

THE CAT.

From the standpoint of utility, except in so far as decorativeness is utility, not much can be said for the average cat these days.

From year to year there have come reports of the increase of deer in Connecticut which western people have found it difficult to believe.

A bonfire was held by the Postoffice Department of over 170,000 Christmas postal cards, barred because of their unsal decoration, notification having been made that these cards are unmarketable on account of danger to the clerks in handling.

Census returns of the foreign-born inhabitants of Greater New York show that there are more natives of Italy residing in the Empire City than there are in Palermo.

The patient Griselda's famous record for meekness and endurance has been beaten by a woman in Chicago. For twelve years she supported her husband with patient resignation.

A medical journal has started a campaign against the beloved student pipe, alleging that students who smoke are not those standing highest in their classes.

Sixteen babies in a courtroom in New York upset the court's dignity and yelled their contempt of court till the latter was driven to ignominious surrender in an adjournment.

"When I read I don't like to think," is a remark credited to Thomas A. Edison. A good many others feel the same way, which is a possible explanation for the abundant output of light literature that calls for no thought in the process of its perusal.

The pure food board has issued a definition of mincemeat. But it has offered no bets that it can define the things mincemeat produces the night after.

The Supreme court of the United States has amended its rules so as to reduce the cost of litigation. Now if it could amend its rules so as to bar out about nine-tenths of the litigation something would really be accomplished.

The ruins of an ancient city of the Incas have been discovered by a Yale expedition. But what's that to winning the college football championship?

PAPER BAG COOKING

WONDER-WORKING SYSTEM PERFECTED BY M. SOYER, WORLD'S GREATEST LIVING CHEF

COOKING THE LORDLY TURKEY. By Martha McCulloch Williams.

- Grape Fruit aux Rhum, or with Raw Oysters. Salted Nuts Toasted Cheese Crackers. Roast Turkey. Sweet Potatoes in Syrup. Spanish Onions. Cranberry Sauce. Celery. Sweet Pickles. Creamed Salsify. Smothered Chicken. (Alternative to Chicken Pie). Apple Pie. Mince Pie. Pumpkin Pie. Hickory Nuts. Apples. Pears. Grapes. Black Walnuts. Black Coffee. Water Wafers. Pimento Cheese. Beverages. Cider Cup. Mineral Water. Tea. Lemonade.

Grape fruit, with rum, is, to my mind, the ideal appetizer, but if oysters are insisted upon, put three small raw ones in the middle of the prepared fruit and season with salt, pepper, Worcester sauce and tobacco.

Salted Nuts.—I made two bags—almonds and pecans—and hereafter shall never buy them ready prepared. The almonds were blanched and dried, the pecans, bought ready hulled, picked over, scalded by pouring boiling water through them in a colander, and instantly dried.

The Toasted Crackers I prepared were tiny oyster crackers, as fresh as possible. They were put in buttered bags, lightly sprinkled after they were in, with melted butter skimmed clean of froth, then given a tablespoonful of grated Parmesan, which was shaken well through them before sealing the bag.

The Turkey.—Choose him as young, as tender, as fresh as you can. But if by ill chance you must take an old bird, therefore a tough one, then, indeed, you will find in paper bag cooking, succor from the sorrow of toughness. A tough bird will require a lot of grease in the bag with it, also long and slow cooking.

Get the bird in hand early—the night before if possible. If he comes drawn, so much the better; if in a state of nature, pick, draw and singe at once, taking pains to get off all pinfeathers, and cutting out the oil-bag upon the "parson's nose"—otherwise known as the root of the tail feathers. Wash the bird thoroughly in very cold water. If there is the

least four small, scald out by pouring through boiling soda water, followed by a cold rinse water. Drain well, wipe dry, inside and out, salt very lightly, and hang up in a cold place until morning—outside, unless the temperature is below freezing, or there is danger of thieves, four or two-footed. A city housewife will do well to cover the turkey while thus hanging out with either a loosely fitting grocery paper bag or a square crash or cheese cloth.

Sweet Potatoes in Syrup.—Choose smooth, even potatoes of medium size, boil twenty minutes, drop in cold water, peel, dip in melted butter, roll in sugar, put into a buttered bag, with sugar, butter and lemon juice enough to make a fairly rich syrup. Seal bag, and cook for twelve minutes in a fairly hot oven. Pour the syrup from the bag around them into a hot dish.

Spanish Onions.—Parboil for fifteen minutes Spanish or Bermuda onions, chill them in cold water, then cut V out of the hearts. Fill the space with butter, after dusting it well with salt and pepper, put the onions in a bag with a lump of butter and a very little water, seal and cook twenty minutes in a hot oven, or thirty minutes in a very moderate one.

Creamed Salsify.—Boil tender, drop into cold water, peel and cut in two-inch length strips, steep in a dressing of butter and cream, lightly seasoned with pepper and salt. Put in well-greased bag, seal and leave in the oven a few minutes only.

Smothered Chicken.—Have a good-sized broiler cut into joints, taking care not to leave sharp bones to the joints. Salt and pepper them lightly, dredge with flour and lay in a well-greased bag upon thin slices of bacon. Cover with more bacon slices, taking care to keep the chicken spread rather flat. Add a teaspoonful of water, or a couple of peeled and sliced tomatoes. Shreds of green pepper add somewhat of flavor to the tomatoes. Seal in bag and cook for forty minutes, slacking heat almost half after the first five minutes.

Good pies demand good crust—shorter than any temper, easier broken than promises. Make it by M. Soyer's recipe, then surely it will be up to grade. Here is the recipe: Take one pound of flour, three-quarters of a pound of butter. Mix the flour with water and salt lightly until the consistency of butter. Leave this dough for half an hour, then flatten with your hand and lay your butter on the top of the paste. Then fold four-corner way, and give it two rolls, as usual. Leave your paste in a cool place for forty-five minutes, and then roll twice more. Leave it for forty-five minutes and then roll twice again.

To make the elder-cup, cut thinly the yellow peel from six oranges and six lemons, squeeze out the juice and put in with the peel and three cups of sugar. Make a gallon of sweet elder very hot, but does no harm. Pour it upon the peels and juice, and let stand in a cold place for twenty-four hours, stirring it several times. The peel can be strained out, but it looks rather pretty in glasses.

For tea lemonade, take the juice of a dozen well-washed lemons and three sweet oranges, cut the squeezed fruit in rings, and add it to the juice. Put in five cups of sugar and strain over the whole a gallon and a quarter of weak tea, boiling hot, then add a cupful of rum. This also is better for standing—it keeps several days in a cool place. The rum can be omitted if there are scruples regarding it. In that case the strained juice of a pineapple that has been shredded and allowed to stand twenty-four hours in sugar can take its place. Dilute this one-fourth with mineral water in the glasses. (Copyright, 1911, by the Associated Literary Press.)

URGES NEEDS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN

Immediate Legislation Is Imperative, Says the President.

ASKS NEW LAWS FOR ALASKA

Rules Governing Acquisition of Arid or Semi-Arid Lands Should Be Modified—Commission on Cost of Living.

Washington, Feb. 2.—A special message on the work of the Interior Department and other matters was read to Congress today.

There is no branch of the Federal jurisdiction which calls more imperatively for immediate legislation than that which concerns the public domain, and especially the part of that domain which is in Alaska.

I concur with the Secretary of the Interior in his recommendation that, entry is made upon land being reclaimed, actual occupation as a homestead of the same be not required until two years after entry, but that cultivation of the same shall be required, and that the present provision under which the land is to be paid for in ten annual installments shall be so modified as to allow a patent issue for the land at the end of five years' cultivation and three years' occupation, with a reservation of a government lien for the amount of the unpaid purchase money.

Leasing of Government Lands. The chief change, however, which ought to be made, and which I have already recommended in previous messages and communications to Congress, is that by which government coal land and phosphate and other mineral lands containing non-metallic minerals, shall be leased by the government, with restrictions as to size and time, resembling those which now obtain throughout the country between the owners in fee and the lessees who work the mines.

Would Build Trunk Line Railroad. I am not in favor of government ownership where the same certainty and efficiency of service can be had by private enterprise, but I think the conditions presented in Alaska are of such a character as to warrant the government, for the purpose of encouraging the development of that vast and remarkable territory, to build and own a trunk line railroad, which it can lease on terms which may be varied and changed to meet the growing prosperity and development of the territory.

I have already recommended to Congress the establishment of a form of commission government for Alaska. The territory is too extended, its needs are too varied, and its distance from Washington too remote to enable Congress to keep up with its necessities in the matter of legislation of a local character.

what I have said as to the immediate need for a government of much wider powers than now exists there, if it can be said to have any government at all.

Lower Colorado River. There is transmitted herewith a letter from the Secretary of the Interior setting out the work done under joint resolution approved June 25, 1910, authorizing the expenditure of \$1,000,000, or so much thereof as might be necessary, to be expended by the President for the purpose of protecting lands and property in the Imperial valley and elsewhere along the Colorado river in Arizona.

Water-Power Sites. In previous communications to Congress I have pointed out two methods by which the water-power sites on non-navigable streams may be controlled as between the state and the national government. It has seemed wise that the control should be centralized in the one government or the other as the active participant in supervising its use by private enterprise.

The Secretary of the Interior has suggested another method by which the water-power site shall be leased directly by the government to those who exercise a public franchise under provisions imposing a rental for the water power to create a fund to be expended by the general government for the improvement of the stream and the benefit of the local community where the power site is, and permitting the state to regulate the rates at which the converted power is sold.

For some years past the high and steadily increasing cost of living has been a matter of such grave public concern that I deem it of great public interest that an international conference be proposed at this time for the purpose of preparing plans, to be submitted to the various governments, for an international inquiry into the high cost of living, its extent, causes, of facts, and possible remedies.

The extraordinary growth of industry in the past two decades and its revolutionary changes have raised new and vital questions as to the relations between employers and wage earners which have become matters of pressing public concern.

The magnitude and complexity of modern industrial disputes have put upon some of our statutes and our present mechanism for adjusting such differences—where we can be said to have any mechanism at all—a strain they were never intended to bear and for which they are unsuited.

My attention has been called to the injustice which is done in this country by the sale of article in the trade purporting to be made in Ireland, when they are not so made, and it is suggested that the justice of the enactment of a law which, so far as the jurisdiction of the Federal government can go, would prevent a continuance of this misrepresentation to the public and fraud upon those who are entitled to use the statement in the sale of their goods.

IDEAS FOR HOME BUILDERS BY WM. A. RADFORD.

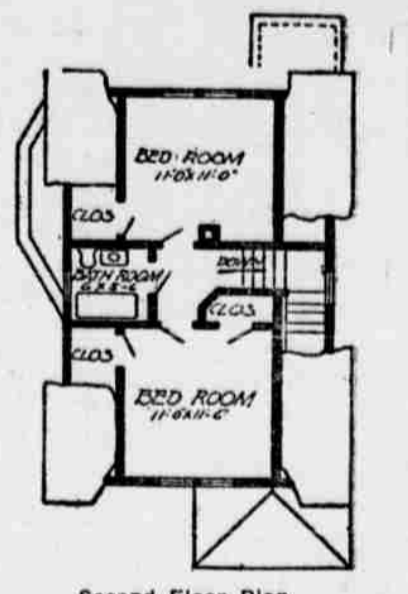
Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects.

Did you ever get married, and start housekeeping in a neat little cottage that you could dress to your liking, making it look comfortable and cozy?

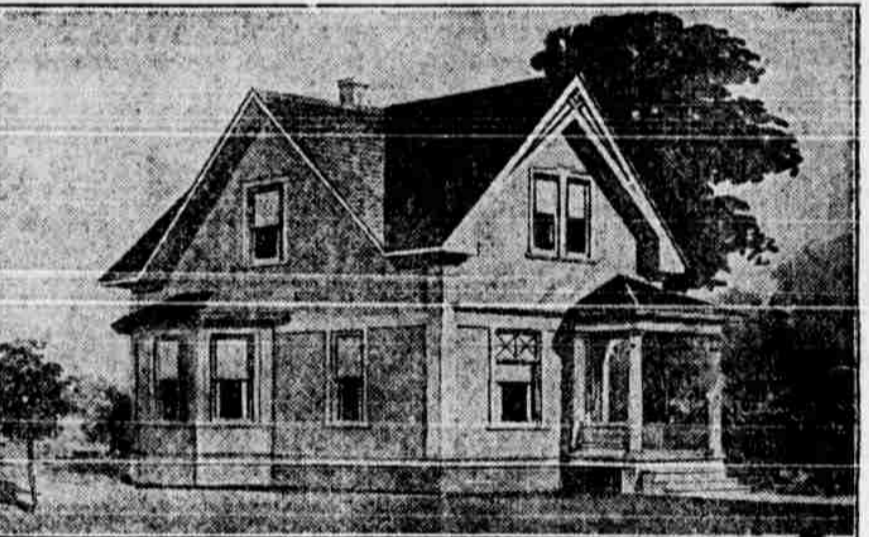
The time was, when life in a cottage meant discomfort, confinement to two or three rooms that were awkward, badly arranged, and barelooking.

The fact is, it is much more difficult to make a good, little house than to make a good, satisfactory, large one. The planning of a small house runs into a thousand difficulties; in

In this room we receive our friends, and enjoy our evenings together when at home alone. We go upstairs from the front hall in a Christian-like manner, where we have a bedroom for ourselves, with another to spare, and a good, comfortable bathroom between.



room of this kind, you don't need an attic, so these closets are economical as well as useful.



fact, architects are checkmated about every third move when they try to make a thousand-dollar cottage cater to the refined and cultivated tastes of girls who have been accustomed to good homes.

Formerly love in a cottage meant happiness during warm weather only. At the approach of fall it was necessary to go and visit mamma or hunt for a boarding house.

The little habitation of four walls, bare and utterly devoid of artistic beauty, and as innocent of modern conveniences as the cabins of our forefathers, without their redeeming big, wood-burning fireplaces.

Really Pitted Parker. Sir Gilbert Parker is fond of telling how he once met in Ontario a breezy type of Canadian, who always added the tag, "Give my love to the girls," to everything he said.

For about \$1,100 this cozy little combination of three rooms downstairs and two bedrooms and a bathroom upstairs can be built in almost any of our smaller cities or towns.

Recognizing the man, he went over to him and spoke, but the Canadian did not remember the former meeting until his distinguished interlocutor recalled the circumstances.

"Pop, is that a game in the packers' trial in Chicago?" "What's a game, my son?" "What they were telling about the 'Blind Pigs in a Pool'?"

What an interesting little home this is for young folks! It is not necessary that they should always remain in a little cottage. They may branch out when prosperity smiles if they

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People of Early History Not Only Knew All About It, but Also Did Good Work.

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FUNNY BUSINESS DIDN'T PAY

Broadway Comedian Tried It on the Manicure Girl and Got Worst of Bargain.

It doesn't always pay to be too rippily funny. The other day one of Broadway's brightest little comedians began the day with a green mousty grouch.

"Sure I want my nails fixed," he roared. "And I want 'em fixed quick." The girl brought her little table, and the rest of her paraphernalia.

Delicate Criticism.

A woman well known in New York for her exquisite taste as well as knowledge of the decorative and architectural history of the world called on the wife of a multi-millionaire who had recently built and furnished a Fifth avenue mansion at great cost.

Reply in Kind.

"If you had a leap year proposal from a pretty girl, what would you do?" "I'd jump at it."

Saved.

"Dearest," she asked, taking advantage of the fact that it was leap year, "will you be mine?"

Boss Among Vultures

The most beautifully colored of all vultures belong to the New World family; it is the true king vulture of South America, he would find some new bosses awaiting his arrival.

