

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

BELIEVES IN CHICKENS



Representative Charles R. Davis of Minnesota is a level-headed fellow with few superstitious notions; but he believes nearly everything he hears on the subject of rearing chickens. There is absolutely no doubt in the mind of Davis that, with a trifling investment, a man could clean up not less than \$10,000 annually, out of the chicken business, with practically no work to do except count money.

Davis explains it plausibly enough. You buy a dozen or so hens and build a few coops and roosts at trivial cost. Every morning you go out with a little sack containing some prepared chicken food, such as one can buy at any canary bird store, and call in shrill tones: "Chick-chick-chick-chick!" like that, at the same time scattering the Battle Creek-looking food.

After the hens have eaten heartily, and dispersed, their proprietor may go on back into his study and resume his task of adding up his profits, or reading automobile catalogues, knowing full well that the hens will promptly set about their ordained task of laying many strictly fresh eggs. Even if each hen laid only two eggs in three days—and Davis says that is an absurdly low estimate—and each egg hatches another hen, which will grow up to lay its two in three, it doesn't take a master of higher mathematics to see that in a little while one would have a great many chickens running around the place.

For a few dollars a month, as the congressman points out, one can hire somebody to gather up the eggs, and ship them to market, along with spring fries, when the little poultry farm gets overstocked, and in a short while at the prevailing prices of foodstuffs, one would have so much money that it would become a burden.

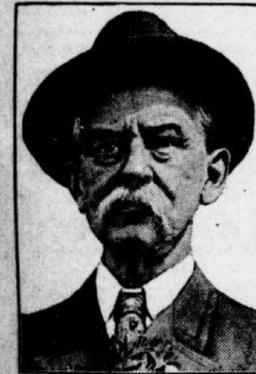
FERDINAND THE STATESMAN

The career of Ferdinand, czar of the Bulgarians, has been a Pandora's box of surprises from the August day twenty-eight years ago when he secretly left his home in Coburg, sailed down the Danube with a few faithful companions and entered Sofia without asking permission of any of the European powers for liberty to accept the offer of the people of this Turkish province to become their ruler. But the greatest surprise has been his ability to hoodwink the statesmen of Great Britain, Russia, France and Italy for over a year with the idea that any arrangement could be devised through which he could be persuaded to join them in carrying out their plans of this war.



A perfumed dandy, his long, slender fingers carefully manicured and loaded with rings, credited with spending \$500 upon a dressing gown, a connoisseur in the dainty garments of ladies and an authority on precious stones, Czar Ferdinand has nevertheless long ago demonstrated to the governments of Europe his genius in statesmanship as well as in military affairs. He has ever had an extraordinary alertness in seizing advantage at the right moment. Many years ago Bismarck said of him that he was not a great diplomat, but that he possessed diplomatic finesse. Since those days Ferdinand has achieved victories where even a Bismarck might have failed and he can well be called the Bismarck of the Balkans.

NEW G. A. R. COMMANDER



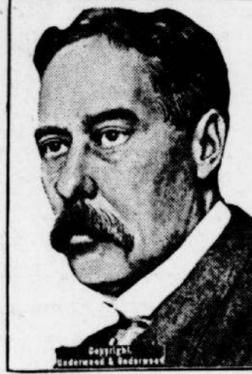
Capt. Elias R. Monfort of Cincinnati, the newly elected commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, enlisted as a private in Company A, Sixth Ohio volunteer infantry, in 1861. Four months later, after receiving the rank of second lieutenant, he was transferred to Company F, Seventy-fifth Ohio volunteer infantry. In May, 1862, he was elected to the rank of first lieutenant, and in January, 1863, to the rank of captain. By reason of injuries received at Gettysburg, which necessitated his removal to his home on a cot, he was mustered out one year later.

Among the battles participated in by Commander Monfort were Phillip, Laurel Hill, Carrick's Ford, Monterey, Shaws Ridge, McDowell, Franklin, Strassburg, Cross Keys, Cedar Mountain, Freemans Ford, Waterloo Bridge, Sulphur Springs, Second Bull Run, Chantilly, Chancellorsville, Fredricksburg and Gettysburg. Since the

war he has been engaged in business in Cincinnati, where he served as postmaster for 15 years, which position he resigned January 10, 1915.

FAVORS MONARCHY IN CHINA

It seems a bit strange that a citizen of this great republic should declare himself in favor of the restoration of a monarchical form of government in a country which only lately has become a republic, but that is what Dr. Frank L. Goodnow, president of Johns Hopkins university, virtually has done in the case of China. For some time Dr. Goodnow has been adviser to President Yuan Shih-kai and recently he submitted to that exalted individual a memorandum concerning the best form of government for the Chinese.



Though not an unqualified advocacy of the proposal to restore the monarchy in China, the memorandum is a historical and analytical review of the progress of the republican movement throughout the world and an exposition of some of the reasons why he believes that such a form of government is less suited to the present-day China than a monarchy. Doctor Goodnow finds that governments in general have succeeded or failed in accordance with the effectiveness of measures adopted to provide for orderly succession of the supreme authority, and he believes that because of the low intelligence of the Chinese a republican form of government there will lead to "the worst possible form of government, namely, that of the military dictator."

GATHERED FACTS

Orders for 100,000 tunics for the Russian army have been placed with Leeds firms.

The English language is spoken by just about ten per cent of the world's inhabitants.

Lake Erie produces more fish to the square mile than any other body of water in the world.

The total amount of property in New York city not subjected to taxation is valued at \$1,573,896,000.

Safety Pins.
Safety pins must be at a premium in France today. Industries which formerly turned them out by the thousand now are forging shrapnel and shells. Therefore one woman collected safety pins by the bushel in the United States for distribution in French hospitals to be used in surgical dressings. Another American woman sent over 2,000 sewing outfits to refugee seamstresses that they might at least have the tools with which to earn their bread.

Handsome and Practical Corduroy Coat



Two favorites of fashion for this season enter into the composition of this handsome coat; they are the corduroy velvet of which it is made, and the opossum fur on the collar. Corduroy in a good quality is about the best choice one can make among materials designed for coats for general wear, and the high favor of opossum fur threatens to thin the ranks of the little animal, whose fine markings have lately sprung into unprecedented favor.

The coat is long, ample and graceful. It is cut with the long arm's-eye and easy adjustment which makes it practical for wear over evening gowns.

Linings selected for coats of this kind are of thin, supple silk or crepe, in order that the coat may fall in good lines about the figure. It is cut

with full skirt, which ripples at the bottom, and is provided with a shaped belt and sash ends of the corduroy, also lined with silk. Machine stitching makes the finish, and the elegance of the coat is still further enhanced by the lack of any other trimming.

The model is double-breasted, fastening at the throat with a single large and ornamental button. A similar button in a smaller size appears on each cuff. The collar is made so that it may be rolled up about the neck and fastened with hook and eye in a high turnover.

Although pictured as worn over an evening gown, this coat is appropriate for all sorts of wear. The material is very serviceable, but its rich luster places it in the class of dressy coats as well as among those designed for much wear.

Beautiful Types of Picture Hats



Two of the most beautiful hats of the season are portrayed here, and they belong to those types that with little variation reappear with each season. They are picture hats on such good lines and with so much to recommend them that their welcome is always assured.

The hat at the left is made of black velvet or of one of the dark shades which are fashionable in colors. The crown is round. The wide brim is flexible and cut with a straight edge at the right side. At the left it turns up and is bent toward the crown, showing, altogether, the influence of the season's tendency toward eccentric brims. Its lines are wonderfully becoming.

It remained for this season to show just what beautiful effects can be wrought by the artist whose medium of expression is the fancy feather. This hat is trimmed with fancy ostrich. It seems that nothing else could look just as well.

The hat at the right is a wide-brimmed French sailor made of velvet faced with striped plush. Its color possibilities are worth considering. It has a round crown and, for trimming, another masterpiece in fancy feathers.

It is not always easy to recognize the kind of feather which clever people who work in them convert into the things of beauty that adorn so

much of the season's millinery. But some feathers, like those of the bird of paradise, are too beautiful in their natural state to be improved upon, while others are vastly changed and beautified by the makers of fancy feathers.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

The New Belts.

Four-inch belts of soft kid in light and medium colors are bound with black or white silk braid. Black ribbon lacings through black eyelets are seen on smart models. Ornaments and buckles to match are used on belts, the former being placed at the back. Buckles are also made of jet, gilt, pearl, galalith, silver, beads, etc. A very military-looking belt of kid or leather has for a fastening a buckle imitating four cartridges made of gilt, nickel, gun metal or a combination of two metals. Embroidered belts are used of satin, ribbon, soft kid or panne velvet. With princess fronts the belt disappeared under the side of the one-piece effect. Sometimes it is worn at the real waist line, or it may go an inch above.

White Net Gown.

A charming gown is of white net with blossoms hung from the tabs of silver braid. Another pretty decoration consists of bowknots of silver ribbon.

Classic Styles for Girls.
When she helps her young daughter with suggestions for dress designs, the mother who recognizes how well youth and simplicity blend gives a favorable verdict to these models based upon the simple classical lines and draperies. An artist's design for a frock that would serve the double purpose of a late afternoon and evening gown shows the classical influence strongly. Made of that softest of soft pink mousseline de soie, the color of which is known aptly as fogsieve, it has upon

the crossed shoulder band and round the waist, as well as upon the triangular pieces in the front and at the back of the corsage, embroideries done in bronze and aluminum threads, which contrast exceedingly well with the rest.

Unkind Thrust.

First Author—"Have you heard that Scribbleton has taken a wife?" Second Author—"Yes, I suppose he wanted to double the circle of his readers."—Boston Transcript.

PERSIMMON IS FRUIT MUCH NEGLECTED



A Persimmon Tree Which has a Drooping Habit of Growth and Produces Fruit of the Oblong Type.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Despite the fact that the only fruit which equals the persimmon in food value is the date, many persons who have persimmon trees on their land are making no use of them, and there has been comparatively little effort made to develop the trees commercially. In a new bulletin, Farmers' Bulletin No. 685 of the United States department of agriculture, some of the many uses to which the fruit can be put are described and methods of propagating the trees discussed.

The persimmon is found in large numbers over the southeastern quarter of the United States and in some places as far west as Iowa and eastern Nebraska, and as far north as Rhode Island, New York and Michigan. The real persimmon belt, however, may be said to extend from Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas westward through Missouri and Arkansas. Where the tree is most abundant there is considerable prejudice against it because of the persistency with which the young sprouts come up in cultivated fields, and also because of the puckering astringent effect of the unripe fruit. There is a saying that persimmons are "good for dogs, hogs and 'possums," but this is unjust to a product which can be made very useful to man.

At the present time a few growers in the persimmon belt who have easy access to markets in large cities have built up quite a considerable demand for persimmons, and the wild fruit can also be sometimes purchased during the autumn and early winter. A number of nurserymen also sell seedling trees for ornamental planting, for which they are very effective, and a few have special varieties developed for the production of the fruit.

One obstacle to the more general use of persimmons is the mistaken idea that they are not fit to eat until they have been touched by frost. In consequence many persimmons which ripen and fall to the ground before frost comes are allowed to go to waste. As a matter of fact, it may be said in general that the best varieties are those which ripen just before the trees shed their leaves. If a persimmon is not edible before frost, it is simply because the variety happens to be a late one and the fruit is not ripe. In order to be on the safe side, however, it is recommended in the bulletin already mentioned that housewives who are using persimmon pulp in the preparation of bread, cakes and other

dishes, add one-half teaspoonful of baking soda to each cupful of pulp in all recipes in which the pulp is heated. This removes whatever astringency there may be in the fruit and does away with all risk of a puckered mouth. A number of practical recipes calling for the use of persimmon pulp are contained in the bulletin.

In the propagation of the persimmon, certain precautions that are necessary in the case of the other fruits should be observed. Seeds gathered for propagating purposes should be stratified at once. If they are allowed to dry out it is often necessary to soak them for two or three days before they are planted, boiling water being used for the purpose. The seed bed in which the seedlings are grown should be well drained with rather light soil and a good supply of humus. The ground should be deep plowed in order to permit the penetration of the long taproots which are characteristic of the tree.

The roots of persimmon trees sprout readily when the top is removed and this accounts for the persistence at times of clumps of sprouts in fields where they are not wanted. It also enables small pieces of roots six or eight inches long to be used for propagating. The ends of the roots should be sealed with grafting wax or pitch in order to prevent decay, and the pieces buried in sand through the winter. If the moisture supply is plentiful they will then grow readily the following spring. Cuttings of branches may be used in the same way as the root cuttings.

In cases where it is desirable to graft, the operation is usually most successful if it is put off until the trees have definitely started into new growth. It is also of the utmost importance that the cut surface of both bark and wood be protected with as little delay as possible from exposure to the air. Grafting wax, waxed cloth or similar devices are used to afford the necessary protection. The various methods of grafting are discussed in some detail in the new bulletin.

In addition to the value of the fruit for household purposes, persimmon wood is used to a large extent by manufacturers of cotton mill supplies, who make bobbins from it. It is also used for shoe lasts. The live trees are in considerable demand for shade and ornamental purposes and one authority states that as a shade tree on private grounds the persimmon compares favorably with any of the other species in this country.

ORCHARD TOPICS

PRUNE IN DORMANT SEASON

Removal of Dead Branches Cannot Affect Vitality of Tree, No Matter When Work Is Done.

(By W. J. GREEN, Ohio Experiment Station.)

In practice summer pruning on a considerable scale is not advisable. It is difficult to see, when the leaves are on, just which branches should be removed, except in the case of dead branches. One must be on his guard, also, to avoid peeling of the bark when it peels readily. Pruning is less expeditiously done in summer than when the trees are dormant.

There are occasions, however, when one desires to complete work of pruning begun early in the season. There need be no fear of injuring the trees



A Badly Pruned Peach Tree—The Bearing Wood Is Near the Extremities of the Limbs, and Even a Small Crop of Fruit Would Be Likely to Break the Limbs.

by taking off a moderate number of branches when the leaves are on, in spite of the fact that the removal of leaves debilitates a tree. If done early in the summer the injury is less than after the summer growth is nearly completed.

The removal of dead branches cannot affect the vitality of the tree, no matter when done. Nor can there be any serious effect if here and there branches, which are too close, or which cross, are removed. The thinning out of small, twiggy branches for the purpose of thinning the fruit is not a harmful process in early summer. The drain on the tree is less than it would be to bear an abnormally heavy crop of fruit. There are a great many trees which might be relieved of a surplus of fruit during May and early June to good advantage.

BEST ORCHARD COVER CROPS

Largely of Same Composition as Farmyard Manure—Interesting Comparison Is Given.

Cultivation is the cheapest and most valuable fertilizer at the disposal of the grower. The best cover crops are largely of the same composition as farmyard manure, and with the exception of being unable to seed the soil with germs of decay, may take their place in every particular. A comparison of the three most popular cover crops with manure is shown herewith:

	Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potash		Water	
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Vetch	.65	.146	.476	79.15				
Red clover	.41	.13	.45	80.00				
Ryegrass	.55	.15	.75	...				
Manure	.5 to .75	.5 to .75	.5 to .75	...				

Vetch and red clover are legumes and take a large part of their nitrogen from the air, and when they decay give it to the soil. Rye has the power of breaking up and absorbing a large quantity of potash. They are all lacking in phosphorus, which is easily and cheaply supplied by 200 pounds of acid phosphate or fine bone meal.

TREATMENT FOR FIRE-BLIGHT

Only Process Recommended by Plant Pathologists Is to Cut It Out—Paint Surface of Mound.

There is nothing that can be done to cure or remedy the pear or fire-blight after it has once started. The only process recommended by plant pathologists is to cut it out, and thus stop its ravages. The cut should be made at least a foot below the blighted area, in order to be sure to cut below all diseased tissue.

Paint the surface of the wound with lime-sulphur or formalin solution. One-quarter of a pint of formalin solution to five gallons of water makes a good sterilizing solution to be used at any place where disease germs of plants, trees or bushes are to be killed.

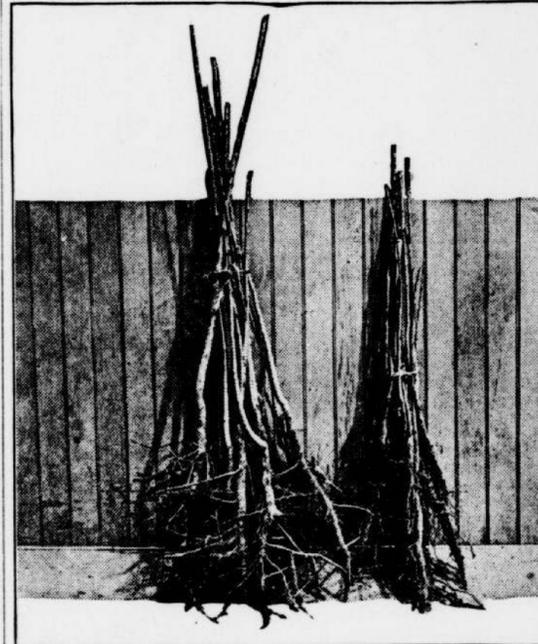
Where the blight has reached the bark of the larger branches or trunk, it should be neatly trimmed away with a knife, then sterilized and painted with ordinary paint. Dip knives and pruning implements into a sterilizing solution occasionally.

Burn the twigs and cuttings from blighted trees as soon as they are removed.

Work of Practical Orchardist.
The practical orchardist must prune, spray and fertilize his trees for the purpose of making them produce fruit of a superior quality.

Currants and Gooseberries.
Currants and gooseberries will grow on almost any kind of soil and raise a fair crop of corn.

Cut Out Sprouts.
Cut out sprouts from shade trees, plums and apples. They only take strength from the main plant.



Persimmon Trees After Making One Season's Growth in the Nursery—These Trees Are Propagated by Grafting on the Seedling Stocks—The Bundle on the Left Is the Golden Gem Variety; on the Right the Miller—The Largest Trees Are Four to Five Feet Tall—The Difference in the Size of the Trees in the Two Bundles Is Due to the Difference in the Natural Vigor of Growth of These Two Sorts.

Disposing of Surplus.

If your eggs and chickens have a reputation for quality you can readily dispose of the surplus. Keep books and see if you are making anything above expenses. If your eggs are not paying the ever-present feed bills, there is something wrong.

Need for Thinning Apples.

There is the same need for thinning apples as for thinning vegetables. No one would think of leaving 20 melon plants in a hill nor beets as thick as they come up. Good, smooth and large apples can be secured only by thinning the overloaded branches.

Lime for Turkeys.

Remember, fresh-slaked lime will kill young turkeys, but lime that has been slaked a long time is fine for turkeys, any age, to pick at.

Secret of Success.

The secret of successful poultry breeding is to cull. Unless a bird has a strong constitution it is not an economical producer.