



HOUSE-HOLD TALKS

Fashion in White Aprons.
White aprons are dressier and are modeled upon a plan that supplies either a band around the waist or ties, for something there must always be nowadays to keep the fullness from flying out behind. Mother Hubbard fashion being not at all in favor.

Of graceful shape is a white lawn that is made up with four one inch box plaits and sets of fine tucks in front. There are four of the sets and five tucks in each. The two middle plaits join and face one another. The other two alternate with the group of tucks. Forming the shoulder strap from the shoulder seam to the waist line in front, and from there used as a waist band for the back, is a flower band for insertion. This also heads the front of the apron, which is rounded out a little. The neck is finished with a narrow embroidery ruffle, and the same in a broad width forms sleeve caps. A six-inch hem and two sets of fine tucks, separated by an inch wide tuck, form the bottom of the apron skirt.

Materials for Winter.

Etamine, voile and canvas are to be worn all winter and there are suits that are being made up fresh in these goods, for the material is treated in such a manner that it is as warm as serge. Besides this there are the long cloaks and, as a woman remarked, as she tried on a broad-cloth cloak of three-quarter length: "I can wear my voile gown all winter under this cloak." And the modistes are actually counting upon this to the exclusion of the hitherto necessary tailor-made suits for cold day wear.

Unique Boudoir Coffee Mill.

A coffee mill just suited to table-made coffee or to the chafin-dish outfit which includes coffee-making utensils is a real Syrian implement. The mill is a brass cylinder about two inches in diameter, and nine or ten inches long. Top and bottom unscrew—the top to admit the bean, the bottom to discharge the powder. A small arm fitting over the screw at the top serves as the handle by which to revolve the interior machinery. When not in use the handle folds out of the way.

Hair Dressing.

As the style of dressing the hair is less pronounced than formerly, the prevailing modes in hats undergo a similar change. The broad effects are being rapidly done away with, and although the extremely narrow "torpedo" shapes are rather trying, there will be found plenty of pretty models that will answer the requirements. Nothing is more unattractive than a broad expanse of brim under which the hair is not appropriately dressed.

One of the New Silk Waists.

Fancy silks, in plaids, stripes and figures, are all greatly in vogue for odd waists and are exceedingly effective worn with the fashionable skirts and suits. This one is exceptionally smart and is made of chiffon taffeta, in green and blue, combined with collar and cuffs of plain green trimmed with Oriental embroidery. At the



Design by May Mantou.

neck is a turn-over collar of white which is worn with a harmonizing tie. The model is one of the latest and is closed invisibly beneath the box plait at the front and is suited to various materials and combinations. The quantity of material required for the medium size is 4½ yards 21, 4 yards 27 or 2¾ yards 44 inches wide, with ¾ yards of silk for collar and cuffs.

My Lady's Boudoir.

The prevailing popularity of pompadour styles renders it easy to plan a most charming sanctum. One of the most attractive seen this season had for wall paper a gray medallion design on a cream ground, with the woodwork done in white enamel. The furniture is also of gray, picked out with white, the ornate carvings of the periods of the Louis lending themselves well to this coloring.

To relieve the grayness of the walls and furniture the upholstery was done in rose brocade. The inner draperies of the windows, the portieres and cushions were the same. The carpet was a plain rose tint, with a flowered border, and one or two rich

rugs here and there. The dainty Sevres desk-set, the clock and ornament on the mantel were all chosen with a regard to the period of the other furnishings of the apartment, and the whole effect was most pleasing to the observer.

Good Complexion Balm.

Half a pint of alcohol, two ounces of spirits of camphor, two ounces of spirits of ammonia and five ounces of seaweed, to be added to sufficient boiling water to make a quart in all, when the mixture should be placed in a bottle and thoroughly shaken before use. This lotion, which should be well rubbed into the skin daily, is said to be especially efficacious in taking the fatigue out of tired muscles.

Handsome Under Skirt.

Well fitting and handsome petticoats are among the tasteful features of dress which every woman desires to possess. This one is carefully shaped to fit smoothly over the hips and is made to flare gracefully and freely at the lower portion, so fit



filling all the essential requirements. As illustrated it is made of taffeta with the under ruffle finely plaited and is trimmed with a lace frill, lace insertion and lace medallions. The flounce is circular, but so shaped that its fullness can be made to fall in a box plait at each point. The quantity of material required for the medium size is 10 yards 21, 8 yards 27 or 4¼ yards 44 inches wide, with 2¾ yards 21, 3 yards 27 or 2 yards 44 inches wide for plisse frill, 11 yards of lace and 6¾ yards of insertion to trim as illustrated.

All Glitter.

Everything in the trimming line this season glitters. Literally, it is to be a brilliant year. For ball gowns nothing will be more popular than spangled net in circular flounces and all kinds of designs are carried out in them by means of the colored paillettes. A pretty pattern shows graduated rows of solid circles in gold and silver spangles with the largest sizes at the bottom.

Having a similar effect, but less challenging and for less ceremonious occasions is the canvas trimming embroidered in gold and colored silk. This is treated in gorgeous patterns of different color combinations and comes in bands or on edges. The former is very well adapted to a waist coat. The other is most effective when set between plaits. One can scarcely pass the trimming section at Field's without witnessing the purchase of yards of the charming glittering stuff.

Painted Lace.

A great deal of this is being used, and never two patterns alike. It is painted in water colors, and generally floral, sometimes emphasized by silver and gold, and a little copper, and then the lace is lined with chiffon. Some very pretty blouses and light-colored silks and muslins have lace medallions, hand painted, inset, which are very pretty indeed. The Americans are favoring painted nets for hats. They have drawn pink and blue silk round them, and carelessly tied bows. These paintings look very pretty on champagne tints. Linen voile is a new material for wash dresses, trimmed with movable galons, painted generally on a canvas foundation, and sometimes interspersed with French knots. It is pretty to look at, and good to wear.

Season's Color Schemes.

It is in the trimming and color schemes that the clever girl who designs her own toilets will make her most conspicuous triumphs this season. Trimmings are to be lavishly elaborate, and color schemes—for the note of color contrast is to be pronounced one—must be cleverly handled, lest they prove a pitfall for the unwary.

There is a perfect furore for all the new burnt tints. Indeed, a run down the color card makes the student of fashions think of a very careless cook, so many tints have got burnt or scorched. There is burnt bread, burnt orange, and burnt onion; scorched leather and burnt amber punctuate the gamut of tints from the palest ecru to the deepest brown, and the smoked tints bring up the rear.

Silver Fox Edgings.

Edgings of silver fox and of gray astrachan are seen on some of the smartest gowns turned out from well known couturiers.



AGRICULTURE

Cowpea Bacteria.

The cowpea bacteria are already quite widely distributed in southern Illinois, especially where this crop has been grown for several years, but they are not common in the soils of other parts of the state. It is doubtful, however, if it is necessary or even worth while to take the trouble to inoculate soil for cowpeas. Some few tubercles almost invariably develop on cowpea roots the first year they are seeded, even where they have never been grown before, and if seeded the second year on the same land the plants are usually abundantly provided with root tubercles. Just why the cowpea bacteria develop so rapidly even without special inoculation is not definitely known. It may be that the same bacteria also live on some other leguminous plant which is more or less widely distributed over the state, but it seems more likely that the bacteria are brought with the seed. As a matter of fact, the cowpea harvest is usually dirty. This is an annual plant, and consequently the crop is grown on recently plowed land and is sometimes cultivated during the season. Cowpeas are commonly harvested with a mowing machine and then raked up on the loose ground. When they are threshed more or less dirt remains with the seed. Furthermore, the seed coats are not infrequently cracked, thus providing an excellent place for the lodgment of particles of soil.

Whether it would be profitable to inoculate the land for cowpeas would depend very largely upon the difficulty or cost of obtaining the infected material. If soil thoroughly infected with the cowpea bacteria can be scattered over the land at the rate of about 2,000 pounds to the acre at a cost of \$1 or less per ton, it might prove profitable. It is doubtful if a light application of 100 or 200 pounds would produce any very marked effect in the yield the first season. After the soil becomes well infected the cowpeas then obtain much nitrogen from the air, and the yield of cowpeas is likely to be largely increased. Of course there is no fixation of atmospheric nitrogen if there are no tubercles on the roots.

In 1902 several plots of cowpeas were seeded on the soil experiment field at the university. One of these plots (404) had become thoroughly infected with the cowpea bacteria, because of its being so situated that more or less surface drainage water flowed over it from an adjacent field upon which cowpeas had been grown for three successive years. Another plot (408), owing to a slightly different situation, had not become infected. The two plots were seeded in July after a crop of oats had been removed from the land. Within three weeks after seeding, numerous root tubercles could be found on the plants on the infected plot. Later on, ten average consecutive plants were taken up as completely as possible, and 412 tubercles were found on the roots, making an average of more than 40 tubercles to the plant. On plot 408 only an occasional plant was found infected, and such plants would usually have only a single large tubercle on their roots.—Professor C. G. Hopkins in Bulletin of Illinois Station.

Bank Barns.

The bank barn is still popular in the colder sections of the United States in spite of the fact that it is sometimes too damp for the best health of the farm animals. Where the land is hilly there are numerous opportunities for the building of bank barns. The objections urged against bank barns are not valid ones, for they can be easily provided against.

Some complain that where there is a bank barn there must of necessity be a basement and that such a basement is always dark, damp and generally unhealthful. Who says that such conditions are necessary? It requires only a little thought to make the basement as light and cheerful as any other portion of the barn.

For a bank barn a southern slope should be selected, as this makes it possible to utilize the sun during nearly all of the short winter day. If the slope is a northern one, it will be impossible to get the amount of light needed and at the same time take full advantage of the warmth furnished by the bank.

A bank barn should be provided with an abundance of doors and windows that both light and ventilation may be easily supplied and that the basement may be quickly aired out on warm days.

The bank barn is easy to be kept warm in winter, and if cement is freely used it can be kept dry at all times. In the properly arranged bank barn the teams can be driven in on a level and without the necessity of climbing a steep ascent in approaching the barn floor.

There is such a thing as having the basement too deep in the ground, the surrounding earth coming too far above the top of the basement. This makes it very difficult to get sufficient window room.

The number of cattle on Illinois farms January 1, 1904, was 2,689,193. A saving of \$1.00 per head in the feeding and management would result in a saving of over two and a half million dollars per year to the cattle raisers of Illinois.



HORTICULTURE

Orchards of Non-Residents.

It has become quite a common saying in the North that "you can buy land in such and such a southern state at \$5 or \$10 an acre and a resident of that locality will plant an orchard on it and care for it for nothing, if you furnish the trees." The said resident is supposed to get his pay by using the ground between the tree rows. A large number of people in the North have been caught by this argument and have purchased cheap lands in the South. They have by proxy planted them to fruit trees and have waited in patience for the harvests that were to make them rich. We have yet to hear of the first man to get rich in this way. It is too easy.

In the South to-day will be found numerous ragged, neglected, unproductive orchards. If you ask about them you will be told that they belong to non-residents in the North. The writer visited a young peach orchard of this kind in North Carolina. The trees were several years old, but the ground was filled with weeds and brambles. After the trees got so large that the ground could be no longer cultivated the orchard was left to itself. The trees were incrustated with masses of the San Jose scale, and it was evident that they would all be dead in a year or two. They were so far gone that it would never pay to treat them by any process. The inevitable end of the trees was to be cut down and burned. Doubtless the owner in the North fondly imagined that he had a peach orchard in the South that was rapidly growing into a fortune.

Let no man imagine that he can fall upon a fortune in this way. If he wants a commercial orchard of any kind of fruit he will have to watch over it, cultivate it and see that insect and fungous pests do not devour it.

Every neglected orchard is a discouragement to the men who would plant orchards. No orchard should be planted unless it is to be under the eye of the owner or of some representative who has enough interest in it to see that it is properly cared for.

Old Land for Orchards.

It is not advisable to locate orchards on new lands. Some of these lands may be very fertile, but there are good reasons why they should not be put at once into fruit. The temptation to do so is very great, as it is argued that by so using the land the new trees will be growing while the old stumps are rotting. If it were possible to cultivate such land by the use of the spade and the hoe, one of the main objections would be done away with. But hand work is too expensive to be applied to a large commercial orchard in the first years of its existence. Horse work is cheap and must be utilized. That kind of labor cannot be utilized on new ground full of stumps and roots. If trees are planted on land that has been merely cut over, the cultivation is sure to be neglected. The trees will not receive the attention they are well-cleared, well-pulverized, and that has been worked by plow and cultivator for a number of years at least. Usually too insect pests are more abundant on new land than on old. If new land must be used it is better to cultivate it for two or three years in some crop that requires thorough stirring of the soil. If possible the last crop before the orchard is set should be a leguminous one, that the soil may have a good supply of nitrogen.

Preparing the Orchard Ground.

The most important work to be done for the future success of the orchard is in preparing the soil properly. Too often the man going into orcharding is too hasty and sets his trees in unprepared soil. The result is short-lived trees, a feeble growth, easily affected by drought and extreme cold; and this man at the end of five years will find, if he had taken two years' time to properly prepare his ground and then plant his trees, would find his trees healthier, with a larger growth than if planted two years sooner. If the soil is worn out, get it into clover, use plenty of land plaster on it, then turn under this crop and thoroughly work it. If the soil is new, as we find it north, then I advise not to use any fertilizers, but clean it from stump and stone, and plow deep. The danger in the north part of our state is in having too rich a soil, and not having enough air drainage, being surrounded by timber, causing too rapid growth and blighting; but this will soon be overcome by the timber being cut, and the land cleared.—J. J. Menn.

Prompt Attack on Insects.

The importance of promptness in the treatment of plants attacked by insects can not be too strongly insisted upon. The remedy often becomes useless if long deferred, the injury having already been accomplished or gone beyond repair. If, by careful inspection of plants from time to time, the injury can be detected at the very outset, treatment is comparatively easy and the result much more satisfactory. Preventive work, therefore, should be done as much as possible, rather than waiting for the remedial treatment later; the effort being to forestall any serious injury rather than to patch up damage which neglect has allowed to become considerable.—Govt. Bulletin.



DAIRY

Good and Poor Cows.

At the Illinois State Fair just closed the University of Illinois had an exhibit that should have attracted attention. It was of the two poorest and the two best cows in the station herd. The two poorest cows are money losers and the two best cows are money makers. Professor Fraser tried to make the lesson more impressive by placing on a scaffold over the heads of the cows, butter tubs representing the amount of butter each cow made in a year. Over the head of each of the two poorest cows was a sixty-pound tub surmounted by a forty-pound tub. Over the head of each of the other two cows were placed three sixty-pound tubs surmounted by three forty-pound tubs; for the best cow produced 312 pounds of butter fat last year, the next best 304 pounds of butter fat, one of the poor cows produced 121 pounds of butter fat, and the poorest produced just 100 pounds of butter fat. The two poorest cows gave together 221 pounds of butter fat in the year and the two best cows 616 pounds. The two best ones gave about three times as much butter fat as did the two poorest ones, and that on the same feed and care.

It is a pity that our farmers will not take such an example to heart. For butter making the two best cows were worth ten thousand times more than the two poorest cows; for the latter were worth practically nothing.

One of these best cows was Rose. She had seven lactations in ten years, counting from her fifth to fifteenth year of age. Each lactation period is reckoned from calf to calf and includes the dry times. The yield of milk and of butter fat and the lactation periods are given below:

Yr. Mo.	Milk, lbs.	ter-fat.
1 10	14,462	704
1 9½	14,536	762
1 2	11,247	507
1 4½	12,680	637
1 4¼	6,018	291
1 5½	10,412	511
1 2½	9,437	470
Total 10 years.....	76,864	3,837
Average one year.....	7,686	384

The next cow will call No. 1. She has had but two lactation periods at the station, as follows:

Yr. Mo.	Lbs. milk.	Lbs. ter-fat.
1 2½	11,848	426
1 1	12,415	439
No. 2.		
0 11½	3,471	126
0 10½	4,078	156
1 4	3,838	134
1 ¾	5,734	194
Total 4 years.....	17,002	605
One year.....	4,250	151
No. 3.		
1 3	5,308	201
1 2-3	4,541	168

These figures are worth studying. They show that the same amount of feed and care may produce a profit or loss. Many a farmer devotes a large part of his land to the raising of feed for cows and then gives it to animals that are unable to pay for it. In such a case it would pay better to leave the land idle.

The showing made by these four cows should have attracted much attention; but Professor Fraser told the writer that it was generally ignored. Farmers passed it with only a casual glance and no remark. The most common expression was, "Oh, what a cute little calf!" applied to a newly born bovine in a corner stall.—Farmers' Review.

The Key to the Situation.

A bulletin of the Illinois station says: The application of the scales and the Babcock test to the performance of each cow gives the dairyman the key to the situation. Where formerly he had to grope in the dark and trust to judgment, now he can find out the truth for himself. With but little outlay of time and apparatus he can make each cow render an accurate account of the food and care given her. This points out the best individuals from which to select offspring in building up the herd. A rapid improvement may be brought about by the introduction and use of a pure bred sire of good breeding and approved type. The continued use of the scales and Babcock test together with good breeding and rigid selection soon raises the herd to a plane of greater production and affords the owner greater personal satisfaction. Cows that do not respond to good treatment should be disposed of at once. In case of doubt the individual may be kept an additional year, but a cow seldom has two "off years" in succession.

In Prince Edward Island the entire dairy education and dairy supervision is under the control of the Provincial Dairy Association. If the factories do not come up to a proper sanitary condition the association can close them up.

A cheap and durable whitewash is made of Portland cement and quicklime in equal proportions. These should be slaked separately with water and thinned with skim milk to the desired consistency.

When the cows are allowed to have their calves run with them they should be stripped twice a day to keep up their milking qualities.

It is believed that a cow will give more milk for a milker she likes than for one she does not like.

QUICK RESULTS.



W. J. Hill, of Concord, N. C., Justice of the Peace, says: "Doan's Kidney Pills proved a very efficient remedy in my case. I used them for disordered kidneys and backache, from which I had experienced a great deal of trouble and pain. The kidney secretions were very irregular, dark colored and full of sediment. The pills cleared it all up and I have not had an ache in my back since taking the last dose. My health generally is improved a great deal."

FOSTER-MILBURN CO., Buffalo, N. Y. For sale by all dealers, price 50 cents per box.

She was telling the experiences of Husband Had Presence of Mind. herself and her husband in a railway accident. "We were suddenly pitched clear out of the car. John said to me, 'Are you hurt?' 'Not a bit,' said I. Then he up with his fist and gave me a black eye and we claimed \$500 damages. Now I call that real presence of mind."

Pennies Bother Car Companies.

What to do with the copper pennies taken in by street railway companies is getting to be more and more of a problem in English cities. In London many of these coins are disposed of in five-shilling packages to hotels and other places where change is needed, but much remains to be disposed of otherwise.

Monkey of Brilliant Hues.

One of the most brilliant colored of all monkeys is to be found in Tibet. It is known as the orange snub-nosed monkey. It lives in troops among the taller trees. After its color the next conspicuous feature about this animal is its tip-tipped nose.

Best in the World.

Cream, Ark., Nov. 7.—(Special).—After eighteen months' suffering from Epilepsy, Backache and Kidney Complaint, Mr. W. H. Smith of this place is a well man again and those who have watched his return to health unhesitatingly give all the credit to Dodd's Kidney Pills. In an interview regarding his cure, Mr. Smith says:

"I had been low for eighteen months with my back and kidneys and also Epilepsy. I had taken everything I knew of, and nothing seemed to do me any good till a friend of mine got me to send for Dodd's Kidney Pills. I find that they are the greatest medicine in the world, for now I am able to work and am in fact as stout and strong as before I took sick." "Dodd's Kidney Pills cure the Kidneys. Cured Kidneys cleanse the blood of all impurities. Pure blood means good health."

Trick of Photography.

If you are an amateur photographer and have a negative of some friend whom you would like to see locked up for a long term, put your printing frame just inside a wire mosquito netting when you print the next picture from the negative. The result will be a print showing your friend behind the bars. The effect will be almost startling.

Every housekeeper should know that if they will buy Defiance Cold Water Starch for laundry use they will save not only time, because it never sticks to the iron, but because each package contains 16 oz.—one full pound—while all other Cold Water Starches are put up in ¾-pound packages, and the price is the same, 10 cents. Then again because Defiance Starch is free from all injurious chemicals. If your grocer tries to sell you a 12-oz. package it is because he has a stock on hand which he wishes to dispose of before he puts in Defiance. He knows that Defiance Starch has printed on every package in large letters and figures "16 ozs." Demand Defiance and save much time and money and the annoyance of the iron sticking. Defiance never sticks.

Perhaps He Couldn't.

"While luncheon a few days ago with a friend," said Paul A. Bonwit, "I mentioned that I understood a mutual friend was not drinking any more, to which he replied: 'No; maybe Jack isn't drinking any more; but I guess he is drinking about as much as he ever did.'—New York Times.

Too Much for Duck's Digestion.

Recently one of the St. James' park (London, Eng.) lake keepers found a duck lying on the bank dead. It was discovered that the bird had swallowed a penny toy clock and a small rubber ball, evidently thrown into the water by children.

Sensible Housekeepers

will have Defiance Starch, not alone because they get one-third more for the same money, but also because of superior quality.

Manchurian Pagodas.

Of the ancient pagodas of Manchuria those of the first class have seven, nine or thirteen stories, while second-class ones have from three to five. They are still erected occasionally.

Tribute to Tobacco.

What a quiet world this would be if every one would smoke! I suspect the reason why the fairer sex decries this is that thou art the cause of silence.—Captain Marryat.