

FARM AND GARDEN

SECURING FARM ICE SUPPLY

Frozen Chunks as Workable as Wood and Can Easily Be Cut Into Any Size Desired.

Ice is as workable as wood, so can be either split or sawed into desirable sections for handling and storing. Commercial ice making is generally carried on with an eye single to rapidity, rather than accuracy in cake dimensions, so the ice plow is used and the cakes split off, thus leaving the under side of each cake irregular, making close storage impossible. The slower and better process for the farmer is the ice saw, or, in lieu of this, the common cross-cut saw, which is found on nearly all farms, writes E. L. Keasey, in Orange Judd Farmer. Lake or pond ice has the preference over river ice, due to the fact that there is no current beneath. Pond ice freezes thicker, is less liable to contain air bubbles, meaning clearer and more uniform cakes, which in itself insures longevity to the stored product.

Avoid slush or snow ice as much as possible. Watch for those several days of continuous hard freezing, then tap the ice field at its best. Six-inch ice is, of course, good, but 18-inch is better, as the thicker the cake the better its keeping quality. Clear the field of snow, and with either line or straight edge mark off the cakes to



Exterior of Ice House.

be cut, using any sharp-pointed instrument for the marking. An old file makes a good tool for the purpose. Mark the field off into 18-inch squares, being careful to have cakes cut exactly to measure, for in no other way can close storage be accomplished. Cut out corner cake with an ax and start the saw exactly on the line, holding saw straight up and down. Remove one handle from the saw, and in its place attach a small weight, said weight adding much to the rapidity of the sawing. Two pairs of ice tongs at about 50 cents each complete the outfit for the farmer's ice harvest.

Elaborately constructed ice houses are a delusion and a snare. No greater mistake can be made in the storage of ice than putting it into airtight compartments. First thoughts, of course, tells us that such a building will hold outside heat in check and avoid circulation, but this idea is all wrong. In fact, ice to keep well must have both side and top circulation, for confined moisture is the very medium that wastes away the cakes.

No tidy farmer cares to spoil the appearance of his home by erecting an unsightly building, so we would urge that good, smooth drop siding be used for outside, and this painted; while for the inside any old lumber will do, for all that is necessary is something to hold the sawdust used in packing from the outer wall.

FARM NOTES.

Scald the drinking vessels often. A little varnish dabbed on the thread will make a loose nut stay on. December is the general butchering time among the farmers of the corn belt, though some kill twice a year—about November and again in February.

Notwithstanding the fact that it is conclusively proved these common birds destroy the insect pests, a census shows the number of birds in the country to be decreasing rapidly.

Hay from the different legumes contains about one-third as much nitrogen as does cotton seed meal—that is, about two per cent., as against about six per cent.

Cement is a promoter of health for man and beast. Cement cellars keep away dampness. Cement walks dry quickly after a rain, minimizing the danger from wet feet. Cement eisterns provide pure rain water.

An idea of the great preservative quality of good paint can easily be gotten in an old settled section of country by noting the condition of buildings that have been kept painted compared with that of buildings on which the painting has been neglected.

Uncle Sam's census man will be around early next year to get some substantial facts regarding your farming operations and equipment. Begin now to calculate things. Weigh the milk of your cows and test it. Your special items may not be worth much in the sum total for the nation, but they will be worth much to you. It will tend to develop business habits that will help to make dairying pay.

Care of Tile Drains.

Lay new and mend old tile drains in the garden at this time of the year. A tile drain through the garden is worth five times as much as the cost of the drain. The better the garden is drained the warmer the soil will be, and the sooner it can be worked in the spring. Perennials, too, will thrive better with under drainage.

TO MAKE FARM SMOKEHOUSE

One That Is Cool in Summer and at Even Temperature in Winter—Dimensions of Structure.

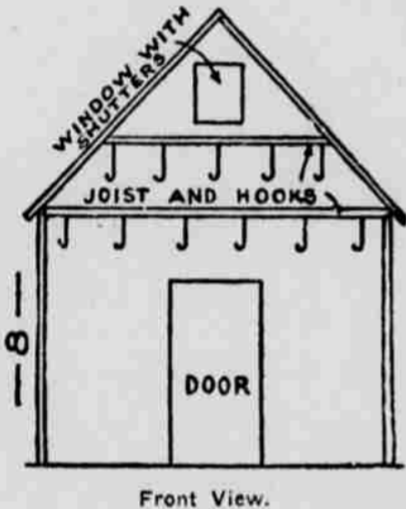
What I have found to be a good smokehouse for curing 75 to 100 hams should be about 12x14 feet. Build a good, strong frame and fill the space between the siding and ceiling with soft brick, writes A. C. Wharton, in American Agriculturist. This will make your house cooler in summer and will keep the temperature more even in winter. Cover with shingles. A good solid clay floor will do very



Floor of Smokehouse.

well, but a tight plank floor is better, but best of all is a good concrete floor. In the center of the floor there should be a firebox built of brick; this is about 12x18 inches inside measurement and 12 inches deep. When curing build your fire in this and cover with a piece of perforated sheet iron.

The house should be eight feet high at the corners and left open to the comb, the inside of the rafters preferably ceiled. Place 2x8 joists two feet apart on the plates, and 2 1/2 feet above these put in another set of joists on the rafters; these can be 2x6, and in both sets of joists which will be used to hang your hams place iron meat hooks two feet apart and two inches from the lower part of the joists. These hooks can be made of



Front View.

one-quarter inch rod iron and should be long enough to let the meat hang clear of the joists.

A window should be made in one end of the house to give light when needed, and this fitted with a tight shutter, as we do not want much air and sunshine to strike meat before or after curing.

SIMPLE CELLAR FOR FRUIT

Solves Problem of Storing Apples and Produce of Garden in Good Condition in Winter.

Doubtless many have found it difficult to keep apples and the produce of their gardens, such as carrots, beets, turnips, celery, etc., in perfect condition until they could be used. The accompanying drawings show a cheap and easily-made fruit cellar in which I kept 12 bushels of apples, besides carrots, squashes and potatoes, from October until April, writes S. A. Kaiser, in Scientific American. My house was six feet wide, eight feet long and six feet high, and cost me



A Simple Fruit Cellar.

about four dollars. Smaller ones can be built for a proportionally smaller sum.

I dug a hole about eighteen inches deep and set the house over it, as shown in the cross section. The entrance is made like a box, about twelve inches deep, so that soil or manure can be spread over the roof to a depth of about ten inches. Cleats T on the inside of the opening hold slats B at the bottom of the box opening. In the space C I stuff an old tick covered with straw or leaves. Outside cover D protects the tick from moisture. The rafters should be about two inches square, or 1x3. Provide a chimney, E (of wood), which must be stuffed with straw during zero weather. The chimney is not absolutely necessary, as the house can be ventilated through the door during mild weather. The proper slant for the roof is about 45 degrees, as earth can be packed on at that slope.

In the Matter of Shoes

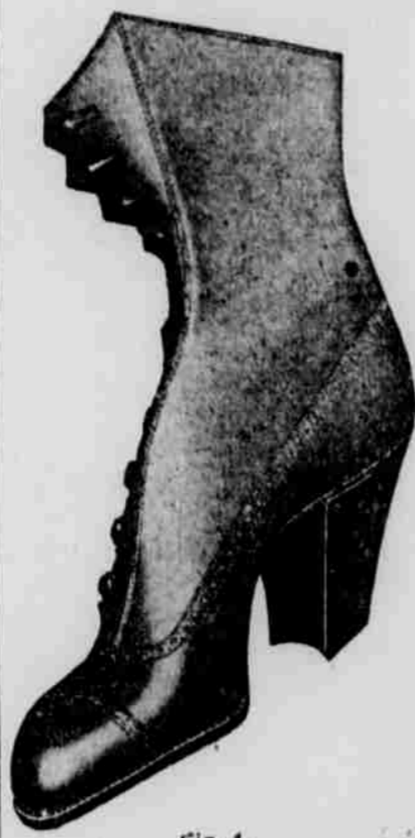


Fig. 1.



Fig. 3.

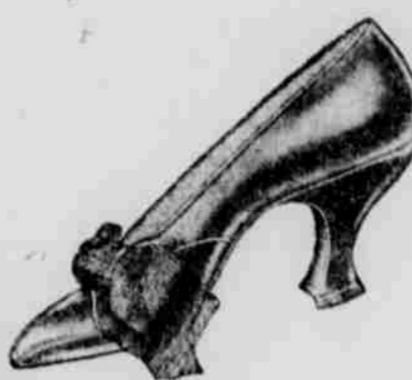


Fig. 2.

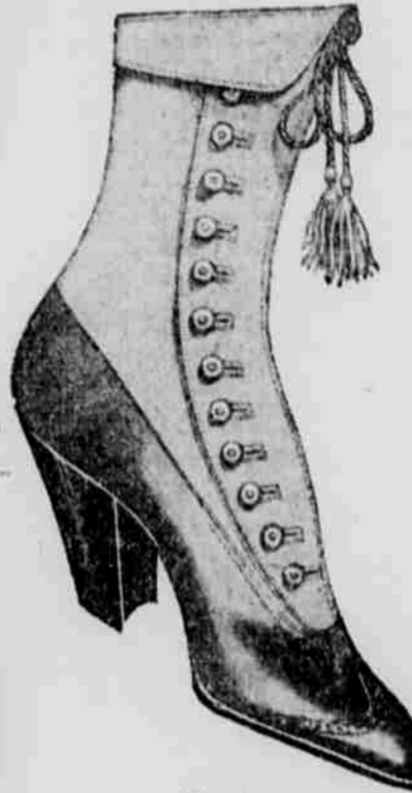


Fig. 4.

By Julia Bottinley. American-made shoes have out-distanced those made anywhere else in the world in the race for excellence. This has been true so long that the American shoe in American shoe shops is sold everywhere. In points of style, finish and variety the American shoe is first and so far in the lead that there is no second. Even the French shoes strike the educated taste of our country-women as unshapely and uninteresting, almost wholly lacking in style.

Women have grown more fastidious in the matter of shoes and the advance of the manufacturers in variety of models produced, meets with a demand so ready that our mind is in doubt as to whether this demand was in existence before it was met, or not. At any rate, each season brings forth numbers of new models, and the styles in shoes are getting about as much attention these days as the styles in millinery.

Women have out-grown the foolish practice of pinching the feet, or wearing shoes unsuited to their individual needs. Such is the variety of lasts made that there is one for almost every foot. There are several "types" which are understood, and shoes are so cleverly cut by the manufacturers, so well thought out, that shapeliness is the effect in all the different models. "Mannish" shoes are chosen for walking, having good substantial soles.

DRESS FOR GIRL.



Cashmere, vellor or fine sergo might be used for this simple little dress, which has one deep tuck at the foot of skirt, and slight fullness at the waist, fastened to a little band, to which the bodice is also joined. The prettily shaped bertha surrounds a yoke of tuck silk, it is edged with plaited silk, and has silk covered buttons sewn in the corners. Hat of straw trimmed with a wreath of roses. Materials required: Four yards 42 inches wide, two yards silk, 20 buttons.

heels moderately high and very strong and a general appearance of strength and durability in the entire make-up. For such shoes, tans and blacks are naturally most popular. One may get them in brown, gun metal, ox blood and probably a similar shoe in other colors. Kid and calfskin furnish the materials of the greatest number of models in street shoes. In Fig. 1 an ideal shoe for general wear is shown. It is as trim and sensible looking as the plain and handsome tailored gown, with which it is intended to be worn, and shows the same beauty and simplicity in cut, the same care in its finish. Such a pair of shoes, it goes without saying, almost, is the first essential in any woman's shoe-outfitting. These she must have—be she poor or rich. Happily, the price is not above the reach of any one. Two pairs of walking shoes, in good condition should be always on hand and worn alternately. One should keep the pair not in use, on shoetrees and in good shape as to cleanliness. Occasional attention to the heels, where there is a tendency to wear them off at one side, will prolong the life and keep the shape of the shoe. It is a good idea to have one pair with high tops so that the ankles will be protected in wet weather. Nothing repays care better than shoes. A shabby appearance is the fault of the wearer, and any shoe man will tell us that proper care in keeping up the good appearance of shoes lengthens their term of service by half the usual time of wearing.

Street shoes are distinctly not for the house. A pair of slippers or a softer, dressier boot, should replace them indoors. This change is good for the shoe, for the wearer and for the floors. If one lives in a house with a summer atmosphere all winter, there is no reason why slippers should not be worn. A lovely slipper is shown in Fig. 2. Every woman should provide herself with such a pair. Most of all, the business woman, who is apt to come home fatigued from a trying or a monotonous day. A simple toilet finished with a dainty and comfortable pair of slippers. The "feel" of the light, flexible and womanish slipper seems to pervade one. It shows in the carriage and amounts to a positive refreshment. A little gown for evening wear at home should be of the same characteristics as this slipper, simple, pretty and most easily taken off and put on.

A dress shoe, is another essential to the wardrobe. This is lighter in make than a street shoe and a great variety of styles is shown to select from. Where the purse allows only one pair a fine, plain, well-made kid boot, like that shown in Fig. 3, is the happiest choice. This model is cut on beautiful "classy" lines. One may buy it with patent leather tip or vamp, or in dull-finished kid. The moderate French heel is graceful and redeems the model from too severe lines, with just a hint of the frivolous in shoes. The cloth top shoe shown in Fig. 4 is for those who require a little more elaboration in a dress shoe, or for those who wish to match a costume. It is very quiet by comparison with the footwear of those ultra fashionables who can indulge themselves in luxuries in shoes as well as other things. The cloth top has a velvet collar and is finished with a silk cord and tassels. The Cuban heel brings the design down to earth, as it were, so that midday may wear this boot on a clear day with a visiting gown, when she goes to pay her calls or to attend some of those gatherings for which she must "dress up" a bit. This beautiful boot is dressy enough for any occasion, and appropriate for any, except, perhaps, for dancing.

White satin braced in pastel colors is one of the loveliest of the new materials.

A Split Infinitive

By MARY F. LEONARD

(Copyright, by Short Stories Co., Ltd.)

"I must deplore—" began Prof. Wentworth, removing his glasses.

"You have no idea how funny you look without them," interpolated his companion; whereupon he hastily replaced them, for nothing could have been farther from his wish at the moment than to appear funny. However, as he looked over his ears he reflected that Miss Sherman probably meant odd. He had noted with disapproval her careless manner of speech.

"You began to say something, professor; I did not intend to interrupt," Miss Sherman added after a considerable pause, as she shifted her fluffy white parasol from one shoulder to the other.

"I beg your pardon, I am very absent-minded—I do not recall—" he hesitated, wondering how long it had been since he last spoke.

"I'll excuse you upon one condition. You must tell me what you were thinking about; you looked as solemn as an owl."

The professor blushed like a girl under the scrutiny of those mischievous blue eyes, in whose sight he felt sure he must appear a sort of lighting-change artist. "It was your use of the word funny. I was reflecting that you perhaps meant odd," he replied.

"I have noticed that you reflect too much," said Miss Sherman severely. "It makes me feel as if I were being dissected."

This was so like his own sensation the professor was surprised. "I am far from presuming to criticize," he said; "you remember you insisted."

Miss Sherman again shifted her becoming background and gazed out upon the lake. "How did you like 'Across the Storm'?" she asked. "I believe that is what we were discussing."

"I have to confess that a story of that kind is not in my line, yet I do not deny its merits,—a certain spright-



ness, and some not unworthy characterization—but as regards style one must deplore the colloquialisms, and among other things, the frequent use of the split infinitive."

"It may be true, but for all that it is a delightful love story. It is quite clear to me, Professor, that you have never been in love," she looked at him archly over her shoulder.

"I must beg to know upon what you found that conclusion," he answered, moving nearer.

"On this same habit of reflection. Now all you find in this story is split infinitives. At most it is to you an ungrammatical romance."

"And you?—I am to draw the inference—"

She laughed. "No, it is not necessary you should draw any."

It would be unjust to Miss Sherman's penetration to suppose she did not know what was coming when some minutes later Prof. Wentworth, in language as clear and concise as he was master of, made her an offer of marriage, but she was surprised at herself that she did not find it more amusing. She upon whose word a multi-millionaire and a novelist of wide fame, not to mention certain lesser lights, were at this moment hanging in eager suspense.

The professor might be stilted, but he was earnest and manly, and she felt a strange reluctance to wound him. "It wouldn't do at all," she told him. "We have been very good friends this summer, and you have perhaps found me entertaining; but after a while that would wear off. You would begin to—see nothing but the split infinitives. I should shock you in various ways, and you would bore me, and we'd both be miserable. I am dreadfully sorry, but—"

He accepted her decision quietly, but she remembered long afterwards how white he looked.

Professor Wentworth was delivering a course of lectures on Philology at the summer school across the lake from the home of his college friend Arthur Sherman. Mr. Sherman's pretty wife and no less attractive sister made their cottage the center of social life on the lakeside, and in ac-

cepting their cordial invitations the professor had found himself in an unwonted atmosphere of careless gaiety.

Several days after the episode by the lake, Mr. Sherman one afternoon came upon his sister ensconced in a large wicker chair on the porch, some saults in her hand, and a disconsolate expression of countenance.

"By the way, Carolyn, Wentworth asked me to say good-by for him. His lectures are over and he leaves tonight. He had intended to call this afternoon, but I told him Helen and I were going to Jamestown, and that you were not well."

"That was very tiresome of you when I wanted particularly to see him," was the pettish reply.

"I fear Carolyn is in for nervous prostration," her brother remarked to his wife as they drove away.

Something did seem to go wrong. The millionaire who appeared at this inopportune moment was dismissed with scant courtesy, and then, left to herself, Carolyn began to cry silently. It was thus that the professor found her.

"My dear Miss Sherman," he exclaimed, "I hope nothing is the matter."

"Oh, nothing; I was only feeling tired and bored," she replied, hastily drying her eyes. "I have a tiresome headache."

"Then I fear I shall not help matters, but there is something I'd really like to say to you if it would not bore you too much."

"It is only myself that bores me," Carolyn replied, encouragingly.

"Well, I have just discovered that I must be something of a bore," the professor spoke, cheerfully. "I have been thinking over what you said to me, and I see I have grown into the habit of laying too much emphasis on corrections of form. As you expressed it, where others found a charming story I found only some the sin of the specialist, but I want to thank you for opening my eyes. I hope you will believe how I value your friendship—"

"Oh, don't!" cried Carolyn, putting her handkerchief to her eyes again. "Is anything wrong? I don't want to distress you—" the professor felt greatly embarrassed. "It is impossible for me to—adequately express my—"

Carolyn sat suddenly erect. "Do you know what you have done?" she cried. "You have split an infinitive!" He looked at her in astonishment, then said, recklessly, "Well, I don't care!"

"But I care, for it alters the case!" For a second Prof. Wentworth's grammatical mind was bewildered, but he was not dull, and in the flushed, tearful, smiling face he read that which thrilled him as no masterpiece of language had power to do. He bent over her. "My darling, I came back because I couldn't stay away, and now I begin to believe you wanted me," he said.

"I should never have acknowledged it if you had not split that infinitive," was her mischievous reply. "That showed me you really cared."

Grandpas of To-Day.

"There are no more old people," said the man who studies types. "At least not in Chicago. Of course women took the lead in abandoning age. It has been generally recognized for a long time that women were refusing to be relegated to chimney corners or steam radiator corners, and now I look in vain for old men. I mean men who are willing to accept age and infirmity and even to make capital of them. The modern man does not consider it a desirable thing to flaunt long white whiskers, rheumatic joints, a benign smile and the title of 'grandpa.' The modern grandfather would much rather be called 'Dad' or 'Foxy' than 'Revered Sir.' The up-to-date man of mature years is slim, thoroughly groomed, prefers to wear his face smooth, because thereby less grayness shows, knows how to run an automobile, challenges his grandson at golf, sails his own boat, is useful at society affairs—where his polished deference is a pleasing contrast to the sometimes careless attentions of youth—gives sound advice on the stock market and enjoys life to the fullest."

The Glazed Age.

"Why not a white enamel gas range?" asked a stove manufacturer of himself some time ago. "This is an age of white enamel, he reflected; Enamelled cooking utensils are common and clean and save labor, enamelled refrigerators are clean and sweet, and appeal to the eye; sinks and bathtubs are practically all enamelled. Zinc and galvanized iron are excellent materials—so, the old gas range is a fine thing for overworked cooks. Good products and processes, however, give way to better. This stove-maker began to experiment with white enamelled iron and invited housewives to inspect results. In its advertising pamphlet the company emphasizes the fact that 12 parts of the range are enamelled. These include oven racks, guides, plates, and door, and broiler-pan. Bathtub and stove-maker have followed the tendency of the glazed age. The woman who first covered her pine kitchen table with oilcloth showed the way.—Scientific American.