

WOMEN AND FASHION

Electric Housecleaning.

Electricity is now being used to operate carpet cleaners. A Pittsburg man recently patented the apparatus shown in the accompanying illustration, which is more serviceable than the pneumatic cleaner for small houses.



ELECTRIC CLEANER.

It resembles the familiar carpet cleaner in appearance. A motor operates a turbine and brush, the revolutions of the latter agitating the nap of the carpet and loosening the dirt. The turbine creates a suction, drawing up all dust and dirt and depositing it in a dust receiver provided for the purpose. It is claimed that carpets can be thoroughly cleaned on the floor and every corner can be reached. Nothing need be moved. At tachable appliances are also provided for treating walls, ceilings, cornices, chandeliers, curtains, etc. Mattresses, cushions, upholstered furniture and pillows can also be treated as well as cleaned by this appliance. The machine works noiselessly and quickly. Power to operate the apparatus can be obtained from the ordinary incandescent socket.

Should Women Live Cheaper?

Mrs. Ellen H. Richards of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology said at the recent quarter centennial meeting of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae:

"The demand for increased salary is constantly met by the assertion, 'It costs women less to live.' But does it, to really live? And, if it does, should it? Because they carry self-sacrifice to a greater extent, should they? Is not this acquiescence in cheaper living the real cause why women lose efficiency? Good food, travel, amusement, social companionship—all tend to good temper and good work.

"The research worker is scarce, because original thought means a mind free from the distractions of economy. The wearing and dwarfing anxieties of making both ends meet are at the root of those physical and mental breakdowns of college women, occurring now and then, which give such joy to the 'I-told-you-so' onlookers."

Meditations of a Spinster.

A breach of promise suit may be bad, but the same girl as a wife would be worse.

When people are happily married it means that they both have the same ideas about how to spend Sundays enjoyably.

It takes a real homely old girl to believe that the reason why more men do not propose to her is because she won't allow them to get to that point.

Most marvelous of all his accomplishments is the way that the deepest-dyed man never looks guilty, but as innocent as a lamb.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Ruining a Child's Character.

How often do we see parents who never punish their children unless they are in a rage. The children are allowed to do precisely as they please, and are not corrected unless they grate upon the caprice of the mother. Then she will fly into a rage at a mere trifle and belabor the poor children as if some great offense had been committed. Such treatment is weak, unjust and ruinous to children.

Ladies' Overblouse.



Simple shaping characterizes the blouse, which has a broad tuck on each shoulder, so as to afford a slight fullness both in front and at each side in the back. It is drawn down closely at the waist by gathers caught to the foundation. The closing is made at the back, so the plain space in front may be decorated with hand embroidery. The short sleeves were finished with a band of hand embroidery. The material used for this waist was pale blue liberty satin, with fllet lace.

Putting on a Veil.

The woman who is putting on a veil should have a mirror fixed before her. She should so place the veil that the plain or net part comes over her eyes and nose. The figures may surround her and make a sort of a 'bo-

der. But never should there be dots coming in front of her nose or in the middle of her eyes.

A smart veil is carefully planned in regard to the placing of the figures. This is the difference between the veil that is and the one that is not becoming.

As to the pinning, it is quite simple. Just before the last pin is put in, pull out the mouth a little. This will adjust the veil to the shape of the nose and chin and give a leeway to talk. It is most necessary in putting on a veil properly.

Bedroom Curtains.

Window hangings in bedrooms must let in the light and give seclusion, and for this purpose dotted Swiss muslin is a desirable material. Made from this fabric, curtains may be just the straight kind with ruffled edges or the brise-bis, the French form that hangs straight and flat against the pane, dropping from the inner top of the sash. This latter style drapery may be fashioned from alternate strips of lace and muslin or net, the bottom scalloped, edged with the insertion, and then finished with a frill of lace.

Asbestos Table Mats.

Very thin mats of this material may now be obtained at any up-to-date kitchen furnishing store, and they can be used between a soft lining and any elaborate dolly. No housekeeper who uses a polished dining table can always prevent the placing on the table of a

paper, but sometimes simply rubbing with a clean cloth will help. Water accidentally spilt on wallpaper will usually not injure it, and should be left alone to dry, as interference may cause a lasting stain.



A pretty finish for the back of an empire waist in ecru lace was a straight stiff two-looped bow of two-inch black velvet ribbon, with two cameo medallions defining the loops about an inch apart. From the center of this bow and between the buckles floated the long ends of accordion-pleated tulle. Two similar bows with but one buckle to each bow caught up the Japanese sleeve on the inside seam. Last season there was a fashion of

TWO MIDWINTER GOWNS.



dish so hot that it will injure the polish of the table if she serves her food hot enough to be palatable. Of course, these mats cannot be used under eyelet-work doilies or centerpieces, and if used with Cluny-trimmed articles the mat must not be larger than the linen center.

Kitchen Weights and Measures.

Ten eggs, one pound.
One cup of butter, half a pound.
A pint of liquid weighs a pound.
A quart of sifted flour, one pound.
A tablespoonful of liquid, half an ounce.

A pint of brown sugar, thirteen ounces.

A solid pint of chopped meat, one pound.

Four kitchen cupfuls of corn meal, one pound.

Three kitchen cupfuls of corn meal, one pound.

A dash of pepper, an eighth of a teaspoonful.

Four teaspoonfuls of liquid make one tablespoonful.

Four tablespoonfuls of liquid, one gill or a quarter of a cup.

Two cupfuls and a half of powdered sugar, one pound.—Ladies' Home Journal.

New Skirt Is Tight.

Tall, slim women will be glad to know that the skimpy skirt is coming in again. They are wearing a corset skirt in Paris that defines the figure very perfectly, and makes it impossible to wear very much clothing underneath it. The plain in the back also defines the waist. These skirts are the delight of the woman with a good figure, but let the fat lady beware of them.

To Remove Finger Marks.

The finger marks so frequently left on painted doors by children or careless maids may be removed by rubbing with a perfectly clean cloth dipped in a little paraffine. The place should be afterward carefully rinsed in cold water and given a final polish with a clean, soft cloth. There is no real remedy for finger marks on light wall

arranging ruffles on the bottom of skirts that were raised on the two sides; now they are set on high in the front, in a point, some reaching as far as the knee, where they gradually descend to the hem, covering it in the back. Large drop ornaments or handsome bows of ribbon hold down the point in a pretty way. The arrangement is a graceful one, but should only be attempted by a slight and tall, girlish figure.

A Valuable Prescription.

Here is a simple and available recipe—a medicinal bath for the nervously worn and those who cannot sleep at night. It was the prescription of an old physician. Take of sea salt four ounces, spirits of ammonia two ounces, spirits of camphor two ounces, of pure alcohol eight ounces, and sufficient hot water to make a full quart of the liquid. Dissolve the sea salt in the hot water and let stand until cool. Pour into the alcohol the spirits of ammonia and camphor. Add the salt water, shake well and bottle for use. With a soft sponge dipped in this mixture wet over the surface of the whole body. Rub vigorously until the skin glows. When nervous or "blue" or wakeful do not omit this bath. The rest and refreshing that follow will amply repay the effort required to prepare it.

The Ways of Women.

It sometimes happens that the girl who jilts a young man does him a favor.

Perhaps if there was a woman in the moon instead of a man it wouldn't get full so often.

Offer a woman an apology and the chances are she will offer an excuse for not accepting it.

Why Worry?

Why worry o'er the petty things
That clog and snarl and flurry?
Defy them and they'll all take wings;
Why worry?

Why worry o'er the stumbling blocks
That check you in your hurry?
Defy them—they are crumbling rocks.
Why worry?

FARM AND GARDEN

Putting Up Silage.

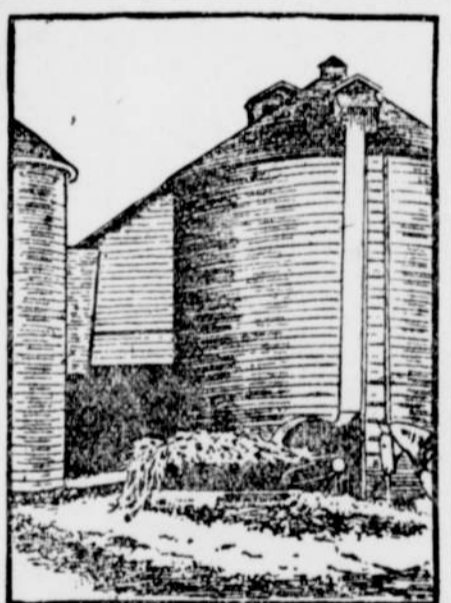
Many people make the mistake of cutting corn too green for silage, writes Dr. G. A. Billings in American Agriculturist. At this stage there is a larger percentage of water, and the silage when taken out has a large amount of acid, less starch and sugar and hence is less nutritious. Corn planted in drills with stalks eight to ten inches apart will mature a good proportion of ears.

Harvesting should not begin until the ears are passing the roasting stage and begin to glaze. Unless the season is exceptionally dry the stalks and leaves will remain green, but too mature or dry corn is more liable to mold. This may be found in spots around the sides or more generally over the slow-ripening air has gained access to cause the fungous growth. This condition may be improved by tramping the material carefully in the silo, adding water by sprinkling with a hose, or if this is not available direct a stream of water into the blower or elevator sufficient to saturate the cut fodder. This moisture assists the material to settle and acts as a seal to keep out the air.

There should be labor and teams enough to keep the cutter running steadily. Nothing is gained by cutting a large amount of corn beforehand, hauling and piling near the machine to be handled over again. Aim to harvest at the least expense a ton. This will be accomplished as follows: If hand cutting is practiced, cut and hand directly to the man loading, not throwing on the ground in bundles, which will require an extra handling. Let each load come to the table of the machine in turn, handling the corn directly to the feeder. If the corn is long and heavy an extra man is needed on the table to assist.

Power should be ample and in proportion to the size of the cutter. The blower is replacing the elevator machine, economizing space and largely doing away with the stopping of an entire crew to repair the elevator. If the corn is heavy and the stalk large cutting in half inch to one inch pieces will have the tendency to partially shred the stalk, and there will be no butts refused by the animals.

The material in the silo should be kept level and well trampled, especially around the sides of the silo, and it pays to have sufficient help for this work. Where considerable silage is put up it pays to have a corn harvest-



FILLING THE SILO.

er and binder, which economizes hand labor. The accompanying illustration shows part of the outfit used at the New Jersey experiment station in filling the silo for fall and winter feed. The source of power for running the cutter and blower is a gasoline engine.

Avoiding Wastes.

The first great lesson to be learned is to avoid waste. Waste has been the curse of agriculture. Why pay taxes on land that is not farmed? Why only half cultivate the fields and so waste both land and labor? Why waste time and capital in raising inferior animals? Why waste money in buying what should be raised on the farm? Why waste energy in trying to do more than any one man can do right? On many farms there is waste in a thousand ways, and no wonder that to some "farming does not pay." The small details must be looked after, and no farm should be larger than what can be properly attended to.

Best Grafting Wax.

The following is claimed to be the best grafting wax, by an old orchardist who says he has tried a great many: To four pounds of rosin and one of beeswax add one pint of linseed oil; put in an iron pot, heat slowly and mix; pour into cold water and pull until it assumes a light color. Work into sticks, and put into a cool place until wanted. Some prefer linseed oil to animal fat for grafting wax.

Manure for the Garden.

Let the barnyard manure for the garden be well rotted if it is desired to cultivate it into the soil early in the spring; but if coarse, green manure is to be used, scatter broadcast during the winter, and rake up or mulch part of it before plants are set in spring. Of course, this applies to ground that has been plowed the past fall.

Bran for Poultry.

"Bran is an excellent food for poultry in all stages of growth as well as for laying hens. One great point in its favor is its cheapness. It contains a larger proportion of lime than any other food at the price, and lime is essential to growth of bone, muscles and feathers, as well as the formation of shells for eggs. Lime which is found in food for some reason is much more easily assimilated than in the form of oyster shell and the like. Wheat is a most excellent poultry food, but the high price prohibits many from using it freely. Bran and clover used in connection with oats will produce as good results. Clover and alfalfa are rich in lime and should be had at all times in the green state when possible and in the form of well-cured hay the rest of the year. Cut alfalfa and bran may be fed in the form of a mash. Skim milk is an ideal thing to moisten it with. Fowls, however, will consume quantities of bran dry fed from a self-feeder and they eat alfalfa or clover hay freely from the stack or manger.

"Bran may be used mixed with the cut grain in the self-feeder and perhaps this is the most convenient form of all in which to use it.

"Some of the most valuable food properties contained in the wheat are left in the bran and its food value for poultry is not fully appreciated by many poultry raisers or we would see more of them using it in the ration. If you feed bran, clover and alfalfa you need on oyster shell and very little cut bone or lean meat. In fact a flock will get on and yield lots of eggs without any attempt to furnish meat if the bran and alfalfa is fed."—Poultry Topics.

Overshoe for Horses.

Horses undoubtedly require an overshoe when the ground is snowy and coated with ice as much so as the average human being. Drivers, although anxious to protect horses from injury by falling, have been unable to procure practical and satisfactory overshoes. Those made of rubber prevent the horse from slipping, but they wear out so quickly their cost is prohibitive. In the illustration is shown one which seems well fitted to serve the purpose, invented by a Massachusetts man. It is made along similar lines to the "gripper" chain placed on automobile tires. The tread is formed of a number of metallic links. When the overshoe is adjusted on the foot the links intervene between the hoof and the ground, affording a firm grip. This overshoe need not necessarily be worn on the horse all the time, but in case of sudden freeze can be quickly adjusted in position and removed when desired.



STRAPS ON HOOF.

Result of Corn Breeding.

From numerous experiments made in Wisconsin there has been developed a strain of white dent corn which grows on a very short, thick-set stalk, and which matures a good-sized ear, and the ears run remarkably uniform. The growth centers in the ear rather than in producing a big stalk at the expense of a small ear. After four years of careful, persistent work, there are numerous corn fields in Southern and Central Wisconsin which will yield 60 to 80 bushels per acre, and 100 bushels have been reported several times. Such results coming from a State which a few years ago was considered out of the corn belt demonstrate what corn breeding will accomplish when carried on along sensible lines.

Clover and Fodder.

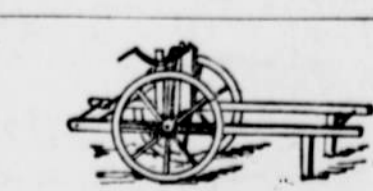
Clover and corn furnish a fodder ration that can not easily be improved upon for dairy cows. Two factors should be taken into account when determining the amount of grain to feed. One is the extent to which clover or alfalfa is fed, and the second is the production of the cow. The rule with some is to feed one pound of grain for every three pounds of milk produced. When clover or alfalfa form a large part of the ration it would seem reasonable to suppose that a less quantity of grain would suffice than the amounts named.

Cheap Fertilizing.

Some of the best farms in the East have been brought to the highest degree of fertility by the use of clover, lime and manure. The farmers who have accomplished such results have aimed to save every pound of manure, and also to preserve it in the best manner. Lime is used extensively by those who know that lime is an essential ingredient of plants, and also because it is excellent for increasing the clover crop. Clover enriches the land by promoting the supply of nitrogen in the soil, hence lime and clover make an excellent combination.

Wire-Winding Machine.

The frame of this wire-winding machine is constructed of 2x4 lumber, 7 feet by 2 feet 5 inches. Standards for



MACHINE TO WIND WIRE.

holding shaft, 2 feet 10 inches. Shaft for holding wire spool, 3 feet 5 inches long with crank. For wheels, swivel wheels will do.

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