



Window Garden Hints.

Sponge off both back and front of the leaves of your potted plants. Use tepid water.

If your azaleas promise to bloom too early for Christmas, remove them to a place where the temperature is 50 to 55 degrees and you can hold them back until you want them.

By forcing, you can get lily of the valley, geranium, Gloire de Lorraine, and azaleas into bloom very soon.

Cure for Bad Butter.

When a family has but one cow the butter is frequently bad, no matter how carefully the churning may have been done. This is due to keeping the cream too long before churning. The new cream is mixed with the old and the butter is not good. This can be avoided by churning more frequently. Cream should be churned as soon as it reaches the proper stage of ripeness and where there is a mixture of cream of different ages it is impossible to have butter of good quality.

Difficult or Ugly Horse to Bridle.

Many people are less intelligent than the horse which they handle and the habit of hitting a horse on the head or face will soon make an ordinary horse almost unmanageable and often in consequence very ugly to bridle. Treat the horse kindly, handle a rope and make a slip knot and his gently, pat him on the head. If the horse is especially vicious, take place it on the lower jaw and tie it tightly to the manger, then bridle and unbridle the horse until he becomes perfectly quiet and he will submit to being handled without any effort to throw his head back. A few trials will be sufficient to break him of this annoying habit. I have tried this on two mules we were breaking to work, that had been spoiled about their ears. They became vicious so I tried this and now they will come up and stick their heads in the bridle.—C. H. Williams, St. Mary's, Mo.

Shade-Grown Tobacco.

As to the shade-grown tobacco in the Connecticut Valley Secretary Wilson says:

In the Connecticut Valley the work of producing, under shade, a wrapper leaf having all the qualities demanded by the trade has been continued in connection with the breeding experiments of the bureau of plant industry. Eleven selections were taken in a four-acre tent, seven from Sumatra seed and four from Cuban seed of the third generation in Connecticut. The yield of Sumatra ranged from 1,445 to 1,612 pounds per acre, and of Cuban from 1,134 to 1,384 pounds per acre. Out of these eleven types of Sumatra and one of Cuban seed that appear to meet the demands of the trade. Besides the area in the experimental tent of the department, there were grown by private planters during the year about 120 acres under cloth shade, both Cuban seed and Connecticut broadleaf being planted. This is a slight increase over the acreage planted the preceding year and indicates that the trade is becoming interested in the shade products. One firm growing broadleaf sold the tobacco for \$1,000 an acre, giving a profit of about \$300 an acre. The Cuban tobacco was sold for \$1,200 an acre.

There can be no question that tobacco of this quality can be produced on a commercial scale by careful growers if the methods used and recommended by the bureau of soils are followed. Notwithstanding the uniformly favorable reports received from the trade on the merits of this tobacco, the bureau, however, would caution the prospective grower against embarking in the industry on too large a scale at the outset.

To Protect Berry Bushes.

The peculiar weather of June and July caused most of the blackberry and raspberry plants in many parts of the country to grow a great deal of immature wood which will not ripen before cold weather. From the hountiful rains which came in August the soil contains a good supply of moisture and if the vines can be protected from long dry freezing they will suffer but little during the winter.

If the patch is on a south slope and protected from the north winds, it may be left to take care of itself, but if not so favorably located a little time can be profitably employed in laying the plants down. This work should be done while the ground is moist, not wet and in good working order. All the old vines should be removed and ditch about 6 inches deep and 9 inches wide along one side of the row. This ditch should be close enough to the row to remove the soil from one side of the plants down to the roots. The vines can then easily be bent to the ground by placing a hay fork in the top and pushing them over into the ditch. Stick the fork into the ground to hold the vines firm until a little soil can be thrown on them. The vines should not be covered more than 2 or 3 inches deep. Some soil should be thrown into the ditch to keep the roots moist. If a very hard winter is anticipated the entire vines should be covered. The vines may be fasten-

ed down with a wire or poles and be covered with hay or straw. This method serves the purpose quite well, but gives a good hiding place for rabbits and mice, which may do the vines considerable damage during the winter.

This work should be done the latter part of November or early in December. The covering should be removed and the vines raised before growth starts in the spring. If the work is carefully done it will greatly reduce, if not entirely prevent, water killing and thus do much to insure a crop the coming season.—The Epitomist.

Clover as a Special Crop.

With an average of less than fifteen bushels of wheat per acre for the whole United States, it is evident that the land does not yield as much wheat as it should and with poor catches of clover and the crop easily killed by drouth, it is plain that the method now practiced of growing clover may be improved. Farmers who are "land poor" have no excuse for having two crops on the same location and the clover crop is one so valuable that it deserves something better in its treatment than being compelled to grow and thrive on land that has not been profitable, but there is at all times opportunities for improvement.

It is expensive to sow clover on snow during very cold weather, as many of the seed are destroyed and birds consume a large portion. If the land is not level the melting snow causes uneven distribution of the seeds and a large portion also remains on the surface uncovered and falls to germinate. These are some of the causes of poor catches, which frequently induce farmers to plow up the crop or turn stock on it, waiting another year only to repeat the same method.

It is claimed that young clover cannot endure the direct rays of the sun and is benefited by the shading received by wheat. The fact is that if clover land is plowed, harrowed fine and the seed sowed late being brushed in, so as to be well covered, it will require no shading, as it will germinate quickly, sending its roots down into the soil and secure moisture enough to protect it from drouth. In the meantime the wheat crop not having to give some of its moisture to clover, would thrive better and yield more at harvest time. Some farmers who have tried the plan of making separate and special preparations for clover, report better yields of wheat and clover, the difference in the yields of wheat and hay over the normal productions more than paying for the land and extra labor, the supposed necessity of shading clover with a grain crop not being demonstrated, as it is capable of taking care of itself where treated as a special crop with the soil carefully prepared before seeding.—Agricultural Epitomist.

Poultry Notes.

The short route to success in securing a heavy production of eggs lies not in the breed, but rather in the weeding out of the drones of the flock and then breeding from the heavy layers.

Five, ten or twenty dollars, as the case may require, added to the price of a breeding bird in the spring may make a difference of several hundred dollars in the value of chicks raised from the mating of which he is the head.

Suppose a setting of eggs purchased for \$5 produces one first-class breeding bird, and the rest are culls; that one bird is worth the price paid for the eggs, and the culls, if sold for table purposes, will more than pay the cost of raising the brood.

One writer who has exceptionally good success in securing fertile eggs says he never gives soft or warm foods. He feeds a grain ration with an abundance of cut clover, as hens ought to have a ration that will reproduce summer conditions as largely as possible.

With poultry the ordinary farmer can convert a great amount of waste material about his farm into money in the shape of eggs and chickens. With intelligent management, poultry ought to be all the year revenue producers, with the exception of, perhaps, two months during the moulting period.

One hundred chicks raised from a pen of first-class birds are far more valuable for industry than twice that number raised from two pens of less valuable stock. It should be remembered that the male is really half the breeding pen and he should be of superior quality if the best results are expected.

The chicken louse, like the common house fly, breathes through the pores of its skin, so that any fine dust or powder which will penetrate these pores will cover the lice, and causes their speedy death. The ashes from hard coal will accomplish this purpose and are much more beneficial than road dust.

Sunflowers are good to plant where young broods of chicks are to run. They can be planted early and the chicks will not bother them. After a while they will give just the pleasant shade, not dense, so desirable for young chicks. Later on the crops will mature and be good as a help to balance winter rations.—Indianapolis News.



New York City.—The accordion pleated waist is always a pretty, graceful and attractive one, and just now is peculiarly desirable for the reason that there is such a long list

Embroidered Linen Novelties.

Among the novelties in the shops are pretty linen cuffs and turnover collars made of linen and richly embroidered. These are always very effective as a dress accessory.

Empire Skirt.

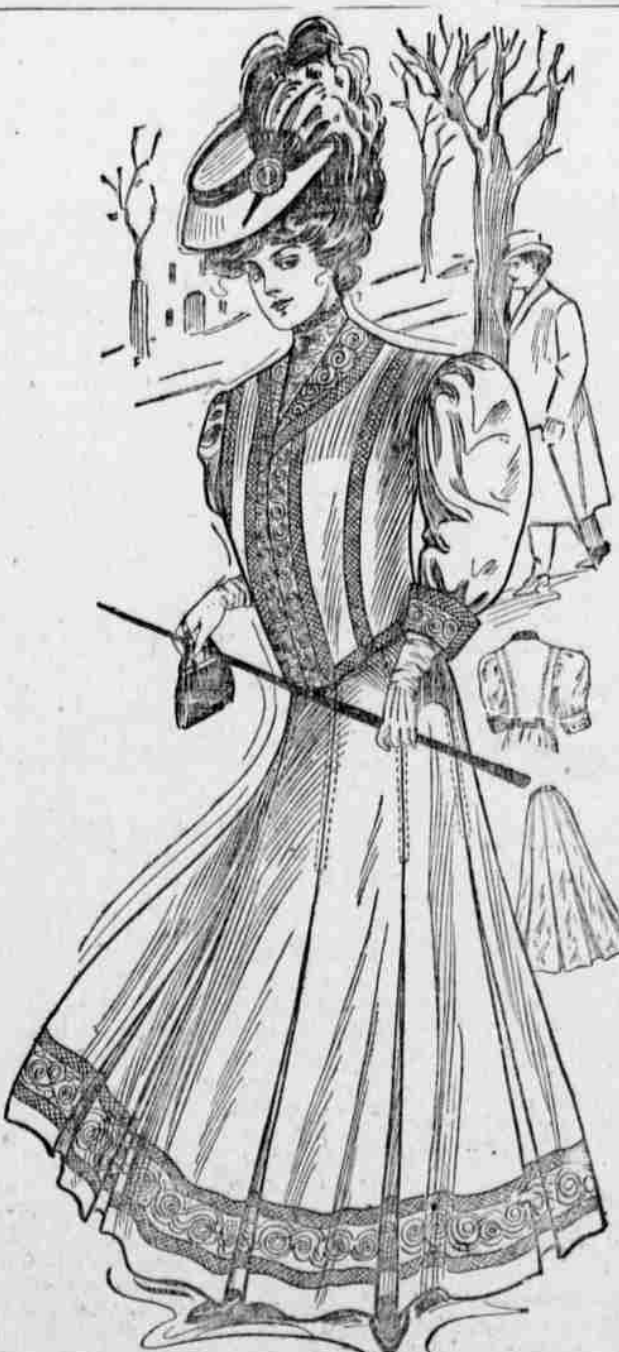
The new Empire skirt illustrated is one of the prettiest and most graceful of the season. It hangs in long, sweeping lines, it retains the normal waist line at the front while it shortens it a bit in the back after the manner of the period, and is peculiarly well adapted to all the soft materials of fashion, even cloth being made so pliable this year that it can be made full with perfect success. This one is shown in white marquisette with embroidery executed on the material as a trimming, but while such trimming is exceedingly beautiful there are innumerable appliques which are most effective and an infinite variety of ways in which the skirt can be finished. Indeed, the simple stitched hem often is sufficient, while the list of bandings and trimmings to be purchased by the yard is very nearly limitless. There is a smoothly fitted girde, over which the fulness is arranged, and which serves to make the wearer comfortable as well as to keep the skirt perfectly in place, and which is concealed by the outer one of soft silk.

The skirt is cut in seven gores and the foundation girde in eight sections, while the draped girde is in one piece. When the Empire line is not found becoming, however, the skirt can be cut off at the waist line and finished with a straight belt, while also it is perforated for walking length, so that it becomes a very made available for a great many occasions as well as a great many materials.

The quantity of material required



of exceedingly thin, fashionable materials. The one illustrated is susceptible of treatment of several sorts, and can be utilized for the theatre waist, for the evening waist or for the simple afternoon gown, inasmuch as the neck can be cut high or low and the sleeves allow three different lengths. In the illustration chiffon is combined with yoke and cuffs of lace and is trimmed with bands of taffeta that are embroidered with French knots and piped with velvet, but there are so many trimming materials that might be suggested that the list is so long as almost to be prohibitive. For the waist itself all the



soft materials that can be pleated successfully are appropriate, net both black and white, plain and figured being much seen, while for the yoke there are a variety of all-over materials. Lace itself shows a generous number of sorts, while there are many embroidered nets and inserted tuckings and the like, all of which are appropriate, and the trimming can be cut from any pretty contrasting material. When low neck is used the straight-band of embroidery or applique makes the preferred finish, while the short sleeves are exceedingly pretty edged with narrow frills of lace.

The waist is made with a fitted lining on which the yoke and the pleated portions are arranged and is closed invisibly at the back and the sleeves are arranged over linings which can be cut off to any desired length.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is six and three-quarter yards twenty-one, four and three-quarter yards twenty-seven, four yards thirty-six or three yards forty-four or fifty-two inches wide, with one-half yard of all-over lace, if three-quarter sleeves are used, one yard for yoke and deep cuffs when long sleeves are used, one-half yard of silk for the trimming bands.

for the medium size is nine and a generally useful one that can be half yards twenty-one, nine and a quarter yards twenty-seven or seven and a quarter yards forty-four inches wide if material has figure or nap; eight and a half yards twenty-seven



or five yards forty-four inches wide if it has dot, with three-eighth yard of taffeta or other lining for the foundation girde, seven-eighth yard of silk for the draped girde.

LABOR WORLD.

Los Angeles (Cal.) elevator operators are forming a union.

Chicago (Ill.) tunnel workers, 200 in number, have formed a union. The average daily wage of Norwegian printers is ninety-three cents.

Louisville (Ky.) municipal laborers are agitating for an eight-hour day.

The breach between the Japanese and the "Frisco labor unions grows wider instead of narrower.

All the cemeteries in San Francisco save one have granted the eight hour day to their employees.

The Transvaal government has appointed a committee to inquire into the industrial distress prevailing in that country.

Des Moines (Ia.) Trades and Labor Assembly is co-operating with the Commercial Club to bring the city into greater prominence.

San Francisco (Cal.) Typographical Union levied a one per cent. November assessment for the purpose of strengthening the burial fund.

Journeymen Plumbers' Union, of Sacramento, Cal., at a recent meeting, decided to insist on an increase in wages and have a half holiday on Saturdays.

The recent convention of the Seamen's International Union, held in Boston, Mass., adopted resolutions opposing the admission of large numbers of Japanese to the United States.

The number of unionists in Germany increased from 1,466,625 in December, 1905, to 1,822,343 in December, 1906, an increase of nearly twenty-five per cent. in the twelve months.

At the recent meeting of the Arkansas State Federation of Labor, held at Fort Smith, it was said that not over one-half of the labor unions in its jurisdiction are affiliated with the State body.

MARKETS.

PITTSBURG.

Wheat—No. 2 red.....	78	75
Do—No. 2.....	77	74
Corn—No. 2 yellow, ear.....	51	53
Do—No. 2 yellow, shelled.....	47	48
Mixed ear.....	46	47
Oats—No. 2 white.....	32	33
Do—No. 3.....	27	28
Flour—Winter patent.....	3 35	4 00
Fancy straight winter.....	4 00	4 15
Hay—No. 1 Timothy.....	30 00	30 50
Clover No. 1.....	18 0	18 50
Feet—No. 1 white mid. ton.....	22 50	23 00
Brown middlings.....	20 00	21 00
Brn. bulk.....	21 50	22 50
Straw—Wheat.....	10 50	11 00
Oat.....	10 10	11 00

Dairy Products.

Butter—Elgin creamery.....	30	32
Ohio creamery.....	21	27
Fancy country roll.....	19	20
Cheese—Ohio, new.....	14	14
New York, new.....	14	15

Poultry, Etc.

Hens—per lb.....	12	13
Chickens—dressed.....	21	27
Eggs—Pa. and Ohio, fresh.....	46	47

Fruits and Vegetables.

Potatoes—Fancy white per bu.....	50	55
Cabbage—per ton.....	15 00	16 00
Onions—per barrel.....	1 50	2 25

BALTIMORE.

Flour—Winter Patent.....	5 65	5 80
Do—No. 2 red.....	72	74
Corn—Mixed.....	46	47
Eggs.....	35	35
Butter—Ohio creamery.....	30	32

PHILADELPHIA.

Flour—Winter Patent.....	5 50	5 75
Wheat—No. 2 red.....	73	74
Corn—No. 2 mixed.....	47	48
Oats—No. 2 white.....	41	42
Butter—Creamery.....	29	32
Eggs—Pennsylvania fresh.....	35	37

NEW YORK.

Flour—Patent.....	5 50	5 70
Wheat—No. 2 red.....	73	74
Corn—No. 2.....	49	51
Oats—No. 2 white.....	35	35
Butter—Creamery.....	28	30
Eggs—State and Pennsylvania.....	35	35

LIVE STOCK.

Union Stock Yards, Pittsburg.

Cattle.

Extra, 1,450 to 1,600 lbs.....	5 75	6 00
Prime, 1,300 to 1,400 lbs.....	5 40	5 75
Good, 1,250 to 1,350 lbs.....	5 20	5 50
Tidy, 1,050 to 1,150 lbs.....	4 60	5 10
Common, 700 to 900 lbs.....	3 00	3 50
Open.....	2 75	4 00
Butter—creamery.....	2 50	4 15
Cows.....	1 50	3 75
Heifers, 700 to 1,100.....	2 50	4 40
Fresh Cows and Springers.....	15 00	50 00

Hogs.

Prime heavy.....	6 70	6 75
Prime medium weight.....	6 80	6 85
Best heavy Yorkers.....	6 85	6 90
Good light Yorkers.....	6 85	6 90
Pigs.....	6 80	6 90
Roughs.....	5 45	5 70
Stags.....	4 00	4 50

Sheep.

Prime wethers.....	5 50	5 75
Good mixed.....	5 25	5 50
Fair mixed ewes and wethers.....	4 50	5 10
Culls and common.....	2 00	3 00
Lambs.....	5 00	7 50

Calves.

Veal calves.....	6 00	9 50
Heavy and thin calves.....	3 00	5 00

More than 90,000,000 ties were bought by railroads in the United States last year, involving 3,000,000,000 to 4,000,000,000 feet of sound timber.

SPINACH.

To prepare spinach for six persons wash and pick a peck. Put in a saucepan of boiling water with a handful of salt. When tender strain the leaves in a colander and pour water on them. Make a wad of the leaves, put it on a flat plate, and over the wad another plate, and press out as much water as possible. Then in a wooden bowl or on a flat and clean kitchen board chop the spinach fine. This may be put aside until required for the table. Then put butter the size of an egg in a saucepan, and when it is hot, but not even golden, add the spinach, and saute them over a moderate fire, taking care to stir all the time. In five minutes add pepper and salt and a little cream or milk. Reduce until the vegetable is firm enough to be molded into a mound. Garnish with triangles of bread fried brown in butter, or hard-boiled eggs cut in quarters or eighths.—American Cultivator.

EXPLAINING HIS OPTIMISM.

"You say you are optimistic in your views of the future?"
"Thoroughly so," answered the sardonic person. "I look for great improvement in the world. Things appear to me to be so bad that they can't help changing for the better."
—Washington Star.

Reliability Before Price

In flour buying the housewives place reliability before price. They know that good flour costs more, and they pay it willingly.

There isn't a housewife living who would hesitate a minute at paying half a cent a pound more if she knew she could get a better flour—a flour that would make more and better bread than she ever made before.

King Midas FLOUR

is just such a high grade flour—the highest priced and the best flour in America. It costs the half cent a pound extra, but the quality is there. The slight extra cost makes it possible to give extra quality and we will guarantee the quality of every bag or barrel of KING MIDAS FLOUR. It will pay you to ask your grocer about it.

Sold by Quality Grocers Everywhere.

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