

## For the Hostess

Chat on Topics of Many Kinds, by a  
Recognized Authority

**Amusements for Summer Parties.**  
This is the season of outdoor entertainments, for most of our readers, if not sojourners by the sea or on the mountain top, may arrange for novel entertainments in the open air by utilizing what is near—the parks, the reaches of inland lake or rivers, the shady lawn of the home place or some adjacent country side reached by the ever-present trolley car.

A fagot party is not new, but this way of conducting one has new features: A circle of pine trees was the setting for a little fireplace made of stones, on which paper and dry twigs were ready to be touched off.

Each guest was presented with a bundle of fagots to which was attached a number; a duplicate number was given out. The hostess requested the guest who drew No. 1 to look at the fagots; if he had No. 1 the bundle was laid on the blaze, and he had to tell a story, sing a song or dance a jig while the fagots burned. It really was another way of conducting a "stunt" party. One guest recited some clever negro dialect, bits she had collected while in the south; a man gave some college stories; a sweet singer rendered some Hawaiian love songs which she learned from the natives while on the island. The result was very good. There were 12 guests and 12 bundles of fagots burned underneath the tall pines. Refreshments were served on the inclosed porch of the summer cottage. A candle was at each plate held by a drop of melted wax onto a wooden picnic plate; by it was a wooden skewer; with it marshmallows were toasted over the candle and eaten with ice cream and small cakes. There was impromptu singing of college songs to the accompaniment of the hostess's guitar. All the girls wore tub suits and the men came with negligee shirts with duck or flannel trousers and serge coats.

### "In Darkest Africa."

A club of 14 young girls has chosen "Africa" for their study next year; with this in mind, the president is to give a luncheon having decorations and symbols pertaining to the "dark continent."

The table centerpiece is to be unique, having three black dolls, each with a pennant bearing the words "De-lighted." Toy lions, monkeys and tigers will be the favors, and the place cards are in shape of pyramids and sphinxes, or wicks a miniature figure is scanning the horizon with a spyglass. Every one shouts "Roosevelt."

Then there will be cablegrams, postcards and letters brought in at intervals during the luncheon addressed to

the various members assigning them their special topic for the year's work.

The Egyptian flag is to be on each missive in lieu of a stamp.  
A friend of the hostess who has lived in Africa for eight years will be an honored guest and will make the affair most interesting by her account of life on an ostrich farm and her experiences with native servants.

**A Progressive Picnic.**  
The guests were children from eight to ten; the hostess was a favored lass, who went to the country every summer. A regular hay-rack wagon met them at the station; it had boards across the side so no one could spill out and was gayly decorated with sunflowers, boughs of trees and cattails.

The unique feature of this picnic was in the serving of refreshments. Each child was given a wooden plate and a paper napkin. Then over the grounds were interesting booths, shaded by large green and white umbrellas. They were also placarded No. 1, No. 2, etc. There was a grown person to lead at the head of the procession. The first stop was No. 1, which proved to be "lemonade," with a big porcelain cup for each child. No. 2 was sandwiches, cold meats, potato salad and olives. Here the guests sat in a semi-circle on a big rug. Then they progressed to No. 3 and had ice cream; then to No. 4, where the booth had bonbons and fruit. No. 5 had piles of little bags, and was the starting point for a peanut; some were gilded, some silvered, and some tied with blue ribbon. The gold nuts scored 20, silver 10 and blue ribbons were 5. The one who had the highest score won a prize, the next highest and the lowest also had rewards. Altogether it was a most successful affair.

### For a Cinderella Dance.

The Cinderella club is an organization of some 20 couples, their one law being to close all festivities at midnight promptly. Each session they give a dance to which two guests may be bidden by each couple. The invitations are always issued on slipper-shaped cards, the table centerpiece is formed of a white slipper filled with flowers, placecards are slipper-shaped and sometimes if the "German" is danced a figure is worked out bringing in the magic pumpkin coach, candy mice favors, fairy wands, etc. At 12 o'clock a gong clangs out the strokes very slowly and the lights are extinguished.

MADAME MERRI.

Never were linen suits more popular than now.

# KENTUCKY'S PROGRESS IN FOREST PRESERVATION



LOG BEING HAULED TO RAILROAD  
NEAR WIND CAVE, KY

Kentucky, which is one of the chief hardwood producing states in the union, and the first state in the production of yellow poplar, is making good progress in the movement for the preservation of its forests. In 1908 the legislature enacted the law providing for the state board of agriculture, forestry and immigration. During the following winter the board asked and received the co-operation of the United States Forest Service in a study of the forest conditions of the state. This work was begun two years ago and an examination of half the area of forest land in the state has been completed. The result of the first year's work, covering the 11 most eastern counties of the state is published in the Kentucky handbook, 1906-1907. The second report, now in the hands of the state board of agriculture, covers 48 counties, in the coal mining regions of the state. When this investigation is completed Kentucky will have an excellent inventory of its lumber resources.

The manner in which the forestry problem has been approached indicates that the people of the state realize that the ultimate solution of the impending timber scarcity must, for the farmer, depend largely on how he handles his individual timber resources, and that there is no better way than for him to consider the wood lot as a bank account, using the interest which is constantly accruing, but leaving the capital undiminished. Much educational work, however, will be needed to secure this desirable end.

The second report of the Forest Service suggests a forest law. Among its most important features is a provision for the appointment of a state forester. The wisdom of this is evident since only by the appointment of a state forester can the work in co-operation with Forest Service be maintained and carried to a successful conclusion. Until such time, however, as the state of Kentucky is ready to assume the management of its own forest problems, the National Service is willing and anxious to co-operate in every way possible for the furtherance of forestry among private owners in Kentucky. In the co-operative investigations of forest resources now in progress, the government spent over \$4,000 to duplicate a similar amount appropriated by the state.

Kentucky has always been rich in forest resources, but like many other states has reached the point where the timber will hereafter be produced on a continually decreasing scale, and it is necessary to protect and use carefully the forests which remain.

In 1899 Kentucky cut 734,000,000 board feet of hardwood lumber. In 1907 the cut was 854,903,000 board feet, an increase of only 16 per cent. In the nine years. In the same period the cut of yellow poplar has fallen off over 20 per cent. During the same time the prices of lumber at the mill have advanced on an average of 65 per cent., and the demand has increased accordingly.

The forest of the United States is threatened by many enemies, of which fire and reckless lumbering are the worst. Sheep grazing and wind come next. Cattle and horses do much less damage than sheep, and snow break is less costly than windfall. Landslides, floods, insects, and fungi are sometimes very harmful. In certain situations numbers of trees are killed

by lightning, which has also been known to set the woods on fire, and the forest is attacked in many other ways. For example, birds and squirrels often prevent young growth by devouring great quantities of nuts and other seeds, while porcupines and mice frequently kill young trees by gnawing away their bark.

Most of these foes may be called natural enemies, for they would injure the forest to a greater or less extent if the action of man were altogether removed. Wild animals would take the place of domestic sheep and cattle to some degree, and fire, wind, and insects would still attack the forest. But many of the most serious dangers to the forest are of human origin. Such are destructive lumbering, and excessive taxation on forest lands, to which much bad lumbering is directly due. So high are these taxes in some states for in many cases they amount to 5 or even 6 per cent. yearly on the market value of the forests, that the owners cannot afford to pay them and hold their lands. Consequently they are forced to cut or sell their timber in haste and without regard to the future. When the timber is gone the owners refuse to pay taxes any longer, and the devastated lands revert to the state. Many thousand square miles of forest have been ruined by reckless lumbering because heavy taxes forced the owners to realize quickly and once for all upon their forest land, instead of cutting it in a way to insure valuable future crops. For the same reason many countries are now poor that might otherwise have been flourishing and rich.

**Trains Ducks to Eat Pests.**  
Joseph Junette, who farms one of the job ranches on the Alton bluffs, is enjoying an income of \$15 a day from 15 ducks which he trained to clear potato patches of bugs. He put the ducks in a pen and fed them on potato bugs exclusively after starving them until they were glad to get the bug diet.

Junette tried them first on his own patch, which comprised several acres. The ducks went through the patch like neighborhood scandal. After the performance Junette shut up his brigade in the bug pen so they would not acquire a taste for other diet.

The ducks are in great demand on the farms in Junette's neighborhood. Farmers are glad to pay \$1.50 an hour for the services of the brigade.—Chicago Record-Herald.

**Silence Got on Her Nerves.**  
In the silence room of one of the big New York department stores a woman visitor from out of town was deposited for recuperation of her tired nerves and muscles and deserted by her hostess. The unaccustomed darkness and stillness among so many women first surprised and then made her uncomfortable. After having sat out her growing restlessness as long as she could she turned to the glum visaged attendant and asked in a subdued but strained voice: "My, how do you stand it?"

"I can't hardly," said the other, with evident relief at the sound of her own whisper. "It gets on my nerves. I'm sick to death of it. I wish I could get another job."

**Corn the Greatest of American Crops.**  
Corn is our greatest crop, that of 1908 being valued at \$1,616,000,000.

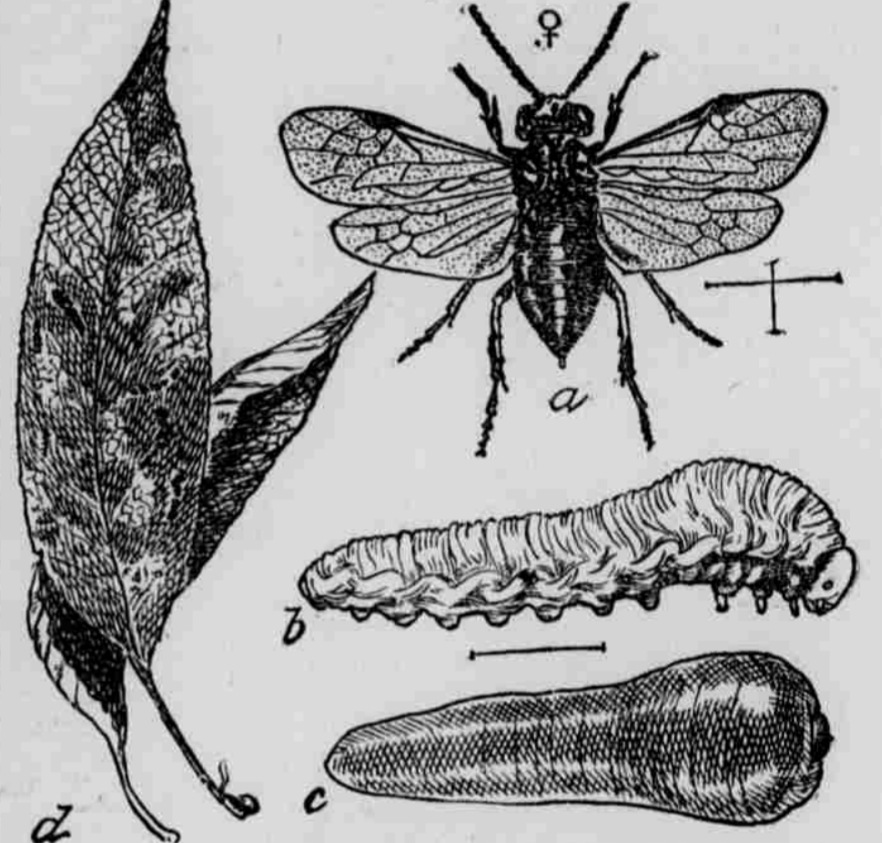
## IMMENSE AMOUNT DAMAGE DONE BY PEAR SLUG

Leaves of Cherry and Pear Trees Attacked by this Insect in Iowa and Plant Is Often Left Entirely Bare.

Last summer many cherry trees in various parts of Iowa were stripped of their leaves by a dull slimy slug. Pear trees also are attacked by this pest, perhaps even more than cherry trees, hence the common name of the insect. This slug feeds on the upper surface of the leaves, not eating holes through them, but taking only the upper portion and leaving the veins bare. Leaves thus eaten by the slugs dry and fall from the tree and frequently leave the trees entirely bare of foliage.

In Iowa these slugs appear twice during the season. The first brood appears in June and the slugs become full grown early in July, while

senate of lead, 2 or 3 pounds to 50 gallons of water, will do the work even better than paris green, and is preferable where it can be obtained easily. Hellebore, applied dry, or in a small quantity of water, is also very effective in killing the slugs.



A Pear Slug Enlarged.  
a, adult saw-fly, female; b, slug with slime removed; c, slug in normal state; d, leaves with slugs, natural size; a, b, c, much enlarged.

the second brood comes on during the month of August. It would be best, then, to kill off the slugs when they first appear in June, and so prevent the defoliation of the trees by the second brood in August.

When the slugs first appear on the leaves the trees should be given a thorough treatment with paris green or some other arsenical poison. Since the slugs feed openly on the upper sides of the leaves there need be little difficulty in combatting them. For only a few trees the paris green may be applied dry, mixed with air slaked lime, or even flour; 1 part of the paris green to 20 or more parts of the other material. For a liquid spray, paris green at the rate of 1-3 or 1-4 pound to 50 gallons of water will do the work, adding about a pound of quicklime to each barrel of water to prevent any burning of the leaves. Ar-

goes into the ground. Here it forms a cell in the earth, within which it changes to the pupa, or resting stage, and the adult fly emerges in about 12 to 15 days after the slug has entered the soil.

The flies which lay the eggs for the next brood of slugs are rather small black insects, about a fifth of an inch long and with four wings. The eggs are laid in tiny pockets made by the flies in the under sides of the leaves. These eggs hatch and the second brood of the slugs work on the trees during August and when they become full grown go to the ground. During the winter the slugs of this second brood may be found in their cells beneath the trees which were infested by them in the summer time. The pear, cherry, plum and quince are the trees which are most attacked by these slugs.

### SILAGE PROPERLY HANDLED HELPFUL

Incorrectly Put Up and Fed It May Be Expensive.

Silos have been abandoned in many cases because the milk became so badly tainted as to become unsalable. If the creameries and cheese factories were as particular as they should be they would condemn a great deal of milk that is now accepted from silage-fed herds.

This is not the fault of the silage; it is the fault of the man who handles it. Silage has a very penetrative odor, which is taken up very quickly by milk. If silage is fed before milking the milk is quite certain to become tainted. If the milk is allowed to stand a few minutes in the barn after milking and silage is fed while the cans are standing around, the milk will be tainted.

If the stable is not ventilated or is poorly ventilated the silage odors will linger in the stable and taint the milk. In an unventilated stable the stable itself will in time become saturated or permeated with the silage odor and will taint the milk, no matter how the silage is handled.

The corn is frequently cut into the silo too green, which makes very sour silage, with a strong odor. The silage is frequently carelessly handled in the stable; it is scattered through the alleys and allowed to remain on the floors. In such instances the stable will be scented with the silage and the milk will be tainted.

If good results are expected from silage it must be properly handled in the stable. First, silage must be fed only after milking. Second, the floors must be kept clean and no silage allowed to accumulate in the alleys.

Third, there should not be more silage fed than the stock will clear up at once. Fourth, the stable must be well ventilated. Fifth, corn should not be cut in too green. Sixth, don't feed moldy silage.

From the foregoing it will be seen that silage must be more carefully handled than ordinary roughage. One cannot throw silage around as he might straw or hay and get satisfactory results.

Silage properly put up and properly fed is a very cheap and most economical feed.—Prof. G. V. Knapp.

### SOIL BENEFITED BY ALFALFA CROP

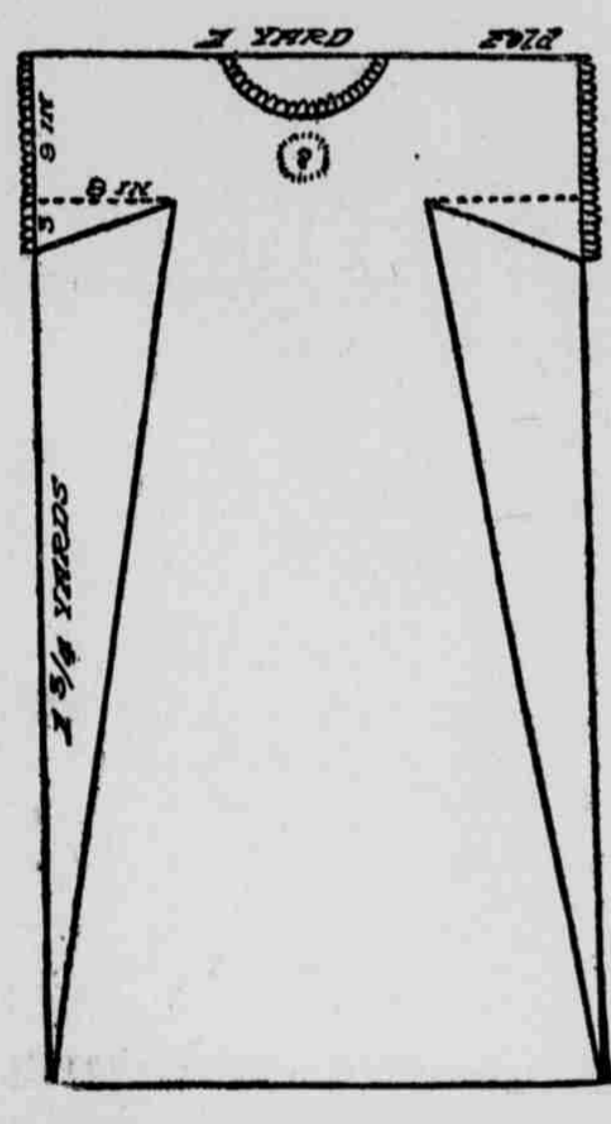
Three or Four Cuttings During Season Enriches It.

When a plant furnishes an abundant crop, such as alfalfa, with three or four cutting during a single season, it is but natural to think that it will greatly exhaust the soil. Nothing is more erroneous. Instead of taking strength away from the soil it puts more into it; instead of exhausting it, the fertility is increased. The penetrating powers of alfalfa roots are well known. The roots are constantly growing and decaying, thus adding to the "humus" of the soil. The strongest point in favor of alfalfa as a soil improver is its remarkable nitrogen gathering ability. The roots of alfalfa are full of the small nitrogen tubercles which represent bottled up vitality to plant life and it has been proven by frequent experiments that increased yields were the rule when plantings of any kind of crops had been made on ground infected with nitrogen bacteria.

Under these circumstances the "spread of alfalfa fever" is no wonder. With splendid crops of highest priced hay on top of the ground, with the roots working as perfectly natural fertilizers under the ground, farmers can do nothing better than to plant alfalfa. The truth of this statement may be realized and verified if one but takes time to look up statistics and reads about the marvelous increase in the acreage of alfalfa. In Kansas alone the acres sown to alfalfa increased from approximately 35,000 acres in 1891 to more than 743,000 acres in 1907. It is safe to say that since then the acreage has increased in proportion, and other states are falling in line.—A. Krumh.

**There is Profit in Sage.**  
Twenty-five cents' worth of sage seed will furnish about 1,000 plants. Enough sage can be picked the first year to pay for all the labor of sowing and picking the sage. Early in the spring the plants should be removed, set in rows three feet apart one way and half that distance the other. If the plants are planted in good soil and properly cultivated they can be picked three times each year for several years.

## One-Piece Nightdress



ONE piece slip-over nightdress is easily made and laundered. Measure from shoulder to floor and add your hem. For the model it takes 3 1/4 yards. Fold cloth in middle, running halves together to hold securely. Find middle point of this fold and lay a dinner plate on the cloth so that the center of it comes over this point. Mark around the edge of plate and cut out to make neck of gown. On the edges of the cloth measure down nine inches from the fold, then eight inches in from this point, for the place where the kimono sleeve joins the body. From this point cut through both thicknesses of cloth diagonally to the raw edge. Also cut a diagonal line to the selvage, at a point just one foot from the fold, to make the sleeve. The long triangular piece that has been cut out must now be stitched together along their selvage edges, turned upside down, and set into the body of the gown under the arms, to give an added fullness to the skirt. I have just finished one, using 40-inch muslin, taking up two tucks on each shoulder three-quarters of an inch deep and stitched them down front and back five inches. I had fullness enough without inserting the triangular pieces. I used heading at neck, but this foundation is capable of either simple or elaborate treatment. Embroider a scallop at neck and bottom of sleeves or finish with Hamburg. This gown is very pretty on. The shoulders can be reinforced by cutting a circular piece a little larger than the dinner plate and feather-stitching in to form a yoke which also makes the edge to be embroidered stronger.—Boston Globe.