

most any man on the ticket in his place, with the democrats in the same depleted condition, would have polled as many votes. The returns show that in nearly every precinct Roosevelt ran behind McKinley's popular vote, and that Parker ran still more behind the popular vote of Bryan. Putting the question up to the democratic party squarely, Parker was not the choice of the rank and file for the nomination. He was in a sense of the word forced on the party, and its declaration of principles was such as to inspire not the most unbounded confidence in the party leadership. In the west, the young refused to cast their votes for a party which did not represent western sentiment, and in which the leaders had relegated the westerners to the rear. In short, the eastern democrats, who had claimed that the people wanted them back in control of the party because Bryan had been twice defeated, should realize today that they have made a dismal failure, and that it is a sure thing that people do not want them in control of the party.—Fresno Evening Democrat.

A Matter of Taste

"It doesn't make so much difference what you eat, so long as it tastes good," said Mr. Albert Frette of San Francisco, at the Hotel Lexington. Mr. Frette is a professional hunter-up of good things. In other words, he arranges banquets and dinners.

"The very fact that tastes so widely differ is proof sufficient that it is all a matter of custom. The North Sea man eats whale blubber and enjoys it; the Eskimo smacks his lips over old fish; right here in your fair town of Baltimore your Italians and Poles along the water front will haul seine on greasy little spots, soak them in oil and eat them raw; down at the World's fair the Igorrote makes merriness with his singed dog feast; on the Fiji Islands a few of the epicures still consider nothing quite so delicious as a missionary steak; down on the Bahama Islands large lizards and snail soup are considered great delicacies,

and on the deserts of the far east the hungry man scoops up ants by the handful and eats them with avidity, thoroughly delighting in their delicate acid flavor. We Americans eat the despised hog, and those who too truly despise the hog to eat him indulge in chicken fresh from the yard; one man will not touch a crab, but will eat the bullbat, a species of buzzard found in the south and west. Another man will not touch the crab because he is a scavenger of the sea, but enjoys the sweet meat of the catfish, which lives in mud and river deposits. In many parts of the country

there are people who still cling to the old idea that tomatoes are rank poison, but these same people will make elderberry pie, in spite of their neighbors' opinion that elderberries and pokeberries are good only for making inks and dyes.

"Isn't there something in the back of your Latin book that goes like this—'De Gustibus non est disputandum?' Well, that's the point exactly, and if my neighbor likes to eat white clay and pick his teeth with a fence rail, why not? Maybe my perverted appetite also makes his merry in his sleeve."—Baltimore News.

CORN A HUMAN FOOD

Last Tuesday there was held in this city the annual meeting of the Southern Corn Millers' association. But few persons know that there is such an association and the extent of its importance. The corn crop of Tennessee is probably the most valuable of its agricultural products and compares favorably with any southern state in that regard. For that reason probably and because of the large corn milling interests in Tennessee, a Tennessean is president of the association.

Corn is the most valuable agricultural crop of the United States. The government estimate of this year's corn crop is approximately 2,450,000,000 bushels, which at the present market price of 50 cents a bushel would make that crop worth \$1,225,000,000. The existence of a corn millers' association is of interest because of the rapidly increasing use of corn products as a distinctive American table food. Not only is it increasing in use and popularity in this country, but the fact that the Europeans are also learning to eat corn is pretty well evidenced by the export of corn to Europe that increased from 30,000,000 bushels in 1891 to 192,000,000 bushels in 1902, and on account of the present high price of wheat will probably reach much larger proportions this year. It may be recalled that Col. Charles J. Murphy some years ago went abroad as special commissioner of the department of agriculture and worked long and faithfully to introduce American corn as an article of diet in Europe. As a result of his propaganda "Murphy bread," as it is called in Germany and Belgium, is becoming extremely popular. It is made of a mixture of Indian meal and wheat flour, and as the emperor ate it and highly commended it, it straightway became fashionable.

Deploring the lack of appreciation that is shown in some regions of our own country for this palatable and highly nutritious food, Colonel Murphy recently said: "The ruddy face and stout body of the child of fifty years ago, followed by the strength and constitution of the man and woman, was little less than a tribute to the excellence of mush and milk for the child, hog and hominy for the adult. But with the removal of the andirons and the crane the ash cake, Johnny-cake, hominy and pudding are little more than a tradition with many people of the present day."

A writer enthusiastically sounding the praises of this American food, recently said:

"If any intelligent man will take the trouble to cook his own corn meal mush in the morning, sternly commanding Bridget to keep out of the way meantime, he can assist in the renaissance of the divinest cereal and have a breakfast food which he can eat joyfully 365 days in the year and never tire of.

"The recipe for cooking it is extremely simple. Good meal is the first requisite. Obtain it of one of the large first-class grocers, and be sure to get

coarse, pure meal—nothing fine. Keep it in a glass jar with a cover that screws tightly, for corn meal spoils easily and quickly becomes wormy if not well covered. Never try to keep it in the house in a large quantity, and never get it of a grocer who keeps it long on hand.

"I will assume that the patriotic American who has taken this matter into his own hands has a gas range. When he goes to his bath in the morning let him put on a small kettle with about two inches of water in it, into which he will put a heaping teaspoonful of salt. Then let him light the gas and turn it up only enough so that when he comes from the bath the water will have begun to boil. He will have learned this trick by experience. The kettle should be covered with a lid.

"Then let him fill a teacup nearly full of this corn meal and turn up the gas now so that the water in the kettle boils actively. Then let him remove the lid of the kettle and sprinkle the meal slowly from the cup into the boiling water, making sure by the use of a spoon, if necessary, that the meal does not 'lump.' But it will not lump if he sprinkles the meal slowly and carefully and the active boiling keeps up.

"By the time he has poured in all the meal his mush will have grown quite thick, and will be sputtering and

DIAMONDS ON CREDIT

DON'T cramp yourself for Christmas money. Use the Loftis System and make \$5 or \$10 do the work of \$100. You may select any Diamond or Watch from our Christmas Catalogue and have it sent on approval. If you like it and want to keep it, pay one-fifth of the price and send the balance to us in eight equal monthly payments. Guarantee with every Diamond. Exchanges allowed at any time. We have been awarded the Gold Medal at the St. Louis Universal Exposition in competition with exhibitors from all over the world. Please write for Illustrated Catalogue. It costs nothing to examine our goods. We pay express charges.

LOFTIS BROS. & CO. Diamond Cutters and Manufacturing Jewelers, Dept. 1-69 92 to 98 State St., Chicago, Ill.

\$7.70 buys this fire-proof Home Deposit Vitr.

It inches high, 9 1/2 inches wide, 8 1/2 in. deep, weighs 25 pounds. Just the thing for protecting valuable papers and jewelry. Made with strong key lock. With combination lock \$9.75. Larger sizes at \$11.25, \$12.15 and up to our 140 lb. business safe. Write for special safe catalogue. You will be surprised at the prices we make on absolutely reliable fire-proof safes of the highest type of construction. Catalogue by return mail.

Montgomery Ward & Co.
Michigan Ave., Madison and Washington Sts., Chicago

FREE GOLD WATCH & RING

An American movement watch with Solid Gold Plated Case, fully warranted to keep correct time, equal in appearance to a Solid Gold Filled Watch, warranted 20 yrs. Also a Solid Filled Gold Zamboni Diamond Ring, sparkling with the very brilliancy of a \$100 diamond, are given absolutely free to boys & girls or anyone for selling 50 pieces of our business jewelry at 1/2 cost. Send your address and we will send you the jewelry postpaid, when sold send us \$1, and we will positively send you both the watch and the ring, also a chain. Address: **SONG JEWELRY CO., DEPT 69 CHICAGO.**

"BEST OF ALL"

That's what users say about the great **PRAIRIE STATE** Incubators and Brooders. Our illustrated catalogue tells why they are best. It's free. Write: **Prairie State Incubator Co., Box 457, Homer City, Pa.**

OPIUM and Whiskey Habits cured at home without pain. Book of particulars sent FREE. **B. M. Woolley, H. D., Atlanta, Ga., 103 N. Pryor St.**

THE PLATFORM TEXT BOOK

Contains Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the U. S., All National Platforms, of all political parties, since their formation, to and including those of 1904, 188 pages. Is just what every public speaker should have at hand for ready reference. Postpaid 25 cents. Address, **THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Nebr.**

Suit Cases \$2.50

From \$2.50 up to \$20.00. Fine traveling bags, 22 different styles from \$1.15 up. Trunks of every size and style, all at our famous wholesale prices. Our prices are so much lower than those you are accustomed to paying that you will be surprised when you examine the illustrated catalogue we wish to send to any person interested in anything in the traveling line. Ask for Special Trunk Catalogue. We will send it by return mail.

Montgomery Ward & Co.
Michigan Ave., Madison and Washington Sts., Chicago

If You Want a FENCE

That is made from the best High Carbon Steel Wire. That is Heavily Galvanized to prevent rust or corrosion. That is COILED to provide for contraction and expansion. That is Strong Enough to turn the most vicious animal. That is Woven Closely to turn chickens and small pigs. That staples to the posts as you would nail a board. That easily adjusts itself to all uneven surfaces. That is woven in such a manner that compels every wire to bear its portion of strain. That you can buy Direct from the firm that makes it, with Freight Prepaid to your nearest railroad station. That you can examine at your railroad station and return if it displeases you in any particular. That you can erect and Use for Thirty Days, and if unsatisfactory return at our expense and get your money. Write for Free Catalog giving full information. Address: **KITSELMAN BROS., Box 215 MUNCIE, INDIANA.**

STARK FRUIT BOOK

shows in NATURAL COLOR and accurately describes 216 varieties of fruit. Send for our terms of distribution. We want more salesmen.—Stark Bro's, Louisiana, Mo.

BE A SUCCESS.

We can teach you how to make your farm pay better than it ever has done. Let us send you our pamphlet **100% FARMER.** It costs you nothing to learn about our methods. **Correspondence Agricultural College** 436 Nebraska St., Sioux City, Iowa.

The "Daisy" Sweep Mill \$14.95

Costs \$16 to \$25 elsewhere. Has 19-Inch steel burrs of finest quality.

The finest line of standard implements in the world at your command—Climax Plows, Blue Jay Sulkies, 8 styles of Peg Harrows, Champion Disc Harrows, \$17.15; Corn Shellers, Hay Tools, Windmills, Scales, Diamond Grinders, Gas Engines, Incubators, Steel Tanks, etc. The Daisy Sweep Mill as here illustrated, capacity 18 bu. per hour, weighs 550 lbs. Cannot clog. Every farmer should have our 48-page Implement Catalogue. It quotes a really high-grade line of implements, tells about our plan of shipping from warehouses at Chicago, Toledo, O., or St. Louis; explains how we can make our own prices; explains our binding guarantee, in which we agree to take back any tool not satisfactory, and gives much valuable implement information. New edition now ready. Ask for Implement Catalogue—**Montgomery Ward & Co.** Michigan Ave., Madison and Washington Sts., Chicago.