

WOMAN AND HOME.

CURRENT READING FOR THE DAMES AND THE DAMSELS.

Woven Horse Hair for Fall and Winter Hats—Hutings of Odd Weave—A Late French Creation—Hints for the Household.

OVEN HORSE hair remains a rage for hats and will figure largely in the millinery notions for early fall. Black horse hair chapeaus are trimmed elegantly with rhinestone buckles and a single perky up-dare of flowers. Such a hat will be quite the thing for early town use. In many cases the trimming is very simple, but in the hat of this material that the artist presents here the trimming is abundant. First there is in front a large Louis XV. bow made of rose pink ribbon overlaid with black guipure



whose fancy edges extend beyond the ribbon. This bow has double loops on each side that droop over black ribbon arranged in puffs on the brim. In front a few Malmaison roses with buds and foliage show.

Suttings of Odd Weave. In replacing silks in large degree, as suitings will in fashionable fall dressing, the latter weaves will include novel goods, which are doubtless designed to make women pleased with the change from more showy stuffs. One of these novelty suitings is employed in the costume sketched herewith and is a handsome green, figured



with pink rosebuds. The bodice is cut with fitted black and front, fastens at the side, and is trimmed with a draped berthia of black lace. This berthia is draped with green ribbons, and two ribbon straps extend from the center of the front to the side seams. The skirt is untripped, and a black felt hat is worn that is trimmed with green velvet ribbons and small sprays of foliage.

Mourning Attire. Whether or not one shall wear mourning is a question that depends

entirely upon personal ideas and prejudices. A great many families do not approve of it, and under no circumstances would they appear in somber garments heavily trimmed with crape. It is said, in defense of this custom, that it saves comment and question; but this, as a rule, amounts to very little as a reason. One's friends are likely to know of illness and death, and it is thought somewhat ostentatious to advertise by deep mourning the fact that one has met with the loss of a near relative. In such occurrences strangers are not supposed to have any interest, therefore the evident superfluity of mourning so far as the public are concerned. It certainly can make very little difference in one's grief what the attire may be, and it is an unquestioned fact that too much time and money are spent on the preparation of mourning dresses for such occasions. The only apology for this can be that it furnishes the bereaved ones with a much needed diversion. This, however, would be much better if taken in another way. But the fact remains that mourning dresses and crape are worn by many people, especially by the English, who to an extent seem to set the pace for the

way, treats them well or finds any pleasure in their society is in love with them. It is just as well not to imagine that love exists until there is some very positive evidence of it. If young girls would take this view of the case they would save themselves and everybody else a great deal of trouble.



French milliner, its beauty is unquestionable and is an adorable adjunct to a natty traveling costume. The illustration shows the hat in question. It flares broadly at the sides and has a soft little puff all about the edge. The crown is finished in the same manner. Directly in front rests an immense chou, with two massive loops sticking out at both sides, giving a wonderfully broad effect to the affair. The hat pins are two rhinestone balls, the only bit of adornment about the chapeau. The bodice of the frock also caught my eye, from its decided oddity. It fitted the form snugly to the waist, and was cut with the broad back pieces so in vogue; from the waist it flared out in smart

box plaits, showing a lining of vivid scarlet silk. A broad folded belt of tan satin encircled the waist and fastened with two tiny gold clasps in front.



Mini Sherbet. Put one pound of sugar and one quart of water on to boil. Boil five minutes. Pound the leaves from a good-sized bunch of mint; add them to the boiling sirup, and when cool, strain. Add juice of two lemons, and sufficient green coloring to make a delicate green. Freeze.

DAIRY AND POULTRY.

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

How Successful Farmers Operate This Department of the Farm—A Few Hints as to the Care of Live Stock and Poultry.

Building silos cheapness of construction does not interfere with usefulness if the one essential, making the walls air-tight, is attended to. As evidence of this we quote the following description of the silos of the well known dairyman John Gould of Ohio as given by L. S. Hardin in Home and Farm:

Mr. Gould rather favors building the silo in the barn, as that saves a roof and gives outside protection, the silo being merely a big box. The room taken up supplies so much more feed than the same space occupied by the hay that the apparent loss is a real gain. Here not stone foundation is needed. All that is required is to dig a trench the size of the silo, large enough to receive a 10-inch square sill and bed it in mortar underneath and on the sides to firm it. Set up the 2x6 inch studding 18 inches apart from center to center and line up on the inside with inch lumber 10 inches wide, cross-locked at the corner and so securely that it will be impossible to pull it apart. Cover on the inside of the first lining, with cheap tinned paper, then run on another layer of the same kind of lumber; put it on with a half lap, so as to break the joint in the first layer and nail well with 10-penny wire nails. To make sure that the corners are tight have a 2x3-inch scantling sawed through cornerwise and nail these into the corners with a backing of paper well painted with gas tar. The silage is taken out with small doors unninged, set in from inside. The pressure of the silage holds them securely in place, and these are taken out one by one as the feeding of the silage progresses. When the walls of the silo are finished and painted with a paint made of 3 quarts of gas tar and 2 quarts of gasoline well mixed—taking care that no fire comes near it in mixing or applying—the floor may be made by drawing the soil from the center of the silo up to and pounding down against the side walls until the floor is in the form of a kettle. Wetted when pounded, and of clay, this makes one of the best floors. Mr. Gould has two silos of this kind built eight years ago, holding 200 tons of silage that did not cost \$100. He uses no coverings or weight to the silage, but when the heat begins to appear he scatters evenly over the top of silage 10 or 15 pails of water, which causes an air-tight mold to form, which answers every purpose and he says causes the waste of less than a wagon bed full of silage. Surely any farmer could make such a silo as here described at less than \$50 apiece, of 100-ton capacity; this would be 7 or 8 acres of corn fodder per silo.

Keeping Off Lice. M. W. Nelhart, of Nebraska City, gives the following in the Nebraska Farmer as his method of keeping his poultry house free from lice:

"My chicken houses all contain earth floors. I drive stakes in the ground for roosts to rest on, bore holes through roost pole (which is a 2x4 ripped in two, making a pole 2x2), and into top of stakes allowing a wire spike to go through roost and into the stake. This will hold the roost in place. "Don't allow the roosts to touch your building anywhere. I leave these stakes about two feet high. Now you know full well that these mites always leave the chicken towards the dawn of morning and remain on the roost and in the building until evening, when they again attack the fowls as they settle down to rest. Results you know and I need not repeat them, but will say that these blood suckers are the direct cause of bringing into the flocks of our land what is commonly called cholera. Out of hundreds of cases of supposed cholera examined by myself I have yet to find my first of this dreaded disease."

"But to turn to our subject. Now all you have to do is pick up your roost, take it outside (for convenience), have a common machine oil can filled with gasoline and saturate pole completely, also go inside and run some on top and down the stakes. Repeat this a few times and you will completely destroy those mischief makers. Your house is no doubt overrun with these mites, but only doctor your roosts and you will have them exterminated."

Shorthorns vs. Scrubs.—A shorthorn steer properly cared for can be made to weigh 1,500 pounds in three years, while a scrub will require five years to secure 1,200 pounds, and as a result the shorthorn gains 500 pounds annually and the scrub 240 pounds annually. Estimating shorthorns at 5 1/2 cents a pound, the gain is annually \$26.25, and estimating the scrub at 4 1/2 cents a pound, the gain is annually \$10.80, or \$15.45 gain in favor of the shorthorn. But let us note how the case stands with both at the end of the year. I have stated that the shorthorn gains 500 pounds a year, hence in the three years it weighs 1,500 pounds and is worth \$78.75; the scrub gains 240 pounds a year, and in three years weighs 720 pounds and is worth \$30.60, hence the difference in the value of the steers at the expiration of three years is \$48.15 in favor of the shorthorn. In other words, the shorthorn at the expiration of three years is worth twice as much as the scrub and \$17.55 over.—Robert Mitchell.

Life of the Horse.—Speaking on the subject of the longevity of the horse a writer in one of our Boston exchanges says: "The natural life of a horse must depend partly on its breeding, but quite as much on the kind of work it is set to do. An animal never driven fast and thus strained or injured by hard roads will last to 25 years and do good service. But if driven hard on stone or asphalt roadbeds its feet will give out and the animal will soon become worthless. Eli Wakelee of Ansonia, Conn., has a team of horses 34 and 35 years old which are yet in good condition and do good work. He had their photograph taken recently, and will hang it in his parlor. Mr. Wakelee has worked this team in double harness all spring and summer, plowing, dragging and mowing with them, and they are yet in prime condition, sleek and glossy as most horses that are young. He has worked them more than twenty-five years, and it is evident that the team has never been misused."

Egg Production. A writer on poultry topics, A. M. Halstead, says:

Some years since a tabulated statement went the rounds of the press, showing that a hen could not possibly lay more than 600 eggs in her natural life. The number was parceled out as follows: The first year after birth, 15 to 20; second year, 100 to 120; third year, 120 to 135; fourth year, 100 to 115; fifth year, 60 to 80; sixth year, 50 to 60; seventh year, 35 to 40; eighth year, 15 to 20. This table was assumed and based upon a microscopic investigation of the ovarium of a hen, by some

European savant. For once, science was wrong. Recently a number of persons have kept careful count and have found an egg production of nearly 1,000, during the eight or nine years of a hen's life. I, myself, have had a yield of over 850 eggs per hen in two years, averaging 175 yearly from a flock of Crevecoeurs, and my Brown Leghorns yearly exceed that record. Two years since, from a flock of 61 hens at first, of which two died in February and March, and 34 were killed for the table prior to July, I gathered between January 1 and September 1, 6,257 eggs. Taking 43 as the average number of hens through the season, this gives an average of 145 eggs per hen per season of eight months. Of these 61 hens 25 were Brown Leghorns, 6 Light Brahmas, 4 Plymouth Rocks, and the rest were crosses and mongrels. Had the flock been all Leghorns I have no doubt but that the average would have been fully 175 eggs per hen.

This production of eggs may be forced by suitable feeding, and, in breeding for profit, it should be done. Assuming the table given above to be correct, in proportion of the eggs laid at certain ages of the fowl, it follows that to get the full value of the egg production we must keep hens until the fourth year. If, by proper feeding and attention, we can cause her to lay three-fourths or more of that possible number during the first two years, we can then fatten her for market, and fill her place in the yard by younger process. It is folly to feed and keep a hen for four years, when the bulk of her product may be obtained from her in half that time. I should, therefore, advise fitting her for market, as soon as she has finished the best of her second season's laying, which is usually about June. The cocks may be kept till three years old, if desired, but usually two years will be found the most profitable age to market them. In the "old time" it was a good flock of hens that averaged 50 eggs per annum. Now, an average of 100 is esteemed a low figure, 150 per head being considered the necessary number to entitle a flock to be called good layers. We frequently hear of instances where an average of 200 and upwards have been produced by small-sized flocks, but these are exceptions to the rule.

Danger from Milk. The Massachusetts society for the promotion of agriculture has recently published in book form the results of its thorough investigation as to the infectiousness of milk from tuberculous cows. The object was to determine, especially, whether the infectious element of tuberculosis ever existed in milk from tuberculous cows whose udders are apparently healthy. Some of the results, briefly, are as follows: Eighty-eight guinea pigs were inoculated with milk from 15 cows; tuberculosis was found in twelve of these pigs, after using milk from six different cows. Ninety-five rabbits were inoculated, and six of them found with tuberculosis. Milk of tuberculous cows was fed to 48 rabbits, and two showed tuberculosis. Twelve pigs were fed on the milk and five produced positive results, with suspicion in two others. Twenty-one calves produced eight with tuberculosis. Circular letters were sent out to physicians and veterinary surgeons, asking whether they had ever seen a case of tuberculosis that could be traced to the milk supply. Answers were received from 991, of which 58 had seen or suspected the existence of such cases. This is less than 6 per cent, which the trustees regard as remarkably small. The conclusions of the report are as follows:

1. While the transmission of tuberculosis by milk is probably not the most important means by which the disease is propagated, it is something to be guarded against most carefully.

2. The possibility of milk from tuberculous udders containing the infectious element is undeniable.

3. With the evidence here presented, it is equally undeniable that milk from diseased cows with no appreciable lesion of the udder may, and not infrequently does, contain the bacillus of the disease.

4. Therefore all such milk should be condemned for food.

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