

REDUCED INFANT MORTALITY.

The Mayor of Huddersfield, England, offered a prize of \$5 for every child born during his term of office which lived at least twelve months. Though several epidemics occurred, the mortality was reduced from 122 per thousand to forty-four, largely by the aid of women who instructed mothers.

#### A DELIGHTFUL RETREAT.

Princess Maria of Rumania, wife of the Crown Prince of Rumania, has few forlorn plants. Better let these most delightful retreat. It is a nest built high up among the branches of tall fir trees, and in it the princess spent the greater part of last sum-The nest is a miniature cottage, built for her by the King of Rumania at Sinaia. A small stair-case gives access to it. Two rooms and a kitchen comprise the nest, and they are furnished in a simple and elegant way.

#### SHE'S A CIVIL ENGINEER.

Miss Marion S. Parker, a Detroit girl and a graduate of Michigan University, is a civil engineer: She has architect's work on several New York skyscrapers. She designed the Board Exchange building in the Wall Street section, a twenty-eight-story monster that houses 8000 brokers, bankers and corporation officers. She built the Astoria, half of the Waldorf-Astoria, the Whitehall building and a dozen other notable structures. She did nearly all the designing alone, planning the steel work and everything from sub-basement to roof.

#### A QUEEN'S BEDCHAMBER.

Queen Alexandra's bedroom is paneled in pale rose silk, with hangings of white satin, those of the bed being surmounted by the imperial crown. The curtains of her boudeir are of ivory silk, bordered with helio-Here the panelings are of ivory silk in gilt moldings and other accessories are Beauvols tapestry, French carpet and Louis XVI. furniture. Her Majesty's bathroom is quite new and was specially built It is fitted with a bath of Grecian marble from quarries which had been disused a thousand years .-London, M. A. P.

#### SHE KEPT ONE SECRET.

The old, old accusation against woman that she cannot keep a secret. "A woman," said Miss Anthony, "can keep an important secret as well as a The secrets she reveals are slight and harmless ones, such as any man would reveal. Where is the reflects on her husband or her own day refused to tell his wife the out- her table spread with all the deli-Interest. 'No,' he sneared, 'I won't You women can never keep a secret." eighteen years ago being paste?" "

### "JERKILY GOOD."

"Yes. Julia is good-usually," said a young girl, who was running over a list of acquaintances in search of one who might be able and willing to help her in some work she had under-"If it happened to appeal to her in just the right way, and just the right mood she would be the best of help, but that is what one never can be sure of with Julia. She is so -jerkily good.

She laughed a little over the phrase that came to her lips, but it was an apt description. There is a great deal of goodness-real goodness in its way-that goes by fits, starts and jerks, and cannot be depended upon to run , steadily and smoothly. Its possessors sometimes wonder why others do not confide in them more, why their aid is not oftener invoked in causes they are willing to help. They know themselves to be kind-hearted and wellmeaning, but their prejudices and unreasonabless, like their better impulses, are jerky, and no one can be quite sure which will be uppermost .- Detroit News-Tribune.

### GOOD THINGS TO LET ALONE.

There would be less talk about the drudgery of farm life if only some good, over-ambitious ladies knew enough to let some good things alone. Like Charles Lamb, they should look over the enjoyable things of life and say, "How many good things there are that I don't want," instead of trying to enjoy everything. Many a woman tires herselfout unnecessarily, and the fact that she lives on a farm makes her think that it is the farm work that is so terrible. I know many women in towns who are nervous physical wrecks from overwork, but few people talk about the deadly monotony and grind of the cities.

Take flowers, for example. A country home without flowers would be a dreary place, but there are some country homes with flowers that are dreary places. There are women who tuted that of a conspicuous society daily and hourly fight with chickens leader with whom she happened to and pigs and stray cattle for their have the merest calling acquaintance plants, because the yard is not co- Harper's Barer.

curely fenced in. For them flowers only bring cares, without enjoyment A few in the vegetable garden would give real pleasure and save much worry and care, but the good women never seem to think they should let the flowers alone until the yard is in proper condition. There are weary women all over the land who spend hours putting brush over flower beds, fencing them in with bits of lumber, training the family dog to drive out the intruders, and who make themselves regular slaves for the sake of a alone forever rather than wear your-

self to a thread trying to have them.

And then the company some country families have! It is a common sight to see three or four buggies, Sunday after Sunday, in certain farmyards. Now it is a pleasure to entertain your friends in moderation, but some women stagger along under a regular burden of cooking, year in and year out. In one family the baby suddenly sickened and died, and the physician gave it as his opinion that the child had too much excitement and handling from company, not only on Sunday, but on many days in the week. The mother did her own work, and the visitors handled and dandled the poor child until its frail body could not stand the strain. Mothers with little children would do well to let company alone, especially in hot weather. Aside from the fact that Sunday should be a day of rest and quiet during the hot months, from a physical as well as spiritual standpoint, it adds nothing to the pleasure of the family to see a pack of children running wild and ruining their clothes on the day of leisure.

Another good thing to let alone is elaborate clothing, if you do your own washing and ironing. I love pretty, dainty undergarments, but I do not love to stand hours over an ironing board smoothing them out; so my wardrobe is plain. If I had plenty of time or could hire some one at a fair price to do the laundry work it would be a pleasure to wear the ruffles and embroideries, but time and money are often scarce; so it is well to be economical of both. Some women think it speaks of cleanliness and energy to display a row of white petticoats on the clothes line every Monday morning, but there are others wiser who know that gingham and sateen give just as much service and comfort with one-tenth the work. and that the soft woven underwear can be pulled into shape without ironing at all.

Unless there are grown daughters to help with the cooking, it is well to let all "fancy work" in this line alone. woman who ever tells a secret that In some homes there is ample time for the elaborate cakes and puddings, children? I know a man who one but the busy mother who tries to keep come of a business transaction in cacies her neighbors boast about, which, naturally, she took a deep when she has little children or much sewing, is foolish in the extreme. It tell you. If I did you'd repeat it. is hard to take a modest pan of rolls or articles bought in the grocery to 'John,' said the woman quietly, 'have the picnic, and find the others taking forward. The time seems very short I ever told the secret about the soli- out wonderful cakes and desserts, but taire engagement ring you gave me just say to yourself, "When my chil- Call. dren are grown up, I can make fancy Or it may be that aged relative has a claim on your time, making anything but the plainest kind of housework out of the question. In any case, remember that after a while there may be time for the things that you enjoy doing, but just now duty comes first.

So try to think out the best plan for yourself and try to follow it up. It is hard to give up the things we love to do, but by and by we may see our way clear to take them up again. It may be we must put aside reading, flowers, fancy work, elaborate cooking or music for the sake of our health and the comfort of others, but there is no loss without its corresponding gain. Anything that overtaxes the strength or makes one cross and peevish is a good thing to let alone.-Hilda Richmond, in the Country Gentleman.

## TRUE SNOBBISHNESS.

Untold depths of snobbishness among freeborn Americans seem to be revealed by a recent incident that is worthy a place in literature. A wealthy and cultured family of good ancestry, but who did not happen to figure as social leaders in a certain city, received invitations for a wedding among people whom they knew very well, but whose social aspirations were rather more pronounced than their own. The gift selected for the bride was a beautiful and expensive clock. It was bought at one of the best shops, and the cards of the givers were left to be sent with the clock at a certain date. passed, the wedding came off, but no acknowledgment reached the people who sent the clock. The clerk remembered shipping it with the cards, but nothing further was known until a mutual friend of the two families was moved to make inquiries of the bride's mother. This lady seemed to be a little vague about it, but it eventually transpired that the ambitious young bride had removed the cards of the donors, and had substi-

# **HORTICULTURE** HINTS

PLANTING PEARS.

Pears can be planted closer than apples. A convenient distance is 15 x20 feet. These can be thinned to 20x20 feet when time shall require. This will be all the thinning necessary, as pears tend to reach up rather than laterally,

#### GARDEN PESTS.

The insects most likely to cause trouble in the garden are the striped cucumber beetle, Colorado potato beetle and various flea beetles. these can be controlled by the timely use of Bordeaux mixture and Paris

TRIMMING GRAPE VINES.

Besides that they look untidy, there is nothing gained by leaving grape vines unpruned until spring. Do it any time after the leaves have fallen. This applies particularly to arbors near dwellings where neatness counts for so much .- New York Witness.

#### TREE MARKER.

Take two pieces of wire with length the distance you wish to plant trees apart, allowing about two inches for twist, and fasten a ring in centre and at each end, set one row of stakes for guide, they by having one person for each ring, the one holding centre ring setting new row



of stakes, they can be set very rap idly, nearly as fast as one would walk, leaving stakes as guides for next row. The stake in centre of top ring being mark for new row. A. is stakes. I used this and found it very convenient .- M. W. Russell, in The Enitomist.

#### THE STRAWBERRY BED.

Somebody asks: "Shall I cultivate or hoe my strawberry bed this spring?" To this the Farm and Home says: As a rule, no. The bed should have been clean when it was "laid by" last fall. Any weeds which push through the mulch should be pulled out by hand.

#### THE PICTURE.

The open-centred yard may be a picture; the promiscuously planted yard may be a nursery or a forest. A little color thrown in here and there puts the finish to the picture. A dash of color gives spirit and character to the brook or pond, to the jedge of rocks, to the old stump, or ven to the pile of rubbish .- California Cultivator. and the last more than

PLANT TREES. We have never yet known a man to regret his having planted a good shade, fruit or nut tree.

We have heard a good many men express regret that they had not planted trees.

It seems a long while to wait for a tree to grow into the size to make shade or yield fruit, when one looks when one looks back. -- Farmer's

### THE MELON APHIS.

The melon aphis is generally distributed throughout the United States, but is especially injurious in the Southwest, according to a bulletin issued by the Department of Agriculture. It attacks a great variety of economic plants belonging to difterent families. The natural enemies of the pest are ordinarily not suffizient to hold it in control. It may be destroyed by fumigation with carbon bisulphid or by the use of pyrethrum, tobacco fumes, or kerosene emulsion has the advantage that it is also sion has the advantage that it also destructive to a considerable variety of other insects which attack cultivated plants in conjunction with melon aphis.

### HILLSIDE ORCHARDING.

It is an undisputed fact that apple orcharding is successful on the uplands and hillsides, and furthermore that trees in such locations come into bearing earlier than if planted on river-bottom lands or those having heavy clay subsoils. Even on hillsides so steep that cultivation is difficult or impossible the apple will thrive. The question of spraying such orchards is not yet solved, but it can be done simply by arranging a system of pipes or hose. Pennsylvania, New York and New England have thousands of hillsides adapted to apple and other fruit culture. These lands can be acquired at low cost, and many orchards are known to do as well as one just reported by the Commissioner of Agriculture of Maine. A wooded hillside was acquired twelve years ago for \$650. He cleared the wood off, reducing cost to \$110. He set seedling apple trees among the stumps and grafted them There were so many stumps and the land was so steep that cultivation was impossible, so he pastured sheep and hogs among the trees. There were 1017 trees. The seventh year the trees began to bear, and the ninth year bore sixty-five barrels, the tenth year thirty-three barrels, and the eleventh year 500 barrels, which he sold for \$875, and then he sold the orchard for \$2850. - Country Gentleman.



New York City.-The over blouse is unquestionably a firmly established favorite. It is to be met in every material, from costly silk to simple muslins, and seems to be equally attractive in all. Here is one of quite novel



sort that is cut out to form a succes sion of the V-shaped openings that the waist can be arranged over a belt are singularly becoming to most and closed invisibly at the back. women, and that includes straight

Over Blouse or Jumper.

The over blouse with the kimono sleeves is an unquestioned favorite, as is everything bearing the Japanese stamp. This one is distinctly novel, at the same time that it is eminently simple and can be trimmed in almost limitless ways. In the illustration it is made of champagne colored marquisette and istrimmed with velvet ribbon, but in place of the lattice work of the velvet any banding or applique can be employed so that there is limitless opportunity for the exercise of individual taste. The waist is one of those very generally useful ones that is adapted alike to silk, wool and cotton and which can be made suited to afternoon or morning wear, as it is finished in one way or another and worn over one guimpe or another. Made from some pretty batiste or similar material with bands of embroidery, it would be an exceedingly simple garment, suited to morning wear, while as illustrated it is really quite elaborate in effect.

The waist is made with fronts and backs that are tucked at the shoulders and gathered at the waist line. The sleeves consist of straight bands of the trimming that are joined to the arms-eyes. There can be a casing applied over the waist line and tapes inserted to regulate the size or

The quantity of material required mandarin sleeves of narrow width. for the medium size is two and three-

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In the illustration it is made of ! crepe de chine with trimming of lace banding dyed to matching color, and is worn over a guimpe of white lace, but there are innumerable materials that are appropriate and also innumerable trimmings, while the guimpe beneath, being entirely separate, can be of lace or lingeric material, chiffon or anything suitable and becom ing. Silk and pongees are always charming so made, and the light weight wools, such as voile and marquisette, are having great vogue and are most attractive, while linen and cotton materials make charming waists of the simpler sort. In fact, this model is one that can be made suited to morning or to afternoon wear as one material or another is chosen.

The over blouse is made with front and backs and is closed invisibly at the back. The straight sleeves are separate, and are joined to the big armholes, the seams being concealed by the trimming.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is two yards twenty-one, one and three-eighth yards thirty-two or one and an eighth yards forty-four inches wide with six and a quarter yards of banding.

### Nun's Tucks.

Nun's tucks are used again to give a simple finish to the skirt.

### Fashion's Straws.

In regard to straws, leghorn, not only in its natural color but dyed in such shades as sage green, old rose, blue and apricot, will be much used. A mossy straw knowu as caveliri will be made up in many toques, mushrooms and turbans. Smooth, fine chip hats will be fashionable, and also those of Milan straw. Neapolitan will be used all through the season, cleverly combined with a firm

eighth yards twenty-one, two yards twenty-seven or one and a quarter vards forty-four inches wide with thirteen yards of velvet ribbon to trim as illustrated or four yards of banding if such is used.

Cretonne ribbons with the usual huge pink and blue flowers and buff ground blend well with the fashionable ecru straws.

### The Popular Colors.

Green is being cautiously restored to favor, but it will be at first what the merchants will describe as bronze green, a color that may only be donned with discrimination by the average woman, even when carefully designed for her. These still difficult colors will retain the guimpe or yoke waist in popularity, since something is necessary to keep them from a too direct contact with the face.