FASHIONS of the MOMENT

PARIS.—We have arrived at that period of the Paris season known as La Grande Semaine. All the most brilliant entertainments are being given at the present moment and on every side one finds the most costly and exquisite toilettes displayed. La Grande Semaine is really the herald of the end of the summer season in Paris, but then it is also the herald of the birth of another and equally important season, that of the chateau parties and of the fashionable seaside resorts.

I have seen some really lovely costumes lately, which were specially created for the "Grand Steeple," the race meeting which the Parisiennes call La Journee des Hales; and on looking at them in detail I was more than ever struck by the rapidity with which flounces and ruches have crept into popular favor. On many of the very newest models we now find one or two flounces on the skirt but as yet these flounces are skimpy and so shaped that they fall into straight lines and outline the figure almost as accurately as a plain tight skirt might do. And for such dresses as these taffeta is a favorite material.

The skirt with the triple flounce is quaint in outline and very picturesque. The shaped flounces are mounted on a tight underskirt of thin silk or satin, and the top flounce is shaped to the figure like a tunic; in fact, the impression given is of a skirt arranged in three shaped tunics.

The other afternoon I saw a model of this order chez Worth and the material was ivory crepe de chine inset with Irish crochet of finest quality. The shaped flounces were slightly cut up in front and each one was bordered with a deep band of crochet which had been specially designed for the dress. There was a fichu-like arrangement of Irish crochet over the shoulders, and underneath was a kimono blouse of crepe de chine. This blouse was bordered by bias bands of dark green velvet, and on the collar of the fine net guimpe a touch of dull orange was introduced. The sleeves were quite short, barely reaching to the elbows, and the hat made to accompany the costume was a Duchess of Devonshire shape in yellow tuscan, which had lengths of black satin and dark green velvet ribbons passed over the low crown and tucked away under the hair at the back, while on the wide brim, lying rather flat, was a cluster of glorious yellow roses mixed with branches of white heather.

Worth is this season using a quantity of the finest embroidered muslins it is possible to conceive. A great deal of it comes direct to him from India, and for evening dresses he is employing long lengths of the famous Indian embroidery in gold and silver threads. This year the whole world seems to have become "quite English, you know!" The excitement over the coronation in London has made English fashions and English materials stylish in Paris and it is natural that the embroideries of India, as the laces fo Ireland, should attract a good deal of attention.

Worth is always very much occupied with his royal clients, and quite lately he created a most delightful tea gown for the queen of England, in which Indian embroidery and Irish laces played an important part. The groundwork of the gown was ivory-white muslin and on the hem was a deep bands of Limerick lace. The folded corsage was almost entirely composed of lace, but in front at the breast was some rich embroidery and the sleeves of the "angel" pattern, were of lace and net combined. A supple sash of pale heliotrope crepe de chine fringed in gold was wound round the waist and tied in a loose knot at the left side. This particular shade of heliotrope—which seems pink in certain lights—is a great favorite of the queen's, and she frequently selects it, especially for her afternoon and evening gowns.

A rarely lovely dinner gown, recently created in Paris for the same royal lady, was composed of palest rose mirror velvet with a side panel of diamond and seed pearl embroidery. There was a cloud-like drapery of deepest mauve silk tulle falling over one side of the skirt and this drapery was embroidered and fringed in silver and crystal. The corsage was a glittering mass of embroidery, diamonds, seed pearls, silver threads and crystal beads and little wings of embroidered tulle formed the short sleeves.

Redfern has recently created some lovely models for a new piece as the Comedie Francaise which have made a sensation and which are being freely copied for the race meetings. One dress in particular has attracted general attention and it is worth while taking special notice of it, because it indicates a little innovation, which is likely to become very popular. The skirt of this dress was plain and very tight fitting. In fact, it was quite like a sheath, but it was buttoned straight down the front, after the manner of a priest's cassock, opening at the hem to show an underdress of another color. The material of the dress in question was oyster white serge silk, and it opens over an underdress of dull blue linen. There was a smart little coatee of the blue linen, and this coatee was scalloped round the edge and piped with black satin. There was an empire sash of black satin, finished off with heavy black tassels, and the collar of the coatee was very wide, with a single rever, in empire style, at the left side, both collar and rever being of white serge silk. There was an immense jabot of pure white tulle and the hat worn with this dress was in the Alfred Stevens style, of white rice straw with an abnormally high crown, which was literally covered with black and white aigrettes.

I have seen in Redfern's show rooms several costumes which showed little coatees of a material and color different from the skirts and the general effect was excellent.

The tendency of the moment is to give much more material to the skirts; but then this material is so cleverly arranged that it falls about the figure and displays the outline. The softest and most supple materials are employed and the whole success of the robe depends on just how it is cut and how it is draped about the form.

The Paisley-patterned ninon is delightful, but it needs the contrast—and relief—of a plain fabric, and so the

sketch will show you how best this can be introduced, in the form of an apron tunic, which will look well in plain ninon in the same lovely shade of blue as the background of the patterned under-dress. Use as a lining throughout the palest pink Japanese silk, finishing this off at the foot with a transparency of lace, beaded, and bound with pale blue satin ribbon, as this arrangement will make it unnecessary to wear a separate petticoat, and so will make it unnecessary to wear a separate petticoat, and so will ensure a special and beautiful slenderness of outline for your figure. As for the outward trimming of the dress, this can be effectively completed by means of a little "tucker" and cuffs of mellow-toned net and lace while the always telling touch of block can be introduced by means of a tiny neck bow, and then a longended sash of either tulle or velvet ribbon, a second sash of blue satin just a tone or two darker than the ninon, being a wise provision, in case you wish to give variety to your gown. It will be pretty to have blue silk stockings and antelope shoes to match.—Idalia de Villiers in the Boston Globe.

FARM AND ORCHARD

Notes and Instructions from Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations of Oregon and Washington, Specially Suitable to Pacific Coast Conditions

FEEDING GRAIN TO DAIRY COWS ON PASTURE.

By M rris Koon. Oregon Agricultural College.

Whether cows should or should not be fed grain when grazing is yet an undecided question. Some few dairymen believe grain feeding should be practiced while cows are on pasture. However, it is a common practice to feed no grain while grazing conditions are good. Most dairymen are inclined to think it does not pay to feed grain under such conditions. It is possible, however, that where this belief is held there has been considered only the direct returns from the grain fed in milk yield alone, without reference to other beneficial effects which will be mentioned later.

Some of the results of experimental work at different state experiment stations regarding the matter may be summarized as follows:

At the Cornell, New York, experiment station, in a reason during which the pasture was very luxurian throughout the whole summer, excep for a short time in the middle of th season, with three cows in each lot, the total amount of butter fat produced was almost the same in both lots. In this experiment the grain fed lot continued to receive the same ration on pasture that they had received during the winter on dry feed.

Another experiment conducted the same year on soiling with grass alone, and with grass and grain showed that just about enough more butter fat was produced by the grain fed lot to pay for the increased cost of the grain ration. A net profit was made on the grain fed lot of $3.70, 8 cows for five months.

The next season a similar experiment was conducted. At no time during the season was the pasture luxuriant. A herd of sixteen cows, pure bred and registered Jerseys, was divided into two lots of eight cows each. Lot 1 received grain as follows:

Corn meal 2,600 pounds; Cotton seed meal, 1,300 pounds; Bran, 1,300 pounds. Total, 5,200 pounds.

Lot 2 received no grain.

The milk produced by the two lots was as follows:

Lot 1, 22,628 pounds; Lot 2, 17,697 pounds. Difference, 4,931 pounds.

It will be observed that the grain fed lot produced nearly five thousand pounds more milk than the lot getting no grain, an average daily difference of about three and one-half pounds per cow. This was enough more milk and butter fat to pay for the increased cost of the grain ration The grain fed lot gained 166 pounds live weight per cow, while the cows in the lot receiving no grain gained an average of 113 pounds per cow, a difference of 53 pounds per animal in favor of the grain fed lot. The question now arises whether the increase in milk flow and the gain in live weight of Lot 1 over Lot 2 would have any influence on the milk flow of the following year. The data compiled the year following, when all the animals were on pasture alone showed that the cows in the former grain-fed lot produced 16.2 per cent more milk than the cows in the former check lot not fed grain. It seems reasonable to assume that this increased production was due to the grain fed during the preceding year, especially in the case of the younger animals. Indeed it was plainly evident that the grain fed two-year-olds and three-year-olds developed into better animals than their stable mates fed no grain.

Bulletin No. 16 of the North Dakota station reports as follows:

Two lots of two cows each were fed grain with pasture, and pasture only, in alternating periods of two weeks. The pasture was composed of mixed tame grasses and clover and was of good quality.

The grain used was bran and shorts. There was an inrease in the yield of butter fat and a small gain in flesh when the grain was fed. The gain in the butter fat yielded came from an increased milk flow, as no increase in the percentage of fat was shown. The financial statement showed a net profit of $7.60 from feeding the grain.

The considerations that arise in the effort to determine whether grain should be fed or not are of so elusive a nature that it is scarcely possible to arrive at conclusions that may be regarded as final when sitting in judgment upon them. If it were only a question of increased milk production in relation to the cost of the grain fed the problem would be easy, but in addition are the influences exerted by the previous feeding of the cow, and by the residual effects from feeding grain on further production. The saving effected in pasture, the feeding value of the increased yield of skim milk, and the added fertility of the land must also be considered. That a cow turned into pasture in a lean condition of flesh would profit more from grain fed than one in good condition of flesh, would seem reasonable, even in the absence of determining proof. That the grain fed tends to increase future production has been determined by experimental evidence, with at least reasonable certainty. That some saving of pasture will be effected, and that some fertility will be added to the pasture from grain feeding is self-evident. It is equally apparent, however, that the exact measure of the influence exercised in each of these several instances can not be definitely determined. For instance, the fertilizing constituents contained in one ton of some of the most common grain feeds used are given a commercial value as follows:

Wheat bran, $12.51; shorts, $9.47; oil meal, $19.32; oats, $7.62; barley, $5.80.

That is to say, if we were to go into the market and purchase in the form of commercial fertilizers, the amount of plant food contained in one ton of each of the food stuffs enumerated above, the cost would be as above stated. But in the handling of the manure from the animals there would be more or less loss of the fertilizing ingredients of the grain fed, and on some soils it is certain that the effect would not be so marked as on other soils.

The following conclusions regarding the questions would seem safe:

1. When cows are fed grain on pasture that is succulent and abundant, the tendency of such feeding is to increase the yield of milk.

2. The tendency of such feeding is also to promote some increase of flesh production.

3. The quality of the milk, that is, its per cent of fat, is not materially influenced by such feeding.

4. The residual effects from such feeding are considerable, as are shown in two ways: First, in building up the system, as it were, through increase in flesh; and second, by increased subsequent production in the period of lactation that immediately follows. It has also been demonstrated that grain fed to heifers in milk, of yet uncompleted growth, on pasture, resulted in securing a more perfect growth than when not so fed.

5. Some saving will be effected in the pasture. While the amount of such saving is not easily determined, it is generally true that it will not be quite equal to the value of the grain fed, for pasture is ordinarily relatively cheaper than grain.

6. The resultant fertilizer from feeding grain should have a tangible value. This value will be proportionate to the quantity of grain fed, and to the fertilizing ingredients in the same. The increase in direct milk production therefore, from feeding grain tells but a part of the benefit from such feeding, and perhaps not the most important part.

In the present status of the question the following would seem to be a judicious course to pursue: When the pastures are succulent and abundant, and where the probable supply of the pasture is ample, omit feeding grain from the time that the change from stable to pasture has been completed until the pasture begins to fail, either through shortage for lack of succulence. But should the prospective supply of grazing be short of the needs of the cows, continue to feed grain, but in small amounts, say two to four pounds daily. Bran and shorts will usually be the grain food for most economical feeding. At times, however, ground barley or oats could more profitably be fed. Should the cows freshen during the season of late pasture as in a common practice, care should be taken that the feeding of grain be begun in ample time to prevent checking the milk flow for the winter milking season.

FASHION HINTS

Long straight lines and a quiet elegance are embodied in this little gown. The fringed over-skirt, closely draped and crossed at the back, is particularly graceful. Heavy tassels weight the ends.

Limitations of the Brain.

"You cannot educate or draw out of any brain more than nature has already put into it. Some day, perhaps, we shall try to adapt our education to possibilities."—Anatole France.