chaff for the grain they get, and mingle with this enough lime in some form to make the material for their shells. They should also be well supplied with gravel, as this is necessary to enable them to grind the food in their crops. Such hens are almost always too fat, which is usually a sign that their feed has been largely corn, which is fattening and is besides a very poor egg producer.

Vines and Trellises.

Many people are prevented from planting grape vines under the idea that the putting up of the trellis is a difficult and expensive thing to do. But the first year a light stake will be all that is required to train the single shoot to, and even the second year, when two or three bunches of grapes may be grown, the stake will be all that is required. A trellis made by setting posts six feet apart and five feet high above the surface of the ground will accommodate a single vine. For supports, wires should be stretched between the posts, but the wires must not be left tight when cold weather comes on, as the contraction of the wire by cold will surely break them.

Improving Heavy Soil.

In many gardens the soil is too heavy for raising most kinds of early vegetables satisfactorily. Underdraining and fall plowing will accomplish much toward ameliorating such lands; but in many cases these means alone do not make them light and mellow enough for best results. Such soils are deficient in sand, and where this can be procured without too much expense the investment will prove highly profitable. At this season when—as is the case on many farms—there is not much work for men and teams, they could not be employed to better advantage than to have them cart and spread a coat of from one to three inches of sand over the garden patch. By spring it will be all fine and partly commingled with the soil. A trial on the smallest scale even, will convince any one whose soil is too heavy of the value of sand in the garden.

The Scrub Cow.

The dairy business is far more overdone by the "average" cow than from any other cause. The trouble is she eats and exists on a man's farm, to do just half of what is required of her, and eats as much good food in the year as her betters. The amount of milk this average cow gives is 3100 pounds yearly, and it should be as many quarts of better milk. If one looks at this average cow critically the signs are too often reversed from what they should be, viz.: Her head is too large to correspond with her udder, and her shoulders wider than her hips, and her tendency to put tallow upon her ear and not in her milk, and has ample storage capacity for everything except milk. She is a parasite that eats by noonday, and wasteth a man's substance by night, and in the way of "fleecing the innocents" she beats all the trusts and rings combined.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Breeding for Eggs.

One of the best methods of increasing the capacity of fowls for egg production is to set the eggs of those fowls which are themselves most prolific of eggs. It is, of course, assumed that the hens are mated with full-bred cocks of the best egg-producing breeds. There are even in full bred fowls some individual peculiarities which count for much, and one of these is the propensity to give the largest part of bodily energy and feed to egg production. The hens that are best for this purpose are always lively, and have particularly bright red combs. When they stop laying they are not morose and do not fatten, but continue lively and soon begin laying again. A flock of fowls bred from such hens, and thus continued for three or four generations, would produce a breed whose chief distinction would not be form or color, but the ability to produce the greatest number of eggs in a season. This we believe is the way in which the best egg-producing breeds have been originated, and it is certainly necessary to keep them from degenerating in this respect.

Hints for Flower-Growers.

Examine the outdoor rose-beds occasionally to see that the wind has not removed the covering. The plants stored for the winter in the cellar have now been in some time. Perhaps they need a little water or other attention. Where plants are kept about the windows, cold drafts from the sides of the sash should be carefully guarded against during severe weather. Frequent cleansing of the leaves of foliage plants by using tepid water and a sponge, lends to their attract-

iveness, and is essential to the health of the plants.

Just at this time, when work with the flowers is very light, is a good time to consider what will be best to plant in the garden in the spring. When the proper time comes everything must be in readiness, so that no valuable time will be lost.

Cinders form a good material for covering the floors and paths of the conservatory.

To clean old flower-pots on which green moss and a sort of white mold has grown, scrub them vigorously with sand and water. This will make the pots look bright and new. Use porous vessels only to pot plants in. They will do better in such than in tin cans.—Woman's Home Companion.

Value of Kindness in Animal Training.

Vicious horses are generally the result of a violent, barbarous training, and when the greater number of the horses in any country are tricky and hard to manage, it means that they belong to a brutal population. From time immemorial the contrary has been the case among the Arabs, where colts are brought up and exercised with almost maternal solicitude. The child amuses itself by petting and playing with the colt of which he is some day to be the rider, and the horse and his cavalier grow up together. The earliest education of the young animal begins in the family, in the same tent. The colt is constantly looked after and caressed, and is never chastised except for acts of malice or disobedience. He is given the choicest dainties of food, and is gradually accustomed to make himself useful. When the bit is put in his mouth the iron is covered with wool, so that it shall not bruise his lips, the wool having been dipped in salt-water to give it a pleasant flavor and make him like it. The animal's education is thus always carried on with constant discretion, and even after it is completed the trainers never indulge in blows or hard words. By such association a real bond of friendship is formed between the beast and his rider.—Appleton's Popular Science Monthly.

Reasonable Feeding of Hens.

To replace the worms, insects and other fleshy food which the fowls naturally get in summer, feed pork or beef scraps from some packing house, writes Mrs. Ida Tilson. These can usually be had for two and one-third cents per pound. As they have been subjected to great pressure excessive greasiness need not be feared. Soaked, recooked, well thickened with shorts and fed warm every third day, they bring me a noticeable increase of eggs. Raw meat is more laxative and requires closer watching. Livers, tongues, hearts, etc., when obtained at reasonable rates, boiled and chopped are best of all. Milk and linseed meal are good substitutes for meat, but the latter when not laxative are very fattening. Rather than watch the effects of sour milk, I add a little soda, or better yet make curd and feed it warm. Sweet milk cannot be given too freely. Every third day I boil vegetables and feed them warm. My usual combination is potatoes with a few carrots and onions, a pepper pod and slice of salt pork. My hens think they are getting their beloved onions, but I know they are also eating carrots which help make the yolks as golden as possible. When cooked the vegetables are skimmed out, the liquor is added and the whole is thickened with shorts or mixed meals. Raw beets, turnips or cabbages are chopped almost every day. Clover chaff is fed dry or placed in a pail on top of my mixed meals, where it gets first benefit of my scalding water, then the whole is stirred together and allowed to stand for a few minutes. It is surprising how green the chaff particles become and what a strong odor of hay it even such a simple treatment yields without any trouble of boiling. For grit, several barrels of sharp gravel will last a long time. Old mortar, sandstone, marble chips, old crockery, etc., may be pounded into small bits and fed. Coal ashes with clinkers rapidly disappear. Since we must needs secure appetites for meals as well as meals for the appetite, many substances not directly valuable may become indirectly so, by creating a desire for something that is more essential.

An Oak Tree 10,000 Years Old.

An extraordinary discovery, and one which is just now exciting considerable interest in antiquarian circles in Lancashire and Cheshire, has been made at Stockport. During the excavations in the construction of sewage works for the town some workmen came across what has since proved to be a massive oak tree, with two immense branches. Professor Boyd Dawkins, the well-known antiquary, is of opinion that the tree is one of the giants of prehistoric times, and he says that the tree is certainly 10,000 years old. The corporation of Stockport is at a loss what to do with the gigantic fossil, which is supposed to weigh about forty tons.—London News.

The jury in the Much-Goldstein breach of promise suit at Washington, last week, brought in a verdict for the plaintiff of \$4250. Both Miss Much and Goldstein admitted that they had been engaged, and the girl said she was still willing to wed her delinquent lover. Theodore B. Haupt, of Bellefonte, a cigar maker and truck farmer, departed last week for the Alaskan gold fields. James L. Rote is arranging to start March 12. Others who are arranging to go in the near future are Henry Jackson and William Barnes.

In response to Governor Hastings' request for aid for the Cubans, contributions of \$5,815.91 in cash and \$2,278.93 in merchandise have been received. Of this Pittsburg and vicinity gave \$500 in cash and merchandise valued at \$425.50 and \$425.50. Both Miss Much and Goldstein were away visiting and their child, which was in the building, was cremated. The loss was \$1,500; insured.

The monthly report of State Treasurer Hayward shows a balance of \$3,357,031.85, including \$23,278.84 advances to state employee and officers, at the close of business February 28.

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

DISCOURAGING DIVORCE.

Costs Must First Be Paid Before Cases Come to Trial.

The steady increase in the applications for divorce in the Fayette county courts and the failure of a number of applicants to pay the costs of the cases have caused the Court to make a new rule, requiring all costs to be paid in advance in every case.

The following pensions were granted last week: Daniel Swearingen, Uniontown, \$8; Harlan W. Deibaugh, Altoona, \$6; Henry Abbott, dead, Allentown, \$8; Platt Bullman, Parkers Landing, \$6; Ezra S. Heany, Thompsonville, Washington, \$12; Philip Harman, Soldiers' Home, Erie, \$8; Jeremiah S. Murphy, McDonald, \$6; James Brooks, Pleasant Gap, Center, \$8; John Hancock, Liberty, Tioga, \$8; William F. Morgan, Bellevernon, \$6; Alexander C. Miller, Apollo, \$6 to 8; David G. Alter, Port Royal, \$8 to 17; Theodore E. Campbell, Losh, Westmoreland, \$10 to 14; Austin Cooper, Hillsdale, \$8; George M. Williams, L. Garrett, Altoona, \$6 to 8; John D. W. Henlen, Oil City, \$8 to 10; Zimri Farquhar, Fayette City, \$6 to 8; John P. Spalding, Altoona, \$6 to 10; Wm. H. Colony, Mansfield, Tioga, \$6 to 8; George Cullen, Oil City, \$12; George McCray, Lemont Furnace, Fayette, \$6 to 8; Mary A. Gabler, Upper Strasburg, Franklin, \$8; Emma Walters, Chambersburg, \$8; Thomas Balling, Oliver, \$8; David Blakely, East Brady, Clarion, \$6; W. W. Cole, Allegheny, \$6; John T. Steiner, Columbia, \$6; Samuel Hill, Sycamore, Greene, \$10; Oliver P. Smith, Greensburg, \$8; George Reneker, Orbisonia, Huntingdon, \$8; Daniel H. Kettling, Somerset, \$8; John E. Eckert, Bellefonte, \$10; Columbia Treadway, Corydon, Warren, \$6; William H. McDonald, Titusville, \$6; John Allen, McKeesport, \$8; Isaac Kappenhauer, Millersburg, \$6; George W. Miller, Johnstown, \$4; George Bator, Pittsburg, \$6 to 8; John C. Fisher, East Springfield, Erie, \$6 to 12; John Teeter, Evergreen, Bradford, \$14 to 17; Charles R. Williams, Phoenixville, \$6 to 12; Alexander M. McKee, Centertown, \$6 to 8; Jefferson Walters, High House, Fayette, \$8 to 10; Samuel E. Hawk, Patterson, Juniata, \$6 to 8; Joseph Berkey, Hillsboro, Somerset, \$6 to 12; Alexander Morgan, Heshborn, Blair, \$6 to 12; George D. Brooks, Wellsboro, \$17; Nehemiah P. Elsbree, Athens, Bradford, \$6 to 12; William H. McMillan, Butler, \$6 to 12; Minnie Heimbach, White Haven, \$8.

Miss Annie L. Edwards of Jamison, was found murdered in her bedroom Tuesday night. Her head was beaten almost to a jelly, and the room bore evidence of a terrible struggle. The last time Miss Edwards was seen alive was Friday night. She lived alone. A chair and a water pitcher had been overturned, and the woman's brains were found on the floor. The motive for the crime was robbery. The county commissioners have offered a reward of \$1,000 for the arrest of the murderer.

William Love, son of James R. Love of Fort Palmer, near Greensburg, committed suicide the other day by blowing out his brains with a revolver. He was 31 and unmarried. Disappointment in love is given by some as the cause. All the members of the family except his mother were absent at a funeral. When they returned they found his brains on the floor in the aged mother's arms.

King Stover, the negro shot by Collins Winn in New Brighton, died a few days ago. A post-mortem examination revealed two bullets lodged against his vertebrae, one passing through the left side of the other through the abdomen. Winn is in the Beaver jail, having school Tuesday at Carlisle were witing given himself up.

A serious case has been reported by an Amwell township physician, at Washington, Louis Stephens, a coal miner, who has not been in a mine for three years, owing to ill health, has recently begun to expectorate a dark mucus which, under a microscope, proves to be coal dust which has been in his lungs since he left the mine.

Letters of administration in the estate of the late William M. Singler, of Philadelphia, were granted by the register of wills last week to James S. McCartney, son-in-law of deceased Mr. Singler. The estate, according to the petition of the administrator, is valued at \$25,000, and consists entirely of personal effects.

Exercises at the Indian training camp by several thousand persons, many of them non-commissioned army officers, were given by the literary societies was delivered by Rev. George Spining, of Orange, N. J., on "Abraham Lincoln." The graduating class consists of 24 Indians, 12 boys and 12 girls.

A Nigger Hollow, near Monongahela, recent peddler hailing from Carlisle says that he was held up and robbed on the public road in daylight by two men and used roughly, that \$150 in money was taken from him and that his pocket containing \$300 worth of goods was thrown into the river.

The home of Andrew Miller, of Slate Lot, Crawford county, about 12 miles from Corry, burned to the ground a few days ago with all its contents. Miller and his wife were away visiting and their child, which was in the building, was cremated. The loss was \$1,500; insured.

CONGRESS.

Senate.

Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, also made a suggestion on similar lines, and on motion of Mr. Perkins, of Colorado, who reported the resolution, it was amended so as to provide that the tablet be erected in any suitable place in the capitol. It was then passed. Five thousand dollars is appropriated. The house substitute to the senate bankruptcy bill was taken up and Mr. Hoar, of Massachusetts, moved to nonconcur in the passage of the bill. Mr. Stewart, of Nevada, opposed any action on the bill, as he considered it the most atrocious and diabolical bill that could be conceived by mortal man in the present condition of the country. The house substitute would make involuntary bankrupts of men, and would make them criminals.

Senator Quay laid before the Senate Wednesday a petition said to bear the names of 12,000 citizens of New Castle, Pa., urging the passage of the bill for a new Federal building in that town. Late in the afternoon the senator arose and moved that the bill be taken from the calendar and passed. The bill was taken up and passed. It provides for appropriation of \$100,000 for purchase of site and erection of building.

During almost the entire session Thursday the Senate had under consideration the Alaskan homestead and railroad right-of-way bill. One of the features of the discussion was a speech delivered by Mr. Vest, in which he ridiculed the idea of homesteading any part of Alaska or constructing railroads in that district. His motion to amend the homestead feature of the bill by striking out the first section was defeated. Senator Mason introduced a resolution for the relief of the widow of the colored postmaster recently killed by a mob in the city of New Orleans. The same as that introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. White, of North Carolina, to-day, except that the amount is made \$10,000.

After a debate lasting several days, the senate Friday afternoon passed the bill extending the homestead laws and providing for right of way for railroads in the District of Alaska. Comparatively little discussion of general interest was created by the bill.

House.

The house Monday passed the sundry civil appropriation bill after four days' debate. The most important action taken in the house was appropriation for representation at the Paris exposition on a point of order.

The house Tuesday adopted a report by election committee No. 1, to seat Oscar W. Underwood, of Birmingham, Ala., G. B. Crowe in the seat vacated by the appointment of an inspector of hulls and boilers in Alaska was called up in the house by Mr. Payne, of New York. He said there was a great need for such an official, because vessels had already been given the green signal would engage in the Alaska trade next season, and many of them were rotten hulks. On a request made by Mr. Lewis, action was temporarily postponed.

The Loud bill to correct alleged abuses of the second-class mail matter privilege last year passed the House by a majority of 144 to 104, was buried under an overwhelming majority by the House Thursday.

Two appropriation bills were sent to the president Friday, the pension bill and the consular and diplomatic bill, both of which went through their final stage in the house. The most important action taken in the house was acquiescence in an agreement to make the claims under the provisions of the bill appropriating about \$1,200,000 for war claims approved by the court of claims under the provisions of the Rowman act, a special order for next Friday. The claims carried by the bill, 730 in number, are for stores and supplies seized during the war in the southern states. Only two bills were passed, one to pay the heirs of Sterling T. Austin about \$69,000 for cotton seized during the war, and the other to pay an aggregate of \$3,260 in small claims growing out of back pay, etc., earned during the war.

MARKETS.

Table with market prices for various commodities including wheat, corn, oats, flour, butter, and eggs in different locations like Pittsburg, Cincinnati, and Philadelphia.