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A Massachusetts View.

According to estimates there are over a million bicycle riders in the United States to-day and the majority of them are voters. All are interested in the improvement of our roads and this subject is fast becoming a political issue. Before the introduction of the bicycle, when it didn't matter so much, people who could afford to own horses and carriages were willing to pay a little higher price for their team, provided it had the latest thing in springs attached, and then, if the road was merely passable, it made no difference. No special thought was taken of the horse which drew them. He would get along all right.

Now, since fashion and fad and the low price of machines have made bicycling so popular, there rises a cry for good roads. When a man is propelling himself along by his own bone and muscle he thinks the same roads over which he used to drive his hard working horse are execrable and unites himself with the highway reformers. The new State highway law is doing a great deal toward the improvement of the leading thoroughfares between cities and towns. The cross and connecting streets are the ones which now need attention. There is no reason why a taxpayer living on one of these streets is not just as much entitled to a respectable street in front of his house as the man who lives on the main avenue. He demands it and he should have it.

Englishmen visiting this country are surprised at the condition of our roads. Some of them even go so far as to say that there is not a decent road in the country. Compared with English roads their assertion is in a great measure true. Every street there, country or city, long or short, which comes under the control of the authorities, is either paved, asphalted or macadamized. Smoothness, hardness, neatness and durability are its characteristics. Driving along through an English country town an American is surprised to see gangs of men at work repairing what in America would be looked upon as an elegant piece of road. The least hollow is quickly filled, the least hump leveled, the first stone is carted away. This makes the country a cyclist's paradise.

We need this same reform in America. Our people are fond of travel, on foot, on bicycles, by horse and by rail. We are on the eve of the abolition of grade crossings; the next thing to follow is the establishment of good roads. This cannot fail to be accomplished in our progressive nation. — Taunton, Mass., Gazette.

The Supreme Wish of the East.

To keep up the house and not let the family name be extinguished is the supreme wish in Japan. This is the immortality of the East. The house lives on; the individuals are but fragments of the house.

If there be no natural heir, adoption readily supplies the deficiency. The magnificent scale on which adoption is practiced shows a foreigner at once that the words "father," "son," can hardly have the same depth of meaning they have in the English language.

"Why did Washington let his house die out?" was once asked me by a Japanese gentleman, who couldn't conceive any reason for such neglect.

He thought our great general might have adopted some one to keep his house and name from perishing.

"How long has he lived there?" I asked once concerning a certain person.

"Oh, he has been there two hundred and fifty years!"

"How long have you lived here?" I asked a merchant.

"Three hundred years," was the prompt reply, with a look of satisfaction at the thought of his house having passed through ten generations.

Spool Making.

Here, for instance, are huge stacks of timber, and our ears are greeted with the hum and hiss so certainly associated with a saw mill. This long range of buildings is entirely devoted to the making of spools. The machines employed are various. Here the wood is being cut into short lengths; there a hole is being punched through the small round pieces; while yonder, a machine shapes the rough wood into a smooth spool in one swift stroke.

It is by means of the wood required to make these spools that we get some conception of the enormous output of this factory. Each day there is as

much thread finished here as would wind round the world several times, and in order to produce spools for the thread, it is calculated that an extent of forest planted with birch trees covering five hundred and fifty acres has to be cut down every year while, on an average, twelve ships of large-carrying capacity are employed each season in carrying the wood across to England from America and Canada.

A HUMAN BOMB.

Queer Action of a Would-Be Scientist in the French Capital.

The Parisian police are now in charge of an unexploded bomb which is a source of much speculation and wonderment among the members of the force. It walked into one of the police stations the other day, and is in the form of a man. This human bomb bears the name of Balthazar, is a chemist by trade, and, being anxious to destroy himself on original and scientific lines, and, remembering that chloride of potash and brimstone on coming into collision explode, swallowed first the one ingredient and then the other, in large quantities. He then waited for the explosion that was to take place in his stomach, and to blow him into very little pieces, indeed. This did not, however, take place as he had anticipated, and with a view of compelling the two recalcitrant drugs to recognize one another, he drank a quantity of water. Still there was no explosion, and, regarding himself in his unexploded state as a menace to public safety and to the life of his fellow citizens, he walked over to the police station and asked the authorities to take charge of him. They are now waiting for him to "go off" with as much patience as they can muster under such particularly trying circumstances.

Transformation of Motion.

Let us suppose a stretched cord or wire fixed at both ends, and let a sharp blow be given to it. The hand or other instrument which imparted the blow was set in motion in order to do so and its motion was one of translation; but the cord which has received the blow, and to which some of the motion has consequently been transferred, cannot change its place, for it is fixed. We know well enough what will happen. It will commence vibrating, more or less strongly, and rapidly according to the strength of the blow it has received. We have, therefore, here seen motion of translation changed into motion of vibration; but a similar and quite as familiar transformation takes place which is invisible.

Let us take a coin, or any small piece of metal, and rub it well with a cloth or handkerchief; in a short time it will become warm, and if the friction be still continued, even unpleasantly hot. The visible motion of the hand has been transformed into the invisible intermolecular vibration which we call heat. That heat is a form of motion has now become a scientific truism, but it was not so at the commencement of the present century, when it was still supposed by many to be some intangible kind of substance named "caloric," proofs to the contrary being almost simultaneously given by Davy and Rumford at the end of the last century, that of the former consisting in melting two pieces of ice, carefully insulated from external heat, by rubbing them together; that of the latter in causing water to boil by the sole means of keeping it in continual motion.

"It is hardly necessary to add," says Rumford, "that anything which any insulated body, or system of bodies, can continue to furnish without limitation, cannot possibly be a material substance; and it appears to me exceedingly difficult, if not quite impossible, to form any distinct idea of anything capable of being excited and communicated, in the manner heat was excited and communicated in these experiments, except it be motion."

Persia's Small Navy.

Persia does not occupy a very prominent position among the naval powers of the world. In fact, it will be news to most people that she possesses a navy at all. She has, however, a fleet, which consists of one solitary ship, called the *Persepolis*, and is now lying at anchor in the port of Bombay, proudly flying the flag of the Shah. For many years the *Persepolis* was a tramp steamer famed for the extraordinary number of mishaps which it had encountered. But since the Persian Government has acquired it and fitted it with guns and with a ram, which, being only insecurely fixed to its bow, has a knack of slipping its moorings and diving downward, it has become a very powerful and magnificent man-of-war—that is to say, in the eyes of patriotic Persians. — New York Tribune.

Will Buy Rabbits Wholesale.

Reports some time ago had it that the effort to exterminate the rabbit plague in Australia through an epidemic introduced by inoculation with a deadly serum promised success. But it may be just as well if it's a partial failure. A London firm proposes to take annually not less than 150 tons of dried rabbits at a reasonable price. By and by dried rabbit may be as common as dried fish.

It isn't the working for a living that provokes us; it is the kind of living we get for our work.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS FOR THE AGRICULTURISTS.

Plan for a Frame Farmhouse Which is a Model in Points of Convenience.—The Strawberry Guava.—The House Cellar.

Modern Farmhouse Plan.

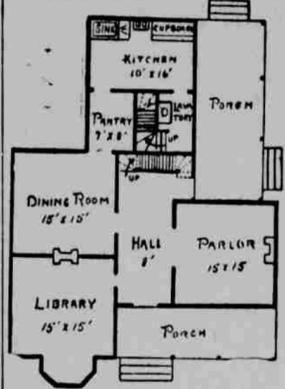
The cost of this frame farmhouse will range anywhere from \$1,500 to \$3,000, according to location, the kind of interior decoration or finish, and the amount of work the farmer can personally perform in its construction. In this case all the lime, stone for cellar wall, and some of the lumber, were procured on the farm. The excavating for cellar, building of wall and chimney,



EXTERIOR OF MODERN FARMHOUSE.

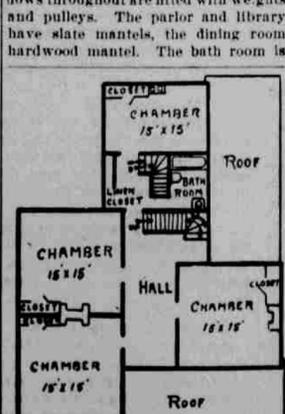
all the plumbing, laying of sewer and water pipes, roofing, painting and laying of stone walks, were all done by myself and sons, hiring skilled labor to frame and inclose the building and to plaster the interior. The house stands on a knoll about 300 yards from the river; the natural drainage is perfect, the ground sloping away from the front and both sides, the rear being nearly level. It is not necessary to rely on natural drainage, as there is a system of underground sewerage which takes all the waste from the roof, laundry, kitchen, bath tub, water closet and washstands to a safe distance from the house, where it is carried away by a small water course. The kitchen, laundry, bath room and lavatory in the lobby at back stairs are all supplied with hot and cold water.

The kitchen range is set in a recess of the chimney, the smoke pipe going into one flue, while a second acts as a ventilator for the vegetable cellar. A third central flue is directly over the range, and serves as ventilator to the kitchen, carrying all the cooking odors,



FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

steam, and in summer the heat from the house away above the roof. In cold weather this flue can be closed by a sheet iron trap door, controlled by means of a small brass chain and pulley. The sink is supplied with an abundance of hot and cold water, perfect drainage and traps. The door leading from the kitchen to the pantry is hung on a double hinge, which allows it to swing either way. The pantry is fitted with shelves which are closed in with light panel doors, thus keeping canned fruits, etc., in a cool, dark place. Below are bins and drawers for flour and groceries. The parlor is connected with the hall by large, folding doors, which can be thrown open, thus forming a large or double parlor. The windows throughout are fitted with weights and pulleys. The parlor and library have slate mantels, the dining room hardwood mantel. The bath room is



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.

furnished with bath tub, inside water closet and stationary washstand, properly trapped and drained. The entire house is heated by a hot water heater,

located in the cellar, with radiator in all rooms, but open grates are used in the library and dining room, on account of the cheerfulness. The reservoir which supplies the house, barn and garden with water is situated on a hill about 1,000 feet to the rear, giving a fall of 60 feet, and is fed by two springs, water being carried to the house in two-inch iron pipes.—Orange Judd Farmer.

The House Cellar.

Whether you conclude to build a large or small cellar, the advice of a contributor to the Country Gentleman is to dig it shallow, and then make the depth by filling up to the walls. If I were building a house, now, on level land, where it would take a long drain to take the water from the cellar, I would only dig two or three feet deep, and would then plow and scrape and fill up to the wall until I had a uniform grade from a point not more than 100 feet distant, which I would make low enough for an outlet to a drain, up to the house. I doubt if this would cost any more—probably not as much on many soils—than to dig a deep cellar, and it would give the house and yard a much better appearance. It would be best not to fill to the top of the wall, but have two or three steps to get down from the level of the house to the ground, except at the rear, where the coal, wood and water are to be carried in, and here the fill could be made higher, so as to have but one step. I am quite sure that by thus digging shallow and grading a cellar could be secured against water entering possibly without a drain at all, and if a drain was required, a short and inexpensive one would answer.

The Strawberry Guava.

This fruit is one of the best of the guavas and is readily cultivated in Florida, Arizona, New Mexico and California.

The tree or shrub attains a maximum growth of 15 to 20 feet, is of compact form, with dense, glossy, evergreen foliage, which makes it a very ornamental tree, especially when loaded with its rich-colored fruit. Produces early, bearing when a year old and an abundance at 2 to 3 years. It is considered hardy in England, but requires protection in the northern United States, where it is gaining in favor as an ornamental greenhouse plant. The fruit is of a dark red or purplish ruby red color in the common variety, one to two inches in diameter, of firm texture, will stand transportation well and always meets with a ready sale as a fresh fruit or for jelly making.

Protecting Rosebushes.

While the hardy perpetual roses usually endure our winters pretty well, they do not always do so, especially when the wood is not ripened. It is a good plan, says the Philadelphia Press, to prune the new wood rather severely at this time of the year, and to shelter the bushes by sticking evergreen boughs into the ground around them, so as to shelter them from the wind and sun; this is better than trying to cover with earth, which is not easily done and the bushes are stiff. The same sort of covering is also well adapted to rhododendrons and other half-hardy shrubs that are sometimes injured by our winters.

Hints on Stock Feeding.

Buckwheat should not be fed alone to hogs, but mixed with other foods. Bean vines are rich in nitrogenous substances, says the Massachusetts Ploughman. They are especially valuable for sheep. There is no better way to economize food than to make the quarters of the farm animals comfortable. Don't get discouraged, and quit raising stock or grain because they sometimes get low. Profits come to those who stick. It requires just as much care and more feed to make the same weight with comb stock that it does with pure-breds, and the price is never as high for the first as for the last.

The Buff Leghorn.

The buff Leghorn is a comparatively new breed, so new, indeed, that a really good specimen is a rare avian. But you just wait a few years until the breed becomes accustomed to its characteristics, and it will be one of the most profitable, and, consequently, popular fowls named in the standard. Buff Leghorn breeders, like others of the fraternity, claim untold excellence for the new buff. We rather like them.

Lettuce Under Glass.

As briefly stated by Prof. L. H. Bailey, the requisites for growing celery under glass are a low temperature, solid beds, or at least, no bottom heat, a soil free of silt and clay, but liberally supplied with sand, and careful attention to watering. Rot and leaf burn are prevented by a proper soil and temperature and care in watering and ventilation.

Feed More Oats.

Prof. Plumb, of the Indiana experiment station, has issued a bulletin in which he advises farmers to feed more oats, rather than sell them at a low price and buy bran at 70 cents per 100 pounds.

EDUCATIONAL COLUMN.

NOTES ABOUT SCHOOLS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT.

A System of Physical Education Necessary—The Schoolmaster is Acquiring Ground Everywhere—Wages of Teachers in Scotland.

What is Delsarte?

Before answering this question, let us consider for a moment who was Delsarte. He was a Frenchman, born in Paris in 1811, in extreme poverty. Bambi, discovering his genius as a musician, took him and gave him lessons. He soon became the first singer of Paris. His early association with children was one of the causes which led him in later life to study them and humanity in general, to understand the philosophy of expression. His greatest discovery was that the soul, in its covering of flesh, called the body, moves to universal law; that it is restricted by three conditions, viz., space, time, and motion; i. e., to have expression we must have motion; that we must have space in which to produce that motion, and time in which to produce it; that the motive power is the psychic, or soul, within us. He noticed that the infant was the embodiment of grace; but, as it grew older, it became more or less awkward, caused partly by consciousness of self. As the body is only the servant of the soul within—the soul being spiritual and the body tangible—the channels of communication, the muscles, must be free that the soul may have perfect freedom in expressing itself through its medium, the body. These muscles must be strong and healthy to be fortified against disease. For these purposes, Delsarte arranged relaxing and freeing exercises.

Delsarte, then, is a system of physical education by which the body may reach its highest development.

Many people suffer ill health because they allow themselves to stand incorrectly and breathe incorrectly. How can you be healthy with some organs cramped, others stretched, with but half the lungs filled? With the body in correct equilibrium, the internal organs have their natural position; but with the chest lowered and hips forward, these organs have to adapt themselves accordingly. Your bad habits do not improve nature. Man may assist nature in many ways, but her wisdom surpasses his. When standing incorrectly and breathing with the chest muscles and shoulders, only the upper part of the lungs can be supplied with oxygen, while the lower part has no room for inflation, and consequently becomes diseased. The exterior can but affect the interior.

Delsarte takes you back to nature. Your wanderings from nature's heart have led you into the wilderness of disease, where you may be lost, and may never see Canaan, even from Pisgah's top.

Health and development should go hand in hand. Delsarte accomplishes this if taught correctly. Physical culture should be taken for health's sake and not for show or abnormal development.

There is something more the American people especially need, and that is control. You may be able to take heavy gymnastic work and not have control. Control may be best and most easily gained by the simplest exercises. What is the secret of all control? Control of breath, which leads to control of nerves, which is control of body. Every physical effort is first a mental one; therefore, all correct physical development must first be through the mental. Exercises for control lead to grace. Some people object to many Delsarte exercises leading to grace, because they see no need of them—too ethereal; not practical enough. Awkwardness is not practical, because it is a needless expenditure of energy. The practical deals with economy; therefore, grace, being economical, is practical. The great trouble lies in not knowing what Delsarte really is.

Not the least of all the benefits to be gained is learning power through repose. We wish to rest, but frequently wake as tired as when we lay down. We wish to do the most things with the least amount of strength. As it is, we are rushing headlong to our graves, heedless of our duty to nature and to ourselves. Does it surprise you when I say you use energy in sleeping and in sitting? You wonder why you are wakeful. If tired and abused nature conquers enough for you to lose consciousness for awhile, you awaken as weary as when you lay down. Why? Notice to see if your muscles are not tense. You are not giving them a chance to rest. Tenseness is a waste of energy. Reserve your energies! There are women who think it an unpardonable sin to sit in the kitchen. Women of the nineteenth century, stop for a moment, and see what a slave you are becoming to yourself. It is not selfishness to consider your own health.

Let us take pleasure in living; make life longer, more happy for others, more pleasant for self.—Western School Journal.

Hints on Teaching Geography.

Among the so-called common branches no other one seems to be receiving so much attention from persons inter-

ested in education as geography. There is a widespread feeling that this subject is not generally taught in such a way as to be either interesting or fruitful. Now, we are thoroughly convinced that no subject of school study is better calculated to awaken deep interest in the pupils and to bear fruit than this, if it be rightly taught. One reason is that it deals with things so intimately connected with daily life, even from the earliest years. Another is that it furnishes the mind with vivid pictures more readily than any other of the common studies.

He who teaches geography well must never lose sight of the two thoughts just suggested. In any stage of the study, whatever is brought before the pupil for his consideration and acquisition, must be set in its relation to man—to his pleasure, his comfort, his progress, and the supplying of his wants. As Prof. Guyot pointed out years ago, geography includes a knowledge of the earth and man—that is, in its relation to each other. Now, it is the easiest thing in the world to get a child, in his early years, to see and to feel some of the most important of these relations. He walks upon the earth from the first; he notes the features of land and water, he feels the effect of the weather and of the seasons, he sees the development of plant life and animal life. He is also born into the political, economic, and social relations of which geography takes account. Hence, from start to finish, if the right course be taken with him, the pupil is vividly conscious of a personal relation to the matter of his study. Such a consciousness is sure to beget an abiding interest, such as Herbert so persistently pleads for.—Educational News.

Mighty Is the Schoolmaster.

Bishop Spalding's diversion against the employment of women teachers in the schools attracted so much attention that some recent statistics on the subject may not be uninteresting.

A few weeks ago Harper's Weekly published a map showing the proportion of men teachers in the public schools of all the States. In the following table we have compared the Weekly's figures with the statistics on illiteracy:

States.	Percentage of Men Teachers.	Percentage of Illiterate Population.
Alabama	62.9	41.0
Arizona	30.8	23.4
Arkansas	38.5	29.8
California	21.4	4.5
Colorado	29.2	4.8
Connecticut	33.4	5.1
Delaware	31.0	7.4
Florida	48.1	11.3
Georgia	33.3	39.8
Idaho	33.4	5.1
Illinois	28.7	5.2
Indiana	51.1	6.3
Iowa	19.5	3.6
Kansas	51.9	4.9
Kentucky	48.9	21.6
Louisiana	41.4	45.8
Maine	16.0	5.5
Maryland	29.6	15.7
Massachusetts	9.5	6.2
Michigan	21.6	5.9
Minnesota	22.6	6.9
Mississippi	46.6	40.9
Missouri	42.8	9.1
Montana	19.1	5.5
Nebraska	27.1	3.1
Nevada	16.3	12.6
New Hampshire	9.7	6.8
New Jersey	18.4	6.5
New York	16.8	5.5
North Carolina	56.8	35.7
North Dakota	28.3	6.0
Ohio	42.1	5.2
Oregon	40.1	4.1
Pennsylvania	32.8	6.8
Rhode Island	12.0	9.8
South Carolina	47.2	45.0
South Dakota	29.0	4.2
Tennessee	61.5	26.6
Texas	58.1	19.7
Utah	47.4	5.6
Vermont	12.2	0.7
Virginia	39.2	30.2
Washington	40.5	4.3
West Virginia	61.8	13.0
Wisconsin	18.8	8.7
Wyoming	21.5	6.4

The nine States in which the percentage of men teachers is over 50 have an average percentage of illiteracy of 26.4. The twelve States in which the percentage of men teachers is under 20 show an illiteracy of less than 7 per cent.

Of course this is not an infallible argument in favor of women as teachers. But it proves, generally, that in the States of the Union where popular education has the firmest hold and where it is most widely diffused women are held in the greatest esteem as educators. Still more remarkable are the Weekly's figures of the decrease of the number of men teachers between 1880 and 1890. The schoolmaster is acquiring ground everywhere. The doctors may lament and the bishops denounce, but she is here to stay.—Chicago Times Herald.

Some Points Worth Noticing.

Are the pupils getting the power of doing things?
Have the pupils acquired the power to think?
Does the teacher put the class in a questioning mood?
How do you feel on entering a successful teacher's school room?
Do you detect the teacher's manner, face, and voice in the pupils? Is the teacher worthy of imitation?
Does the teacher correlate the child and the world?
Does the teacher unite and co-ordinate allied subjects?
Good appreciation makes a good school and maintains good discipline.
Concentration and induction are links and connections in the great chain of appreciation by which the mind is led to see.
Interest, induction, and apperception develop will power.
Is your thought content too high for the pupil? If so, you will fail to reach the whole class.
Is the theme too high for the children? If so, you will fail again.
Is the language too difficult for the children? If so, another failure.
When you are capable of holding attention, you are capable of having good discipline.
Are you too slow in confirming the child's opinion when it is correct?
A gabbling tongue runs twenty miles an hour, while his brain runs but one.—Southern Educational Journal.