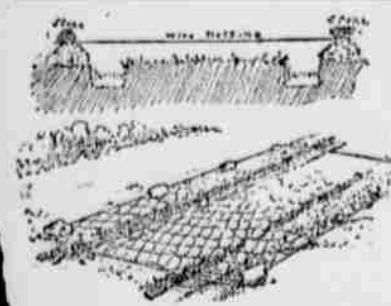


AGRICULTURAL.

The Farm Horse.
W. J. Overton, of Illinois, writes to the Breeder's Gazette that he does not believe the place for the draft horse is on American farms. He has raised some of the largest and best draft horses in the county and sold them at the yards at figures not reached by any other draft horse in six months, but he never could get the work out of them he could get out of a good-sized American horse with as much Morgan blood as he could get. When they tried to breed their small or medium sized mares to the draft horses they thought they wanted larger horses. They got them larger in some parts. It might be in the head, the legs or the body, but usually not all in one coat. No one will claim that they have no good wearing breed of horses as they had twenty years ago. "The farmer who only raises colts for his own use, with now and then one to sell, had better stay by the good-sized, smooth, American-bred horse," he says.

Protecting Young Chickens from Hawks.
Where hawks abound, young chickens must be closely guarded. If shut up closely in pens, growth will be greatly retarded. A good plan under such circumstances is shown in the accompanying illustration. Plow two furrows parallel to each other and just far enough



Wire Netting to Protect Young Chick.
part so that the distance from the outside of each shall be just six feet. Make the furrows 150 feet long. Stretch a roll of six-foot wire netting along the furrows, fastening the edges down with stones. This gives a long run on both grass ground and plowed land for the chicks, and hawks cannot molest them. The coop can be set at one end, the other end being stopped with sod. The plan is shown in the cut.—W. D. Maine, in New England Homestead.

Treating a Badly Drained Soil.
Drainage of a heavy, thick soil, inclined to be hilly and uneven, is something that is not always an easy matter, but if one has such a farm, the sooner he begins to make the improvement the better. It is waste of time and money to attempt farming on a field that demands drainage badly, and it is wisdom to abandon the farm entirely or begin to drain it. I have succeeded so well with a home system of drainage with stones that it may be worth recording. The soil was at first quite full of stones, which I at first picked off and piled in one part of the field. A few stones would work up to the surface every spring, and these I would also pick up. In the course of a few seasons I had a fairly good soil without any stones to annoy me. But the drainage was bad. The water would settle in the soil and on the surface in the spring, and the land was always late in getting into tillable condition. It was cold and wet when most other soils were warm and dry. This made plowing late, or if done early a muddy and unpleasant task. The land sloped down in one general direction, but there were numerous depressions which collected the water all along.

I decided to drain. I planned the whole thing out on paper, noting the general direction of the slopes. I could not afford tiles or any expensive material, and so I decided to use the pile of stones. I plowed deep ditches across the land, making them all run parallel with the main slope, and cutting cross ditches in the opposite direction. In this way the whole soil of the field was drained so that the surplus water would run into main ditches and thus down to swampy levels. Then I proceeded to fill in the ditches with the stones, using the large ones first, and placing them so that the largest possible spaces would be left between. On top of these I packed the smaller ones, and on top of them placed a layer of straw and cornstalks. Then I topped it off with six inches of soil, bringing the surface up to within a few inches of the general level of the field. Now this drainage works perfectly. The soil is never clogged with surplus water. I do not plow over the drains, but I have permitted a sod of grass to form on them to mark their course. The water following the line of ditches drains off below the surface, and there is a steady outpour in the main ditch in rainy weather. The cost was only that of my own personal labor.—C. W. Miners, in American Cultivator.

Buying or Renting a Farm.
It doesn't make any difference whether a man has small means or can pay cash, the best policy is to buy. Every farmer is ambitious. He wants to own a farm—to have some place to call home, even if it is only forty acres. The expenses are about equal, buying or renting. The rent amounts to as much, and often more, than the taxes, interest and repairs. The renter has more money to put into stock, but his possessions must accommodate themselves to the farm he rents, and this is often inconvenient. Or he must build extra fence, which

is expensive, as the fence is useless when he moves elsewhere. Usually the renter exchanges crops and stock for money when he moves, which is every year or two. Of course he puts the money in the bank and is going to save it until he can pay cash for a farm. During the year he sees something that he is very anxious to own, and as the money is easy to get, it goes. Of course he is going to have a better crop this year, and will make more money on his hogs, and can easily replace the money, and more, too. It is just as easy to use it all as it is to use a little, and before the end of the year it is all gone.

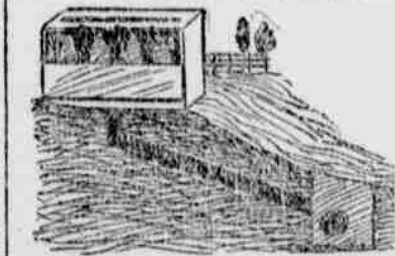
The buyer cannot do this. When he sells a crop, or a bunch of hogs, and pays the money on a farm, it is there to stay. He must deny himself many things, but he who satisfies every want will not have his labors crowned with success. Uncensuring toil is the parent of success. It only takes about half the year to raise the crop. During the other half the renter does not do enough to pay his expenses. He makes as much as any farmer while he works, but the buyer works while the renter is idle. The weeds need cutting, the fences need fixing, the fertilizers need scattering, the ditches need repairing, and many other things need to be done, so that the buyer is busy the entire year. Perhaps he has less amusement, but amusement is expensive.

A farm should have a good orchard and a garden of shrubbery. Neither trees nor shrubs are costly, but the renter does not put out new ones, nor take care of those already on the farm. The renter leads an aimless, unsettled life. He has no definite aim in view, and works in a haphazard, hit or miss fashion, and it usually turns out miss. The buyer knows just what he has to do, and each day brings him nearer the goal of his ambition. Half of the secret of success lies in having a definite aim and the other half in unceasing toil.—G. L. Johnson, in New York Tribune.

An Excellent Smokehouse.
A good smokehouse on any farm is a desirable thing to have, the great difference between the price of home grown pork and store bacon making it a paying job for every farmer to smoke his own meat, and especially for home consumption. It is too expensive, however, to have a well arranged smokehouse, as generally constructed, in all cases, and hence the reason for presenting the novel affair shown in the accompanying illustration.

As can be seen, it consists of a box of such a size as is desired, only it should be four feet high, and is usually more convenient if three by five feet square. The meat is inserted through the door in the side, which should be no less than twenty inches wide, and hinged at the lower part so as to let down from the top. Hooks should be fastened to it, and staples driven into the sides and top of the box, as indicated, to hold the door in place when closed.

For hanging the meat bore holes through the top of the box and far enough apart so that the pieces will not touch when hung. Pieces of wire work best for the purpose, one end of which having been run through the meat should be twisted together with the other so as to form a loop, and this inserted up through the augur hole, where a stick then pushed through the loop will hold the ham secure. The device should be built on sloping ground, provided such is available, for then the fire that is to furnish the smoke can be placed at the proper distance from the box and yet have the smoke readily conducted to it by means of several joints of old stovepipe. The



hole for the fireplace should be about two feet deep and at least six feet away from the box. The trench for the stovepipe should not be over one-half as deep, and dug so that the upper end of the stovepipe will come out under the box near the center; an old elbow joint makes this very easy to do. The pipe, of course, should be covered with the loose dirt thrown out, and the sides of the box banked up with earth, its cracks even being caulked as much as possible, for notwithstanding all the precautions, enough smoke will still escape to insure the necessary amount of draught.

When the affair is completed and the hams are all hung a fire should be kindled in an old kettle or pan, using corn cobs for fuel, since these make the best material, not to mention that they are easy to handle and will last long. As soon as a good smoke has been started the "furnace" should be set in the hole prepared for it and boards laid over the top, or, better, a large piece of sheet iron, tin, or something of that nature. By banking this up so as to keep the smoke from escaping, one will be in a fair way to have some first-class bacon. Several hundred pounds of meat can be smoked at a time, and, let alone the economy of this, the device is of inestimable value as a safeguard against fire. Unlike some kinds of smokehouses, so-called, it harbors no danger whatever, if rightly made, of burning a single building on the farm.—New York Tribune.

The gauchos of Argentina live entirely on roast beef, scarcely ever tasting vegetables or sour dishes.

NEW IDEAS IN TOILETTES

New York City—Blouse waists make the accepted models for all simple gowns and odd bodices. This satisfactory May Manton model includes



BLOUSE WAIST.

the new deep pleats at the shoulders and is rendered peculiarly effective by the shield and collar of contrasting material. The design is suited to all silks and soft wools, but in the original is made of pastel blue peau de sole with bands of taffeta in the same shade, stitched with corticelli silk and shield and collar of tuckered white mousseline.

The lining is closely fitted and closes at the centre front. On it are arranged the various parts of the waist. The shield is attached to the right side and hooked over onto the left, but the deep fronts close separately at the left side. Deep pleats are laid at the shoulders that extend to the waistline where the extra fullness is arranged in gathers.

To cut this blouse for a woman of medium size, three and seven-eighths yards of material twenty-one inches wide, three and one-half yards twenty-seven inches wide or two yards forty-four inches wide will be required, with one-half yard for shield and collar.

Two Attractive Waists.
No single article of dress is more fashionable than the odd waist of white. The smart May Manton model shown in the large drawing is made of taffeta, mousseline combined with cream lace, the edges of fronts, collar



FANCY BLOUSE.



TUCKED SHIRT WAIST.

and cuffs being stitched with many rows of corticelli silk. Buttons of crystal are placed on the fronts in groups of three.

The foundation lining is snugly fitted and closes at the centre front. The waist proper is plain at the back, snugly drawn down in gathers at the waist line, but is elaborated at the front by a yoke of lace and full vest portion of silk that falls in soft folds and pouches slightly, but the main portions are smooth at the shoulders and full only at the waist line. The big square collar is attached to the back of the neck and the fronts, while a regulation stock is worn at the throat. The novel sleeves are in bishop style with deep cuffs pointed at the upper edge and are arranged over fitted linings.

To cut this blouse for a woman of medium size, three and three-fourths yards of material twenty-one inches wide, two and seven-eighths yards twenty-seven inches wide, one and one-half yards forty-four inches wide will be required, with one and three-eighths yards of all-over lace to make as illustrated.

Shirt waists with deep tucks stitched from shoulders to bust make a conspicuous feature of the season's style. The pretty model given in the large drawing is made of white silk chambray and is exceedingly dainty and charming.

The fronts of the waist are closed through the regulation box pleat and three tucks are laid in each that are trebly stitched with corticelli silk from neck and shoulder edges to the bust line, where the fullness falls free to be gathered at the waist, or left loose to be arranged as desired. The sleeves are in bishop style with cuffs of the latest width, having rounded ends buttoned over. At the neck is a turn-over collar of linen, but which can be cut of the material when preferred.

To cut this waist for a woman of medium size, three and seven-eighths yards of material twenty-one inches wide, three and one-fourth yards twenty-

seven inches wide, two and three-fourth yards thirty-two inches wide or two yards forty-two inches wide will be required.

Rope-Like Folds.

All those who have been in mourning well know how hard it is to think up effective trimmings "out of whole cloth." One woman has gotten around it in this wise. The dress is of soft, rich black goods, the bodice being tucked, save at the front, where a vest of crepe, in panel effect, is introduced. This is criss-crossed with folds of the crepe, the crepe weave giving a rope-like appearance. Five of these folds are down each side of the vest. This idea might be carried out entire, with fine results, the panel running down the front of the skirt and also heading the flounce. Folds of crepe are a most effective trimming, anyway.

Shoes of Satin.

Satin shoes or slippers to match all gowns for dressy occasions are almost de rigueur now, and another luxury are gloves of white glace kid, suede or the heavy skins that are worn with every sort of gown. They are seen so much one wonders how any colored gloves are sold in the high priced shops. One exception is made in the heavy black glove gloves with white seams and stitching that look very chic for a time, and as the seams are soiled look just like the old style funeral kids.

A Novel Jewel.

A Parisian jeweler has introduced a trinket which is considered most desirable by fair ladies. It consists of a single pearl or other gem, from which a tiny filigree ball is suspended. In this ball is a wee bit of sponge, which is always kept saturated with the favorite perfume of the wearer. This jewel is worn hanging by a fine gold chain, or with other trinkets, very likely on a bangle.

Old-Fashioned Lace Scarfs.

Old-fashioned Spanish lace scarfs are used for muffs, made up with chiffon, which, wadded, of course, forms the foundation, and the frills as well. The scarf twists around the centre and ties in a knot and ends, with a bunch of flowers or a handsome buckle.

The Ribbon Finish.

No dainty piece of lingerie is complete these days without its ribbon

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F. J. Cheney & Co., Props., Toledo, O.
We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.
Wear & Tuxedo, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.
W. L. Stone, Kinsman & Martin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.
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Successfully used by Mother Gray, nurse in the Children's Home, in New York. Cures Feverishness, Bad Stomach, Teething Disorders, cures, cures, and regulates the Bowels and Destroys Worms. Over 30,000 testimonials. At all druggists, 25c. Sample mailed FREE. Address Allen K. Olmstead, LeRoy, N. Y.

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PERMANENTLY DYES do not spot, streak or give your goods an unevenly dyed appearance. Sold by all druggists.

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In China the year begins in February.

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is to it. It stops falling
of the hair, too, and al-
ways restores color to
gray hair.**

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If your druggist cannot supply you, send us one dollar and we will express you a bottle. Be sure and give the name of your nearest express office. Address, J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.

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For 16 Cents Postpaid
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In all 150 kinds, positively forwarding packets of choosing flowers and seeds and lots of choice vegetables, together with our great catalogue telling all about fruiting and fruiting and fruiting and fruiting, send at once a postal note, or all other for 16c. in stamps. Write to-day.
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Send us and we will send you sample packages containing needles. Give name of machine. Agents wanted in all localities. Write to-day.
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Syrup of Figs.** It is well known to be a simple combination of the laxative and cathartic principles of plants with pleasant, aromatic liquids, which are agreeable and refreshing to the taste and acceptable to the system when its gentle cleansing is desired.

Many of the ills from which women suffer are of a transient nature and do not come from any organic trouble and it is pleasant to know that they yield so promptly to the beneficial effects of Syrup of Figs, but when anything more than a laxative is needed it is best to consult the family physician and to avoid the old-time cathartics and loudly advertised nostrums of the present day. When one needs only to remove the strain, the torpor, the congestion, or similar ills, which attend upon a constipated condition of the system, use the true and gentle remedy—Syrup of Figs—and enjoy freedom from the depression, the aches and pains, colds and headaches, which are due to inactivity of the bowels.

Only those who buy the genuine Syrup of Figs can hope to get its beneficial effects and as a guarantee of the excellence of the remedy the full name of the company—California Fig Syrup Co.—is printed on the front of every package and without it any preparation offered as Syrup of Figs is fraudulent and should be declined. To those who know the quality of this excellent laxative, the offer of any substitute, when Syrup of Figs is called for, is always resented by a transfer of patronage to some first-class drug establishment, where they do not recommend, nor sell false brands, nor imitation remedies. The genuine article may be bought of all reliable druggists everywhere at 50 cents per bottle.

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