

ity of linoleum is best for floor covering in any part of the house, with rugs of convenient size to lay over it. "Another" recommends a good floor finish, and plenty of small rugs, home-made or "boughten," or a good quality of matting of some neat pattern. Taking up, beating, cleaning and re-laying the carpets is the hardest part of house cleaning, because it is the heaviest, and dirtiest.

**"Going Back to the Farm"**

"A Reader," referring to the problem of the unemployed, says: "Men and women that have failed really to sustain themselves in the city, those that 'can not hold a job' will fall, as a rule, to even a greater extent on what is usually meant by a farm, even if they could be induced to go to one—which they can not. Experience has shown that such families can not be thus helped, even if given a farm and its necessary tools, without money and without price. They do not know what to do with the land, and, having no taste, in most cases, for the life, they have no desire to learn. They get discouraged, and drift back to the city; they would rather fight for a crust, or starve in a crowd than enjoy plenty in the loneliness and steady work of the farm. They have never learned to think, or to plan for themselves, and they can not direct their work to any success; they are like children, in many respects, and they are even more helpless in the country than in the city. The idea of relieving the city of its congestion by transplanting its surplus people to the farm will work only when applied to those who belong to the soil because they were bred there, and know what to do with the soil, and who are tired of their mistake in giving up the life they were fitted to enjoy for the struggle in which they find they should have no part. As to those having no family ties, the life on the farm holds little attraction for them, for the farm peo-

ple are strangers to them, the farm ways are not their ways, and the wage, great or small, does not compensate them for the loss of companionship with their own class, to be found only in the city's bustling streets. This class would not profit the farm employer, even if it could be induced to work in the fields—which it can not. They must work out their own salvation; they have their own niches to fill; they are, probably, the "straw" without which "bricks" can not be made. They have their uses, though we may not know what it is."—E. L.

**Fashion Notes**

The Eton jacket is still a favorite, despite the many prophecies that its long reign is over. They promise to appear later in the season in the rough silks and linens.

Gored skirts and tailored shirt waists have taken a new lease of life this spring; plaits, tucks, fancy yokes, and frills make the waists unusually attractive. Embroidered collars, gay little bows of lace and batiste, jabots of hand embroidery, hemstitching, edging and laces are seen.

Sleeves are smaller, and in many style are almost without fullness, but with very wide armholes. The flat shoulders of one-piece sleeves are extremely popular with the new styles. Sleeves of the puff variety are extensively used, the difference in them consisting of the style of finish at the wrist or the decoration for elbow length.

The semi-princess style consisting of over-b blouse or jumper and skirt fastened together under the belt, is very popular for young girls and small women especially; for the shirt waist, the conventional long sleeve with link cuff is better for the plain, tailored waist, for general wear, but for lingerie blouses, the short sleeves give a more dressy effect. The short sleeve is so girlish and becoming that one dislikes to give it up.

The over-b blouse is usually sleeveless. The guimpe is sometimes made of the same color as the dress material.

Children's rompers are made very loose and comfortable, and are easily constructed. Both body and bloomers are joined to a belt at the waistline and closed in the back with buttons and buttonholes. A tape or elastic in casing adjusts the bloomers about the knee.

Any serviceable fabric may be used for making them, such as gingham, linen, cotton, galatea, wash poplin, flannel, linen crash, mohair, denims or chambray.

**Floral Notes**

Clay soil is cool and heavy, and retains moisture well.

Annual poppy seeds should be sown where they are to grow, as they do not bear transplanting very well.

Cow manure is much cooler than stable manure, and is richer; it is especially adapted to rose-growing.

Ferns must not be kept in the bright sunshine, nor in the dark. Water once a month with lime water to keep worms out of the soil. Shower once a week.

Tuberous rooted begonias show their best when planted in the border. They require a light, rich, deep soil, plenty of room and sunshine with partial shade. Water in the evening. Flowering season is from June to October.

Keep the window garden plants growing, and be careful for the freezing nights. Give them all the sunshine they can get, and on quite warm days, which we now and then have, let them have the fresh air. Many things will be starting into life during this month.

Plant the canna roots, dahlias, and other tubers that need to begin

growth early, in boxes in the house. Start some gladiola bulbs, and plant canna seeds for new plants.

Plant only the roses grown on their own roots. There are so many hardy ever-bloomers now to be had that one need never be without this beautiful flower in the border. There are many tea roses which are nearly hardy.

Don't forget to order a "grand-mother's garden" collection of flower seeds. You will find many of the old favorites are well worth growing. Get plenty of fragrant foliage plants to mix in with the flowers.

In sowing fine seeds, the rule is to mix with ten times their bulk of clean, fine, dry sand with them; mix well, and put into a pepper shaker, and with this sprinkle them over the prepared soil. Very fine seed must not be covered at all, while those a little coarser should only have the very least bit of sand sprinkled over them. Moisten by setting the pot in

water until the surface shows moisture. Put a bit of glass over them.

**BOOKS RECEIVED**

The True Nature of Value. By Rufus Farrington Sprague. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill. \$1.00 net, \$1.10 postpaid.

The Ifs of History. By Joseph Edgar Chamberlain. Henry Altemus Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

Federal Regulation of Railway Rates. By Albert M. Merritt. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston and New York. \$1.00 net.

Maud Muller's Ministry, or the claims of Christian socialism. By Rev. James Lawrenson Smiley, Annapolis, Md. Price 50 cents.

The Colonel, a story in verse. By Charles E. Cole. Hobson Printing Co., Wichita, Kan.

The Uprising of the Many. By Charles Edward Russell. Illustrated by photographs. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Net, \$1.50.

**Latest Fashions for Readers of The Commoner**



2273—Ladies' Yoke Shirt-Waist, with body and sleeves in one. All-over embroidered batiste, flowered or plain net, and organdie, with a yoke of lace, makes this a most dressy little garment. Six sizes, 32 to 42.



2270—Child's Tucked French Dress, with Yoke. Sheer batiste, Persian lawn, or nainsook are all used for this pattern. Four sizes, 2 to 5 years.



1969—Ladies' Four-Gored Petticoat-Skirt lengthened by a dust ruffle and with or without the tucked flounce. This is an excellent model for a drop skirt of silk, or it may be made of the usual white goods. Eight sizes, 22 to 36.



1957—Child's Plaited Apron, with Front Yoke. Any of the cross-barred dimities, checked or dotted ginghams, or striped or plain lawns are used for aprons this season. Four sizes, 2 to 8 years.



2250—Misses' Tucked Shirt-Waist. Linen, duck, chambray or Indian-head cotton are all suitable for this style. Three sizes, 13 to 17 years.



2256—Girl's Tucked Dress, with Elbow Sleeves and Double Skirt. Soft china crepe, voile, challis or cashmere are good materials for this style. Four sizes, 6 to 12 years.



2254—Misses' Nine-Gored Ripple Skirt. This is an excellent model for both the skirt of the coat suit, or as a separate one to wear with shirt-waists or jumpers. Four sizes, 14 to 17 years.



1733—Girl's Plaited Blouse Dress, with a separate guimpe. Shepherd's Plaid, plain serge, or any of the pretty spring novelty goods make up well in this style. Four sizes, 6 to 12 years.

**THE COMMONER** will supply its readers with perfect fitting, seam allowing patterns from the latest Paris and New York styles. The designs are practical and adapted to the home dressmaker. Full directions how to cut and how to make the garments with each pattern. The price of these patterns 10 cents each, postage prepaid. Our large catalogue containing the illustrations and descriptions of 1,000 seasonable styles for ladies, misses and children, as well as lessons in home dress-making full of helpful and practical suggestions in the making of your wardrobe mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cents. In ordering patterns give us your name, address, pattern number and size desired. Address **THE COMMONER, Pattern Dept., Lincoln, Neb.**

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As old age advances, we require less food to replace waste, and food that will not overtax the digestive organs, while supplying true nourishment.

Such an ideal food is found in Grape-Nuts, made of whole wheat and barley by long baking and action of diastase in the barley which changes the starch into sugar.

The phosphates also, placed up under the bran-coat of the wheat, are included in Grape-Nuts, but left out of white flour. They are necessary to the building of brain and nerve cells.

"I have used Grape-Nuts," writes an Iowan, "for eight years and feel as good and am stronger than I was ten years ago. I am over 74 years old and attend to my business every day.

"Among my customers I meet a man every day who is 92 years old and attributes his good health to the use of Grape-Nuts and Postum which he has used for the last five years. He mixes Grape-Nuts with Postum and says they go fine together.

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"Whenever I make extra effort I depend on Grape-Nuts food and it just fills the bill. I can think and write a great deal easier."

"There's a Reason." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.