

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

Dr. Wu Seeks Light on Spirit World



WASHINGTON.—Having satisfied himself regarding the technique of flying machines when he visited Wilbur Wright at College Park, Md., and piled him with all sorts of questions, Dr. Wu Ting Fang, Chinese minister to the United States, turned his attention to spiritualism and took his first plunge into the mysteries of the spirit world. He attended a meeting of the Temple League of Spiritualists, where he was informed by a medium that half a dozen spirits hovered by his side.

From the time the "human interrogation mark" as Dr. Wu has become known here, entered the hall, accompanied by Wu Chang, an attaché of the Chinese legation, and took a seat directly in front of the speaker's platform, he was all open-eyed attention. Notwithstanding his flowing purple robes, the minister was not recognized by the half-hundred attendants, but was the center of curiosity.

Uncle Sam Plants Fish by Billion



DURING the last fiscal year more fish and fish eggs were distributed by the bureau of fisheries of the Department of Commerce and Labor in Washington than ever before in its history. For the first time the total of fish and eggs distributed passed the three billion mark. The exact number was 3,117,301,525.

Last year the total amount of the distribution was 2,871,456,250, and although Commissioner George M. Bowers suggested early in the year that he hoped to pass the three billion mark, small hope was entertained that he would be able to do it.

In addition to the increased distribution, a careful estimate has shown that the cost of distribution has been reduced to about \$152 a million of fish and eggs distributed, which is a lower average cost than has ever before been attained. The cost during the previous fiscal year was \$160.25. In 1907 it was \$172.28, 1906 \$216.80.

When the bureau was established, in 1904, the cost of distribution was \$403.51 a million, while in 1897, the year before Commissioner Bowers took charge of the work, the annual output was 568,144,042 and the cost was \$397.76 a million.

Solve Post Office Department Mystery



THE postoffice department in Washington has just solved a problem that of several years' standing, and which for a long time they feared they never would be able to solve. Since as far back as August, 1904, at regular intervals, the Boston postmaster has been sending with his consignment of dead letters to the dead letter office a number of small envelopes, all addressed with a lead pencil in the same handwriting to the same person, street and number in Boston, with no postage paid upon them.

When in time it became necessary to open these letters at the dead letter office each was found to contain a \$1 bill, wrapped in a scrap of brown paper or old newspaper, without the least sign or mark by which the sender might be identified.

The number of these letters sent to the dead letter office having reached 246, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General De Graw concluded to send out his inspectors to run down the mystery, for mystery he felt there must be.

After a long search the postoffice inspectors found that the name upon the envelope and the addresses were correct for the years 1904 to 1907.

Woman's Mouth Was a Speakeasy Till



LEUT. FLATHER of the Washington police gave away one of the secrets of the "third degree" when he told Judge Aukum how he extracted about two dollars in small change from the mouth of a colored woman who pretended that she had a gum boil.

Policemen Russell, Looper and Harney had made a raid on a house on G street southwest that was thought to be a "speakeasy," or, in legal terms, an unlicensed bar.

The police sent into the house two or three people with marked coins. When the raid was made George Tubman, Annie Tubman and Charles Norman were gathered in, together with a lot of evidence in the shape of whisky and beer.

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



By William Pitt

If the land is free from burrs and cocksles, let the sheep run over the grain and cornfields.

Regular feed, clean, pure water and good housing will prove encouragement to the flock to do their best.

The farm is the place to grow the finest type of manhood. Happy is the farmer who is raising a good crop.

Fertile, moist land will often contain producing good, profitable crops of market hay for an ordinary working lifetime.

Before retiring at night visit the stable and see that everything is all right. You may save a good horse by this little attention.

All fallen and wormy fruit fed to the pigs will do them good and return a profit to the farmer. It will also keep down the insect pests.

It is a good thing to keep accounts of all farming operations to know just where one is at all the time. We all like to know what the other farmer is doing, how he does it, and how much he makes.

It is time to pot Bermuda lilies, if you wish to have them in flower at Christmas rather than (like all the world), at Easter. Freesias, too, should be potted immediately for Christmas flowering.

Many complain that the birds eat up all of their sunflower seeds. This may be true in very rare cases, but it is not generally true. Some birds will eat some of them, but some waste in all crops must be expected.

Among bulbs suited to the window garden, the cyclamen is one of the most interesting varieties. The foliage is neat and elegant, and the whole growth makes a compact little bouquet. The flowers are unusually picturesque in their form.

Those who intend setting out trees and other plants in the fall should make their selections and have their orders in ahead of shipping time. Deal with agents and nurserymen who are known to be honest and who have stock that is up to grade and will grow.

Many farmers have a notion that because sheep will eat weeds and the leaves of brush they do not need any other kind of food. Often when there are no weeds or grass in the pasture the sheep are allowed to graze almost the bare ground, and they are expected to live and thrive on this.

When the colt begins to eat, give it a variety of feeds for the building of the various tissues of its body. Clover hay and wheat bran contain necessary mineral matter for the building of bone. Flax seed meal in small quantities is good for keeping the colt's bowels in good condition and for making its coat sleek.

An occasional bran mash, with about a pint of molasses should be given when a day's rest, or light work can be had. Keep your work team as near in size and shape as possible. By far the most important matter is that they should possess like characteristics of temper, and disposition, so that they will work in harmony.

Instruct your shipper to wrap the roots of the plants well and have him inform you by mail as to the time the shipment is made, so that you can be on the lookout for them and receive them without unnecessary delay. The plants should be insured against fungous diseases and injurious insects. Most states enforce this legally.

The durum wheat seems to have plenty of good qualities, and is coming to the front every year in western Nebraska and Kansas. Such being the case, the millers might as well make up their minds to deal with it. Farmers in the western part of this state are just finding out how to raise it; in years past they have not sowed it early enough and have not used enough seed.

The growth of new feathers requires rich nitrogenous foods, such as meat, milk, oil meal, wheat, cowpeas and barley. If the fowl is starved she cannot be expected to lay eggs and grow a new crop of feathers, but if she is fed liberally she is able to grow a new covering for her body and probably lay a few eggs. Since the hen has heavy demands upon her during moulting season she should be given extra feed and care to meet the severe physical requirements.

The best hen houses, according to the consensus of opinion of the best poultrymen, are made out of inch lumber, covered with some good roofing paper, left with an open front and plenty of single windows. The house should preferably be low down, just high enough so that an ordinary man can stand comfortably and do the work that is necessary. There will not be enough room to stand erect under either of the eaves. This low roof makes it possible to keep the house comfortably warm and the open front, which is about three and one-half feet high, provides an abundance of air without a draught.

Give the colts plenty of room to run about in.

Chilly nights makes one think of the winter's supply of fuel.

Be regular in cleaning the hen house and you will not be troubled with vermin.

Working capital for the successful farmer: Money, 25 per cent.; brains, 75 per cent.

Sheep are exceedingly fond of turnips. Harvest the largest and leave the remainder for the sheep.

A general observance of care in gathering eggs, resulting in fewer rots and spots, will raise the average price.

When getting machinery for the dairy, get the best appliances you can, but remember that it requires gumption to work it.

After you have worn out a horse by hard work do not sell him for a mere song. His faithfulness should not go unrewarded.

Introduction of new blood into a flock of noted layers strengthens the blood, if the newcomers are close descendants of a strain of prolific layers.

The old Madonna lily or St. Joseph's lily (Illum candidum), is still one of the most noble and stately of our garden lilies, and this is its planting season.

Daffodils are perhaps the first choice, with crocus, snowdrops and grape hyacinths for variety, and in shady places lilies of the valley and some others.

Hay farming with chemicals as commonly practiced no doubt removes more fertility than it restores, but the process is very slow and no doubt highly profitable under right conditions.

Rhubarb needs plenty of rich fertilizer. Equal parts of hen and horse manure with autumn leaves to cover the crowns during the severe winter months will keep the plants for early spring sprouting.

If the hen has to battle with the strain of growing new feathers with a short supply of nourishing feeds, her flesh will be used up for making feathers and she will grow poor and weak under the strain.

With most of the tuberous and bulbous plants it is imperative to reset in the fall in order to secure a new root growth before the dormant season of midwinter, so that early growth and blossoming will take place.

The Dutch bulbs, so-called tulips, hyacinths and crocuses—have a distinctive charm in their whole form, color and manner of growth, which gives them a very secure place of their own in the floral census of the year.

Rhubarb roots should be re-planted occasionally. If the stools remain undisturbed for several years they often commence to decay in the center and after awhile the whole root becomes diseased. Do not allow the seed stock to ripen.

Straw manure makes an excellent filler for the washy places in the fields. It will fill the holes and catch all the soil that washes into them. The manure contained in the straw will help to make the ground more productive when it is again cultivated.

The results from more than 100 co-operative experiments in growing alfalfa, located in over one-half of the counties of New York State, indicate that where neither lime nor inoculation is applied the chance of a successful crop is not more than 20 per cent., or one chance in five.

With the high price of both wool and lambs, it is important that we should give the sheep and lambs extra attention during the most trying seasons of the year. One of these trying seasons is during the latter part of the hot months when the weather is excessively warm and pastures short.

Much improvement can be made by the weaning of the lambs in the summer; by doing this the ewes are given a chance to recuperate before the next breeding season. These lambs if put on fresh green pasture will also fatten and be in better market condition than if let run with the ewes until late fall.

In several places owners of large herds of dairy cows report that their output this summer has fallen from 10 to 15 per cent. below that of last summer. In most dairy sections, too, there are more cows this year than last, and the fact that less milk is produced this summer than last summer clearly indicates that the average flow per cow has decreased very much.

When the horse refuses to pull, do not get excited and abuse him. Be kind, caress him and allay his excitement by speaking kindly to him. Leave the team alone for ten or fifteen minutes, then urge them again, turning them a little to the right or left, so as to get them in motion before they feel the weight of the load behind them. Drive them about 20 or 30 steps and stop them, if on a hard pull before the excited animal stops of his own accord. Then pat him and start again.

When used alone the cowpea does not make an exceptionally good quality of ensilage, due to a large amount of water in the green vines, making a watery silage that keeps poorly and is not relished well by stock. When combined with corn in the proportion of about one-fourth cowpeas to three-fourths corn, it makes an excellent silage that keeps well and is relished by all kinds of stock. This combination has greater feeding value than corn silage, for the reason that cowpeas have a high protein content and make the mixture a more nearly balanced ration.

For the Hostess

Chat on Interesting Topics of Many Kinds, by a Recognized Authority

Afternoon Refreshments. I read your part of the paper before I read any other, and always find something I have wanted to know. Soon I expect to entertain about eight young ladies in the afternoon. What shall I have for refreshments? We will sit at dining-room table. Shall I have the table devoid of eatables when we sit down and have everything passed? MARY.

At this season of the year I would have coffee or chocolate, with whipped cream if the latter, and either individual charlotte russe or a salad, with nut sandwiches. Canteloupes filled with vanilla ice cream are delicious. Have a centerpiece of flowers, either with or without candles, according to the day—whether dark and gloomy, or sunny. Have the refreshments at each place. You can pour the beverage or have it served from the kitchen.

Name for a Girls' Club. I intend to entertain a club of seven girls of about 11 or 12 years of age. I am somewhat at a loss to know what to do to amuse them. Would you kindly suggest some inexpensive way? What should I have for refreshments? Could you suggest some name for this sewing club? A SCHOOLGIRL.

If it is a sewing club, won't the girls bring their work? I have heard the names "Thimble club," "Busy Bee," "Needle club," or how would "Scissors circle" do? And have little vest scissors made into pins for the club members. You could have nut sandwiches, with hot cocoa, and homemade candy, or if you want something more elaborate perhaps you could have ice cream and cake.

Selecting the Engagement Ring. Would you please inform me if it is proper for a young lady to go with her gentleman friend and select her engagement ring, or should he go unaccompanied and select it? W. H. F.

There is nothing improper in a girl going with her fiancé to select the ring, only if he hasn't an abundance of riches it might be embarrassing to him. He could consult her, then take a selection of three or four rings for her to choose at her own home.

Perfectly Proper. Is it proper to send announcements in your home town when you have a very quiet wedding? H. R. J.

By all means send announcements to all those calling acquaintance you wish to retain.

Order of Receiving Party. What should constitute the receiving line and their order at the reception following a wedding when the bridal party consists of two flower girls, one ring bearer, six ushers, six maids, one matron of honor, bride, father, groom? OLGA.

The flower girls and ring bearer do not appear in the receiving line. Their responsibility ends after the ceremony. The father (and mother if there is one) stand first, then the bride and bridegroom, next the matron, then the six maids. The ushers do not receive, but make themselves generally useful, seeing that all guests are presented. If the bridegroom's father and mother are present, they stand the other side of the "maids."

Roman gold pieces for brooches, hatpins, belt buckles and the like are set with very large stones.

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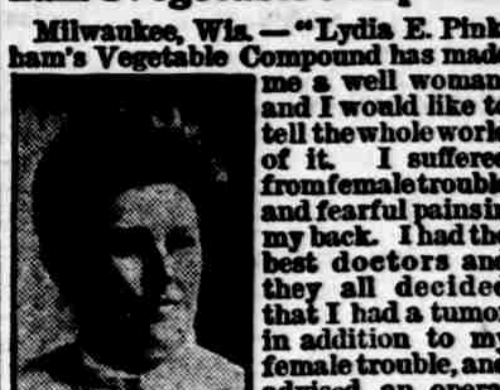
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AFTER SUFFERING ONE YEAR

Cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound



Milwaukee, Wis.—"Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has made me a well woman, and I would like to tell the whole world of it. I suffered from female trouble and fearful pains in my back. I had the best doctors and they all decided that I had a tumor in addition to my female trouble, and advised an operation. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound made me a well woman and I have no more backache. I hope I can help others by telling them what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for me."—Mrs. EMMA LUTZ, 633 First St., Milwaukee, Wis.



For Lame Back

An aching back is instantly relieved by an application of Sloan's Liniment. This liniment takes the place of massage and is better than sticky plasters. It penetrates—without rubbing—through the skin and muscular tissue right to the bone, quickens the blood, relieves congestion, and gives permanent as well as temporary relief.

Here's the Proof. Mr. JAMES C. LEE, of 1100 9th St., S.E., Washington, D.C., writes: "Thirty years ago I fell from a scaffold and severely injured my back. I suffered terribly at times; from the small of my back all around my stomach was just as if I had been beaten with a club. I used every plaster I could get with no relief. Sloan's Liniment took the pain right out, and I can now do as much harder work as any man in the shop, thanks to Sloan's Liniment."

Sloan's Liniment

Mr. J. P. EVANS, of Mr. Atty, Ga., says: "After suffering for three years with rheumatism, I used Sloan's Liniment, and was cured sound and well, and am glad to say I have not been troubled with rheumatism since. My leg was badly swollen from my hip to my knee. One-half bottle took the pain and swelling out."



FREE Mary T. Goldman's Gray Hair Restorer restores original color to hair, cures itching scalp, and keeps hair from falling out. It is a pure and clear water. Don't let cheap imitations fool you. It is the best and most satisfactory for men and women of all ages. Write to E. J. Goldman, 100 Bond Street, New York, N.Y. Be sure to mention original color of your hair. Full size bottles 50c and 10c.

Readers of this paper do not forget to buy anything advertised in its columns should insist upon having what they ask for, refusing all substitutes or imitations.

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM cleanses and beautifies the hair, keeps it from falling out, and restores its natural color. It is the best and most satisfactory for men and women of all ages. Write to E. J. Goldman, 100 Bond Street, New York, N.Y. Be sure to mention original color of your hair. Full size bottles 50c and 10c.

Bale Ties For Hay and Straw

Save the Baby—Use PISO'S CURE THE BEST REMEDY FOR COLIC & GUS Should be given at once when the little one coughs. It heals the delicate throat and protects the lungs from infection—guaranteed safe and very palatable. All Druggists, 25 cents.

PLAITS NOW ON ALL COATS

None of the Latest Models Are Without This Particular Form of Adornment.

The newest models in coats have plaits down the middle of the back, starting from two inches below the waistline and running to the hem. They are side-plaited and turned toward the center. They usually match a panel of plaits of the skirt that run down the center back. There are few short jackets, but those that are shown by the tailors are either plaited from shoulder to hem like the Buster Brown slip, or the plaiting is put on as a peplum to cover the hips.

If this plaited part is too short it will be extremely ungraceful. It should be at least ten inches and finished with a one-inch hem. The coat that has a double box plait down the middle of the back will be worn on very long coats over one-piece frocks. The plait is stitched on each side and slightly shaped in to the waist.

Colored embroidery enters into much of the new neckwear. Hips are slightly more emphasized than in the summer styles. A peculiar gray glove is lovely with costumes in the gray shades. Filmy ties are worn with jacket suits, and jabots of a sheer order are also in vogue.

Oxidized long chains and small purses of the same material are worn with tailored frocks. Castor shoes of leather and sail cloth are suitable to wear with dresses of the same color.

Silk-covered cord is a special trimming that makes a gown look individual, and is thicker than what is known as rat-tail.

Rosettes of all kinds, from the tiny ones for slippers to large fluffy affairs worn as a sash, figure among novel dress accessories.

FANCIES OF FASHION

None of the new winter coats shows any flare at the hips.

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