

Science Notes

BY WILLIAM G. HAYNES.

INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY

"The Nation's Business," the monthly publication of the United States Chamber of Commerce, is performing a noteworthy service in emphasizing the achievements and the continued progress of this country in matters of science and efficiency. This paper has recently spoken of the progress made in America in the matter of industrial chemistry. A few illustrations may indicate what our industrial chemists are doing in many lines.

Grape-growing, now a large industry in this country, was disturbed by an insect which attacked the roots. Chemists concocted a fertilizer which would nourish the plant in a way to produce a stock too tough for the insect. Incidentally, grape-growing thus became, also, much less dependent on good or bad seasons.

How to get rid of thousands of tons of raisin seeds was a problem which developed in California. A chemist found tannin in the seeds, which now are not burnt but are utilized in a way to be of service to leather manufacture.

Hulls from cottonseed used to go back to the fields, partially to restore the fertility which the plant had taken out of the soil. Then the oil was extracted but wastefully. The hulls were burned; later the ashes were used for the manufacture of potash. Now they are one of the chief ingredients in a balanced ration for cattle. Besides this, use, the once despised seeds present, as the result of the industrial chemist's researches, such by-products as salad oil, soap, glycerine, paint, roofing tar and a cooking fat.

Through the agency of the chemist corn is made to produce sugars, syrups, gums, starches, dextrans, oils, glycerine, acids and salts.

Twisted wood pulp is going into towels, rugs, cordage, wrapping twine, and into furniture that simulates furniture made of reeds or willow. Waste tanbark, from which all the tannin has been extracted, is now supplementing and replacing rag stock in tarred felt roofing. Some of it is going into wall paper and some into pipe conduits. Chemists are studying now the possible use of corn stalks for paper pulp.

Aluminum, as "The Nation's Business" points out, furnishes a startling example of what our industrial chemists have done. Twenty-five years ago the principal ore of aluminum, bauxite, was not even mentioned in a list of useful minerals, published by the government. In the past ten years the use of aluminum in this country has risen from ten million to one hundred million pounds a year.—The Omaha Excelsior.

ELOQUENT SPEECH DELIVERED BY LATE DR. RICKETTS.

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to remind him of Bull Run or Gettysburg, so long as the conditions as laid down at Appomatox remain uncomplicated with, so long as there remains a single citizen in this republic who is denied the right of political liberty, just so long should that bloody shirt be waved.

"We have turned toward Washington, the seat of our general government, for protection, and from both the president and the senate we have

been told that the government is powerless to protect in times of peace men who offered their lives to protect the government in its hour of imminent peril.

An Ideal Choice

"The man of my choice believes that if republicanism stands for anything it stands for the right of every American citizen to walk beneath the folds of his country's flag to the ballot box to cast one vote and have that vote counted. He believes a republican should have as much protection thrown around him in the exercise of his political rights in Mississippi as a democrat has in Maine. He believes that if Mr. Crisp is permitted to preside over our national house of representatives that General Weaver and Mrs. Lease should be permitted freedom of speech in Georgia. Mr. President, if government is a science and history has a philosophy, neither has ever been more tersely put than when the great philosopher of Rome stood upon the magnificent ruins and broken columns of its departed greatness, and with a voice of doom said: 'No republic can long stand whose foundation stone rests not upon the pillars of eternal liberty and liberty of its citizenship.'

Man of Broad Intellect

"The man for whom I vote is broad enough of vision to see that continual disregard of law breeds anarchy, and that any government which recognizes the principle that might makes right must necessarily maintain a large standing army. So true an American is he that above the dollar he places the man, above the protection of the products of labor he places the laborer, above reciprocity he places civil and political liberty, above policy he places principle, above all other considerations he places American manhood and American citizenship. His election to the high office of United States senator would honor Nebraska by placing beside the eastern millionaire our grandest specimen of western manhood and western brains. It would insure to us of this great commonwealth a representation irresistible in logic, matchless in eloquence, ripe in scholarship and unsurpassed in patriotism.

Always a Kindly Word

"For my people he never loses an opportunity of saying a kindly word, and before the court of public opinion, the supreme court of any republic, he has been for us at all times and under all circumstances a faithful advocate. To those of you who have had the pleasure of hearing him preach the doctrine of republicanism, and have heard his indescribable peroration upon what some call the force bill, I appeal to bear me witness that I do not draw the picture too strongly when I say that it is then that he equals in eloquence Demosthenes, who won his fame by hurling his powerful invectives against Philip of Macedon; it is then that he equals Cicero, who used the magic of his eloquence in expressing the sentiment of Cataline against the liberties of Rome; it is then that he equals Patrick Henry, as he sounds the alarm against the encroachment of Great Britain upon the liberties of Americans.

"Sir, when the muse of history begins to write the names of the great champions of liberty, humanity and justice high among that bright constellation of illustrious men, such as Wendell Phillips, Nat Turner, William Lloyd Garrison, Owen Lovejoy, Frederick Douglas, John Brown, Charles Sumner and the immortal Lincoln, will be written the name of my choice for United States senator, the Hon. John M. Thurston."

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