

# FARM AND GARDEN

## PUTTING UP ICE.

Plans For a Cheap House and For Storing Without a House.

The icehouse is fast becoming a recognized feature of the up to date farm. For preserving milk, meats and in the cold storage of fruits it can hardly be dispensed with.

A cheap icehouse that can be quickly erected by any farmer at a very slight

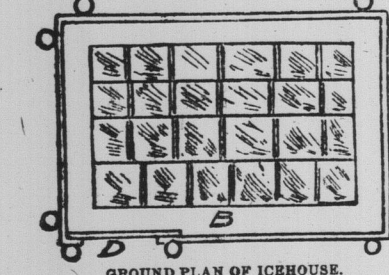


## AN INEXPENSIVE ICEHOUSE.

Outlay for materials is a matter of interest which has recently been considered in the Ohio Farmer as follows: The size is determined by the length of the planks to be used. Nine posts, rough hewn, of suitable height, are provided, and two put up at each corner, as in the second cut, resting upon a block of wood or stone or set in the ground. The ninth post is placed at one side of the door. The bottom planks all around are thoroughly spiked to the posts and may be more firmly secured in place by spiking those at each corner. A plate of light scantling secures the top in place. Now it is ready for the ice.

Sprinkle on the ground a layer of sawdust about ten inches thick, then put in the first layer of ice, about a foot away from the plank walls. Fill this space solidly with sawdust. (B) Place the second tier of ice, next put in position more planks, and so on until the house is filled, storing the ice and carrying up the walls together and filling in between with sawdust. A door is made by simply using two lengths of plank on the front side, as indicated by the posts. When the house is full, a thick layer of sawdust is put on top of the structure on sloping ground. A roof of boards with the cracks battened is sufficient. With a little taste this may be made quite pleasing in appearance. Icehouses can have their appearance improved by the free use of climbing vines. These not only answer as an embellishment, but serve a useful end in breaking the sun's rays and keeping the building much cooler than if left under full exposure. It costs but little

more to make small farm buildings tasteful and picturesque in appearance than to have them look ugly and cheap. Here is a way that any one can store ice without a house. The blocks of ice are gathered and stacked up in some favorable place and covered with a thick layer of straw. In northern Ohio a store of ice might last the season through. A similar stack might be made to help out the regular supply. For one of these temporary storehouses built against a bank the outer wall is put up with boards. The stack of ice is covered by a thick layer of straw, then a thatched roof is put over the whole. An ice stack of this kind answers perfectly when placed so that the water may naturally drain away.



GROUND PLAN OF ICEHOUSE.

Keeping Open Paths. One of the most important winter works on the farm is to open the paths after each snowfall. Where the path lies across places that usually drift full of snow much of the work of keeping the path open may be avoided by removing the obstruction to the wind which causes the drift. Most generally a drifting snow remains several days, so night, even though no fresh snow has fallen. In opening roads a team of steady, stout oxen hitched to a sleigh or sometimes to a stone sled will make a broad path better than horses could do it. We have often seen when a boy most of the cattle in the neighborhood brought out to follow after an ox team and sled. By the time those had been driven twice over the road it was considered safe for sleigh vehicles drawn by horses. A flock of sheep driven after all else will compact the snow best of all. But if snow drifts into the tracks thus made it will often be piled nearly as high as the loose snow on either side. It may be all right so long as the cold weather lasts, but let a thaw come and this solid snow must be abandoned and a new track made in the loose snow on one side of what has been used during the winter. American Cultivator.

Material For Covering Ice. Undoubtedly sawdust is the best material to cover ice with, but in the part of the country where I live but little sawdust can be had because it is a long distance to any place where it is made in large quantities. Marsh hay is used instead of sawdust, and by many it is considered just as good. Clover straw or oat straw will do very well. Of the two, clover straw is the better material, says a writer in Prairie Farmer.

For stock food it is concluded by the Vermont station that potatoes at 18 cents per bushel are dearer than ensilage and make poorer butters.

## FORAGE CROPS.

Interesting Experiments Reported by the New Jersey Station.

Oats and peas are one of the most useful forage crops for early summer feeding. They do not grow well after the hot, dry weather of summer; hence they are sown in order that the crop, which requires about two months for growth, may be harvested before the hot season. The crop is better adapted for mellow, loamy soils than for light, sandy soils, though good crops may be produced on the latter if sowed early. On good soils two bushels each of peas and oats per acre are better than a smaller quantity. The peas may be sown immediately after plowing, while the land is still rough, and then harrowed or plowed shallow to insure a good depth of seed. The land should then be thoroughly prepared for the oats, which may be sown and covered by the ordinary methods.

The crop will be ready to feed about two months after sowing, provided the season is favorable; hence its feeding may follow immediately after crimson clover, or early in June. Like the clover, it may be used to advantage without the addition of feeds. The yields from this crop average from seven to eight tons per acre, though varying according to the character of the season. Dry weather in May, as during the past season, seriously interferes with its growth. A study of the chief varieties of field peas in 1897 indicated that the Prussian Blue, the Mummy, the Green Field and the Green Scotch were all desirable varieties for conditions in central New Jersey, though the yields obtained were not large, as they were not heavily seeded, in order to give a better opportunity to study their manner of growth. These various varieties are, however, sold under the general name of "Canada field pea" and can be obtained from most dealers. Other varieties, as the Black Eyed Marrowfat, Canada Beauty, Golden Vine and White Eyed Marrowfat were also grown. These did not show so large a yield, though they matured earlier than the others. The composition of the different varieties does not vary widely. Some general suggestions made by the station are:

First.—The forage crops that have been found well adapted for completing soiling systems are rye, crimson clover, red clover, cow peas, Japanese millet and barley and peas.

Second.—Of these crops rye, corn, crimson clover, oats and peas and the millets furnish food more economically than the other crops.

Third.—In the forage rotation system now in use one acre produced in one year sufficient roughage to provide the necessary amount for an equivalent of 8½ cows for six months.

Fourth.—An intensive system of soiling crops is exhaustive of the fertility elements. The practice should be accompanied by a liberal annual application of manures and fertilizers.

Fifth.—Complete soiling is entirely practicable—that is, green forage crops may serve as the sole food for a dairy herd without injury to the animals and at a considerable saving in the cost of the milk.

Sixth.—Where complete soiling is not practicable it will pay to grow forage crops to supplement pastures during drought or shortage due to other causes, and thus provide a sufficient and continuous supply of food from the farm.

## KILLING CORN.

After careful experiment, we believe that killing is injurious to corn. We have proved to our entire satisfaction that which is killed will blow down by the fact that corn roots run very near the surface and when hills are made they are largely confined to the small space covered by the hill; while in level culture the roots run from one row to the other, thus enabling the corn to stand strong, as nature intended, and in no way liable to be blown down except by winds of unusual violence. Ohio Farmer.

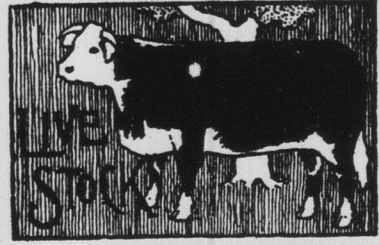
Agricultural Brevities. The secretary of agriculture in his last report enlarges upon the need of nature teaching in the common schools. He says that more knowledge by the farmer of what he deals with every day would enable him to control conditions, produce more from an acre, and contribute more to the general welfare.

Many states are interested in the heredity, flavoring and fermentation of tobacco, and the department of agriculture last these features under research. The division of soils is getting facts in regard to irrigation for the benefit of farmers in the mountain states who are making their lands sterile by using too much water.

In growing lettuce under glass the rot caused by a fungus that attacks the plant near the roots often results in loss from a crop which would otherwise prove profitable. At the Massachusetts station the only remedy found effective is to spread earth that has been sterilized by heat around the plants and over the surface of the beds.

In emergency sugar may be used as a substitute, but bees wintered entirely on sugar will not accomplish as much the next season as those wintered on good honey, says a German apianist. Honey, and good honey at that, is and always will be the most natural and the best food for bees.

Although the potato is classed as a "potash plant" because of its large percentage of potash, very liberal applications of that element have repeatedly been shown to be injurious rather than beneficial, according to Rhode Island station authorities, while many instances could be cited of the marked beneficial effect of applications of soluble phosphoric acid.



## CURE FOR HOG CHOLERA.

Importance of the Discovery of the Department of Agriculture.

The department of agriculture has conferred upon western farmers a boon, the monetary value of which exceeds the sum total of all the appropriations that have ever been made for the support of that department. It has discovered a remedy for the hog cholera which will cure at least 80 per cent of the animals treated. Low prices have been one of the plagues of the western farmer. Hog cholera has been another and by no means the least. It cost the farmers of the single state of Iowa \$15,000,000 two years ago. Innumerable remedies were tried during the last 30 years, but they all proved valueless. When cholera broke out in a drove of hogs, the owner felt the case was hopeless.

The chief of the bureau of animal industry of the department of agriculture took up this subject two years ago, and experiments have been conducted under his direction ever since. As a result a serum treatment has been devised which has been so thoroughly tested that its efficacy has been proved. This year the tests made in an Iowa county showed that out of 922 animals treated 170 died, or less than 20 per cent, while out of 1,107 hogs in other droves which were not treated 879 or nearly 80 per cent died. Thus science has put it in the power of the hog raisers of states like Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, Kansas, etc., to protect their droves to a great extent against the ravages of a previously fatal and costly disease.

If the western farmers choose to avail themselves of the labors of the bureau of animal industry, they will save millions of dollars annually. If their corn and wheat bring prices which they are not satisfied with they can convert those grains into pork and can be sure that their hog cholera will not strip them of the hope for profits. Chicago Tribune.

## SHOOTING RANGE HORSES IN AUSTRALIA.

In an out station in New South Wales it was necessary to construct this elaborate arrangement to shoot range horses. Many Australian horses have a great penchant for biting, kicking, jumping and other unbecomingly unattractive habits. As it is absolutely necessary to shoot them somehow, however, they are



SHOOTING RANGE HORSES IN AUSTRALIA.

caught and slung up inside a strong staging, their legs being safely secured. One of the hind legs about to be operated upon is drawn out under conditions of safety to the operator, and then carefully replaced. The owner holds the halter and keeps at a very respectful distance from the mouth of his troublesome animal. Needless to remark, shooting horses of this kind is a very expensive matter.

## Unsound Horses.

There is a saying that out of 100 horses examined for soundness only 65 per cent will prove perfectly free from some defect and the remaining five will be found the worst animals in the whole lot. The view may appear pessimistic. At the same time a perfectly sound horse at all points is singularly rare, especially if we include vice and pernicious habits as rendering a horse unsound. The ordinary definition of unsoundness is the existence of disease or alteration of structure which does or will impair the horse's natural usefulness. There are many slight defects and alterations of structure which do not interfere with a horse's usefulness for practical work he is required to perform. If the horse is workably sound, there is no reason why he should be condemned by the intending purchaser, for few horses are more than this, according to general experience.

If now we add to perfect soundness an almost faultless conformation, freedom and fashionable action, the difficulty of securing an ideal horse is infinitely increased. No wonder that good horses, notwithstanding slight imperfections, realize high prices. London Live Stock Journal.

## Ravages of Wolves in the West.

The stockmen of the ranges of western Colorado and other remote frontiers estimate that each wolf during the year will do \$100 worth of damage to a herd of cattle. When the numbers of that devouring beast are considered, the amount of destruction it is capable of becomes quite apparent, justifying the observations of the Laramie Republican that unless some method is adopted for its extermination the stockmen of the Black Hills region will have either to become quite a different class of people or go out of business. This year the howling of the wolves is unusually threatening along all the ranges from North Dakota to New Mexico and Texas. Old cattlemen are of the opinion that the best way to exterminate them is by concerted action on the part of the states and every separate county, including the offer of a bounty for wolf scalp large enough to make hunting them a profitable business. Ten dollars in the opinion of these capable judges, is about the right figure, to be paid in cash, and not in long time warrants.

## FASHION HINTS.

Fine Furs in Great Evidence—Skirts of the Newest Cut.

Ermine, white fox and lynx are among the leading furs of this season. Chinchilla is also in high favor and is greatly employed as a trimming for black fur. Red costumes are very much worn, and they are not of a dull tone either. A deep, rich red, rather dark, but warm, is usually chosen, although wine and crimson shades are also seen. Red jackets are also seen and are worn with dark or dull colored gowns.

Trained skirts are definitely adopted by elegant women for all more ceremonious gowns—tulle for calls, receptions, theaters and balls. The short skirt is reserved exclusively for walking wear, the trailing skirt being very properly considered unsuitable for wear in the street by peccable women.



WALKING COSTUME.

trains. For rich goods the mode demands a plain skirt. For costumes of cloth or wool a decoration of stitching or galleons is often used to break the monotony of the garment.

The tailor made skirt, buttoning at the back, has much success. In the latest form it is closed underneath by two buttons which are concealed beneath two plaits, the edges of which just meet. Today's picture shows a walking gown of pearl gray cloth. The skirt is closely fitted and entirely plain. This tight bodice has large revers of red silk, beneath which are revers of gold embroidery upon cream silk. These are fastened by a jeweled buckle, and above the fastening they separate to show a plastron of the gold embroidered silk. Red ribbons, appearing from under the revers, pass down ward to the red silk belt, which fastens at the side. A ruche of gray silk encircles the neck. The toque of gray velvet is trimmed with gray ostrich plumes and a jeweled ornament. JUDIC CHOLLET.

## NEW SKIRTS.

They Grow Tighter and Tighter as the Season Advances.

A great many skirts are made buttoned at the back. Still newer, however, is the amazon skirt, which has no seam at the back or in front and closes under the left side of the bodice. This garment is the development of the flat, for it is entirely plain and smooth around the top, and there is no possibility of having a pocket in it. Preferably skirts of this sort should be untrimmed, but women who dislike a plain skirt may add a circular flounce to it, not rising very high at the back, or may cut the lower edge in points or scallops and place beneath them one or two flounces of the same or thinner goods.



VELVET CAPE.

Skirts are becoming less ample around the foot, and quite likely the extreme tightness which now characterizes the top will gradually extend downward until the skolk is revived again. Skirts cut to form a stimulated tunics are often seen. They are usually composed of two differing shades or materials. Many bands of trimming, either horizontal or vertical, are in favor, the costume being sometimes literally striped with braid, velvet ribbon or galleon. For evening and other ceremonious toilet ruffles and puffings of mousseline de toile are employed more than ever.

The illustration given today shows a bodice with jetted steel and has a circular flounce around the lower edge. The bodice is lined and edged with fur, and a band of fur borders the garment and heads the flounce. Both cape and ruffle are lined with white satin. There is an ornamental clasp at the throat and a bow of black satin at the back of the collar. The hat of black felt is trimmed with a Louis Quinze bow and a drapery of lace embroidered with gold and plum color. JUDIC CHOLLET.

## FASHIONABLE SKIRTS.

Devices For Securing Their Perfect Adjustment at the Top.

In order to obtain absolute smoothness around the hips some fashionable women suspend their undergarments from the corset, fastening the articles on a series of rows of flat buttons sewed low down on the corset for that purpose. The underwear is all cut to the general shape of the skirt of the gown—that is, it is fitted without folds at the top and flares at the lower edges. A simple way of avoiding all fulness and



GIRL'S REDINGOTE.

wrinkles at the hips is to wear the corset next the gown, outside all the other underclothing.

No stiffening of any kind is used in skirts, but very thin, soft silk which has not sufficient body to fall in the rich folds demanded by fashion is interlined throughout with extremely thin flannel, which gives it consistency and prevents the silk from breaking at the folds. This flannel is much used as an interlining for enriching the appearance of satin wedding gowns. It is placed in the sleeves, as well as the skirt, to give them greater roundness, and must, of course, be of the same color as the material of the gown.

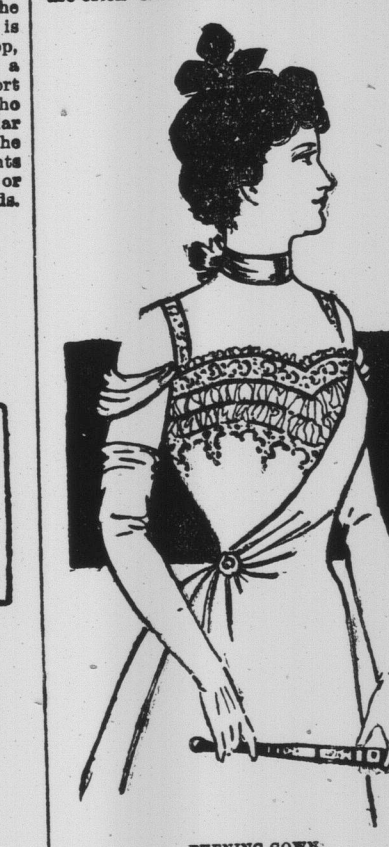
The picture given today shows an attractive redingote for a young girl. It is of beige cloth bordered with a narrow band of mink and is crossed in front, fastening at the left side. A circular bertha covers the shoulders and forms a revers, and a valois collar descends the neck. The plain sleeves have turned back cuffs and the garment is closed by little animal heads embroidered on fur. The beige felt hat is trimmed with golden brown velvet and an argus plume. JUDIC CHOLLET.

## VARIOUS NOTES.

Fans, Lamp Shades and Other Items of Feminine Interest.

Feather fans are still carried, in spite of the revival of those made of lac, guinea, spangles and painted parchment. Frequently two kinds of plumage are combined with excellent effect.

Empire lamp shades continue to be favorites. They are made of all sorts of material, but the form remains the same. Painted paper, silk and satin are, with embroidered goods, the most costly, but are often not as attractive as the simple



EVENING GOWN.

shades of printed silk in Louis Quinze or Louis Setze designs, finished with a ruche of ribbon at the top and lower edge. Whatever may be the general shape of the skirt, it is always completely smooth at the top, the closing being hidden as much as possible, whether it be at the back, side or front. Fashion insisting upon a tight fit, in the matter of bodice and skirt, the quality of the goods employed is of great importance. It is best to choose material of sufficient substance and thickness so that any accidental wrinkle in the lining or underbodice will not show through the outside. Folds of undergarment about the hips are to be avoided, if a smooth fit is desired.

The illustration shows a sheathlike evening gown of water green crepe de chine. It is in princess form and is draped in valois collar and lined and edged with fur, and a band of fur borders the garment and heads the flounce. Both cape and ruffle are lined with white satin. There is an ornamental clasp at the throat and a bow of black satin at the back of the collar. The hat of black felt is trimmed with a Louis Quinze bow and a drapery of lace embroidered with gold and plum color. JUDIC CHOLLET.

## NEW WRAPS.

Novel Combinations of the Jacket and Cape in Magnificent Fabrics.

Wraps for visiting wear are always very elegant and serve to complete the costume as well as to protect the wearer from chill. They are made in various attractive forms, which usually display a compromise between the jacket and the cape. The richest materials are employed—velvet, brocade, silk, brocade, silk covered with embroidery or applications and other fabrics of an equally sumptuous character. Fur plays an important part in their decorations and as a lining. When used for trimming it takes the shape of circular flounces, bands, yokes, boleros and applications. Some of these mantles have the sleeve



REDINGOTE.

portion beginning at the side seam of the back. Others have the regular jacket body, but polka-dot sleeves.

Elegant jackets of silk, velvet or fur are also worn for calling, and cape and cape mantles. There is ample room for choice and so great a variety of forms that everybody may be pleased.

The illustration given in today's issue shows a long redingote of black velvet. It is very tight and plain, the foot being edged by a band of fur. The redingote closes in the middle of the front with two large gold and jeweled buttons and has an immense valois collar, revers and deep turned back cuffs of fur. The cravat of white lace descends in aquilles to the waist. The hat of white felt is edged with rose velvet and is trimmed with white feathers and a Louis Quinze bow of rose velvet. JUDIC CHOLLET.

## FASHION HINTS.

Fur, Feathers and Furbelows of Many Different Varieties.

As fur is much employed for lining theater and ball wraps, as well as other garments in which lightness of weight is not so essential, the furriers have hit upon a method of decreasing the weight of the felt without detracting to any appreciable extent from its warmth. The wrong side of the skin is scraped, until only a bouquet of fibers of fur securely. Thus treated, caracul, white astrakhan, chinchilla and mink are composed very warm, soft, flexible and, withal, light linings.

Toques of draped fur are trimmed with argus plumes or variegated feathers and jeweled ornaments.

For evening bodices the short sleeve strap falling off the shoulder and showing



EVENING COSTUME.

the top of the arm is much worn. Soft belts, tied with each ends at the back, are still in vogue. Black silk is immensely worn this winter by young as well as middle aged women, but it is combined with bright colors or white and is trimmed with ruffles, spangles, ribbon and embroidery so it loses all its severity.

The picture shows a striking evening costume of gold satin. It has a long train, and the skirt is more than half covered by a deep flounce of white lace, the top of which comes down a few points in front. The tight, pointed bodice has a very low décolletage and is draped with a loose bolero of lace, which ties in front with gold ends. The bodice is supported by narrow black velvet bands across the shoulders, the velvet being tied in bows. A bouquet of violet is worn at the left side of the corsage. The accompanying gloves are of cream glace kid, the shoes of yellow satin. JUDIC CHOLLET.