

WHO'S WHO AND WHY

MAYOR CZAR OF DENVER



"Robert W. Speer, Municipal Socialist and Mayor of Denver."

That is the way the cards of Mayor R. W. Speer of Denver would read if he put his full title on them.

He—or, rather, the city of Denver under his direction—runs a public bathhouse, where soap, towels and other accessories of a bath are furnished free of charge; an electric fountain, which runs for the amusement of Denverites every night in the summer, while they listen to the music of the band employed by the city at City park; a free band concert every Sunday afternoon and evening during the winter at the Auditorium, one of the largest halls in America, which was built by the general taxation of the Denverites; a weekly newspaper distributed free to taxpayers a museum kept up by the city.

Also, the city has a system of driveways and parks and is just completing the Cherry Creek boulevard, a driveway about 12 miles in length, and a civic center is being planned, which will be a gathering place for the populace for open-air meetings and will have a sunken garden, with novel electric features to it, or a stadium for athletic sports.

The latest feature of municipal socialism the city of Denver is entering into under Mayor Speer's guidance is the purchase of its own water plant.

The city of Denver is one of the few cities of any importance in the western states with which the legislature or governor has nothing to do. It has a charter which gives it absolute home rule and makes the mayor of the city supreme in the city's affairs. The government of the city, under the charter, is a one-man government.

Mayor Speer is a firm believer in municipal ownership of public utilities. He would have the city of Denver own and operate all the public utilities; but, failing that, he thinks that the corporations using the streets for their cars or to string their wires over or run their pipes under should pay a rental to the city for this use. Along these lines he forced the Denver Tramway Company to pay \$60,000 yearly into the city treasury for the use of the streets and the Denver Gas and Electric Company \$50,000 per annum.

MR. HITCHCOCK'S AID



George W. Reik, who has been appointed private secretary to Postmaster General Hitchcock, has been in the government service about 10 years. He was originally appointed a temporary employe at the headquarters of the department of Cuba in Havana in August, 1899, but was compelled to resign on account of illness in February, 1900.

He was appointed to a clerkship in the war department in August, 1900, and resigned to accept a position at \$1,400 in the postoffice department December 1, 1905. He steadily rose in rank through the various grades to be the assistant chief clerk of the postoffice department, a post from which he was promoted to be private secretary to the postmaster general.

Mr. Reik was born in Delaware, but was appointed from Baltimore. Prior to his appointment to the Cuban service he was in a law office and later with the Standard Oil Company at Baltimore. He was educated in the public schools at Frederica, Del., and at Delaware college, Newark, Del.

Mr. Reik attracted the attention of Mr. Hitchcock when he was first assistant postmaster general. It was at his request that Mr. Reik was transferred from the war department.

MAY TAKE WILSON'S SEAT



Prof. Willet M. Hays, said to be already selected for the portfolio of agriculture when Secretary Wilson leaves the Taft cabinet, is the present assistant secretary. He is known as the "exponent of the new agriculture," for no man, perhaps, has so successfully harnessed science to the plow as he. He came to the department from the University of Michigan, after graduating from the Iowa Agricultural college, and he has devoted much time and effort to the study of the art of breeding as applied to crops. By scientific methods he has increased the yield of standard varieties of grains from 15 to 25 per cent. and he has greatly improved the quality as well.

Prof. Hays was born on an Iowa homestead farm in 1859 and with a brother took up the management of the place at his father's death, when he was 12 years old. He was thus from the outset trained to deal with farm problems and his opportunities for the study of the science of farming in the schools later received at this time the excellent foundation of practical experience.

KNIGHTED BY A KING



Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, who has just been knighted by King Edward VII, in honor of the official birthday, is generally conceded to be the greatest of living English playwrights. He began his career as a lawyer, but when clients failed to recognize their opportunity he gave up his profession and became an actor. Thence it was a short step to play-making and his success in this work has been pronounced almost from the outset.

The Pinero plays are of infinite variety, but his greatest popular successes have been his lighter works, such as "Sweet Lavender," "Trelawney of the Wells," "The Amazons" and "Princess and the Butterfly." Perhaps his real reputation as a play-writer may be said to rest upon that rather remarkable series of social studies which began with "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" and continued with "The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith," "The Gay Lord Quex," "Iris" and "Letty." His latest big success was "His House in Order." He is of English birth and descent, in spite of his odd name.

MINISTER FROM SPAIN



The Marquis of Villalobar, who succeeds Don Ramon Pina as minister to the United States from Spain, has been secretary of the Spanish embassy in London for several years and is a great favorite of King Edward VII. He is highly accomplished and it is expected that he will be a valuable addition to the social life of the national capital. The marquis is 42 years old, is handsome, a bachelor and the possessor of one of the oldest and noblest names in Spain. The marquis is not unknown in Washington, for he spent a year there as attaché at the ministry in 1887 and another year as second secretary in 1895. For the last 10 years he has been first secretary at the embassy in London. He also served as a diplomat in Paris before going to London. His recreations are painting and the study of literature and history and he belongs to several of the most exclusive clubs of London. He is a chamberlain to King Alfonso, whose close personal friend he is, and he is a grandson of the Duke de Rivas, one of Spain's most famous poets. He possesses decorations from several European governments.

KENTUCKY'S PROGRESS IN FOREST PRESERVATION



LOG BEING HAULED TO RAILROAD



NEAR WIND CAVE, KY.

Kentucky, which is one of the chief hardwood producing states in the union, and the first state in the production of yellow poplar, is making good progress in the movement for the preservation of its forests. In 1906 the legislature enacted the law providing for the state board of agriculture, forestry and immigration. During the following winter the board asked and received the co-operation of the United States Forest Service in a study of the forest conditions of the state. This work was begun two years ago and an examination of half the area of forest land in the state has been completed. The result of the first year's work, covering the 11 most eastern counties of the state is published in the Kentucky handbook, 1906-1907. The second report, now in the hands of the state board of agriculture, covers 48 counties, in the coal mining regions of the state. When this investigation is completed Kentucky will have an excellent inventory of its lumber resources.

The manner in which the forestry problem has been approached indicates that the people of the state realize that the ultimate solution of the impending timber scarcity must, for the farmer, depend largely on how he handles his individual timber resources, and that there is no better way than for him to consider the wood lot as a bank account, using the interest which is constantly accruing, but leaving the capital undiminished. Much educational work, however, will be needed to secure this desirable end.

The second report of the Forest Service suggests a forest law. Among its most important features is a provision for the appointment of a state forester. The wisdom of this is evident since only by the appointment of a state forester can the work in co-operation with Forest Service be maintained and carried to a successful conclusion. Until such time, however, as the state of Kentucky is ready to assume the management of its own forest problems, the National Service is willing and anxious to co-operate in every way possible for the furtherance of forestry among private owners in Kentucky. In the co-operative investigations of forest resources now in progress, the government spent over \$4,000 to duplicate a similar amount appropriated by the state.

Kentucky has always been rich in forest resources, but like many other states has reached the point where the timber will hereafter be produced on a continually decreasing scale, and it is necessary to protect and use carefully the forests which remain.

In 1899 Kentucky cut 734,000,000 board feet of hardwood lumber. In 1907 the cut was 854,903,000 board feet, an increase of only 16 per cent. In the nine years. In the same period the cut of yellow poplar has fallen off over 20 per cent. During the same time the prices of lumber at the mill have advanced on an average of 65 per cent., and the demand has increased accordingly.

The forest of the United States is threatened by many enemies, of which fire and reckless lumbering are the worst. Sheep grazing and wind come next. Cattle and horses do much less damage than sheep, and snow break is less costly than windfall. Landslides, floods, insects, and fungi are sometimes very harmful. In certain situations numbers of trees are killed

by lightning, which has also been known to set the woods on fire, and the forest is attacked in many other ways. For example, birds and squirrels often prevent young growth by devouring great quantities of nuts and other seeds, while porcupines and mice frequently kill young trees by gnawing away their bark.

Most of these foes may be called natural enemies, for they would injure the forest to a greater or less extent if the action of man were altogether removed. Wild animals would take the place of domestic sheep and cattle to some degree, and fire, wind, and insects would still attack the forest. But many of the most serious dangers to the forest are of human origin. Such are destructive lumbering, and excessive taxation on forest lands, to which much bad lumbering is directly due. So high are these taxes in some states for in many cases they amount to 5 or even 6 per cent. yearly on the market value of the forests, that the owners cannot afford to pay them and hold their lands. Consequently they are forced to cut or sell their timber in haste and without regard to the future. When the timber is gone the owners refuse to pay taxes any longer, and the devastated lands revert to the state. Many thousand square miles of forest have been ruined by reckless lumbering because heavy taxes forced the owners to realize quickly and once for all upon their forest land, instead of cutting it in a way to insure valuable future crops. For the same reason many countries are now poor that might otherwise have been flourishing and rich.

Trains Ducks to Eat Pests.

Joseph Junette, who farms one of the job ranches on the Alton bluffs, is enjoying an income of \$15 a day from 15 ducks which he trained to clear potato patches of bugs. He put the ducks in a pen and fed them on potato bugs exclusively after starving them until they were glad to get the bug diet.

Junette tried them first on his own patch, which comprised several acres. The ducks went through the patch like neighborhood scandal. After the performance Junette shut up his brigade in the bug pen so they would not acquire a taste for other diet.

The ducks are in great demand on the farms in Junette's neighborhood. Farmers are glad to pay \$1.50 an hour for the services of the brigade.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Silence Got on Her Nerves.

In the silence room of one of the big New York department stores a woman visitor from out of town was deposited for recuperation of her tired nerves and muscles and deserted by her hostess. The unaccustomed darkness and stillness among so many women first surprised and then made her uncomfortable. After having sat out her growing restlessness as long as she could she turned to the glum visaged attendant and asked in a subdued but strained voice: "My, how do you stand it?"

"I can't hardly," said the other, with evident relief at the sound of her own whisper. "It gets on my nerves. I'm sick to death of it. I wish I could get another job."

Corn the Greatest of American Crops.

Corn is our greatest crop, that of 1908 being valued at \$1,616,000,000.

FRENCH-CANADIAN CATTLE, CLOSELY RELATED TO JERSEY

Give More Profit in the Form of Churned Butter for Each Dollars' Worth of Feed Than Any Other Breed.

The early French settlers in Canada came principally from the provinces of Normandy and Brittany in France, which lie near the Channel islands, the home of the Jerseys and Guernseys. The cattle of the mainland and of the islands were of the same blood, and those which the colonists brought to Quebec, and from which the present French-Canadian cattle are descended, were those very closely related to the Channel island breeds, says a writer in the Rural New Yorker. Even now the resemblance is so close that many a light-colored, pure-

in their ability to thrive on rough pasture in summer and coarse, plain fodder in winter. Nevertheless they respond splendidly to better treatment.

In 1886, the Quebec legislature gave an official standing to the breed by establishing a herd book. Animals of acknowledged pure blood and of superior dairy qualities were admitted to registration for ten years, but since 1896 none have been, or can be, entered, except the descendants of the foundation stock already recorded. The whole number of animals now on



Typical French-Canadian Bull.

bred Canadian cow can almost pass as a dark Jersey. They have, in fact, been called the first cousins of these other breeds, but their residence for 250 years in the province of Quebec, where in the past, especially in pioneer days, they were scantily fed and poorly sheltered, has developed a constitution of iron.

For size they rank with the Jersey; cows averaging from 700 to 900 pounds, and bulls correspondingly heavier. The color is black or dark

record is about 8,000. At the Pan-American exhibition, Buffalo, out of ten competing breeds of cattle, the French-Canadians gave more profit in the form of churned butter for each dollar's worth of food consumed than any other breed. Isn't this the kind of butter machine we need? Given a certain amount of raw material in the form of fodder and grains, the cow that can manufacture this into butter with the least waste comes pretty near to being the right sort to keep



A French-Canadian Cow.

brown, with sometimes a fawn-colored stripe down the back, and the muzzle may or may not be fawn, or orange-colored, like that of a Jersey. The general appearance is one of alertness and vigor. The head is intelligent, showing an active disposition, which is at the same time remarkably docile. The udder is carried close to the body, teats are of good size, and well placed. Ribs are well sprung, barrel roomy and chest remarkably deep. Tuberculosis is claimed to be unknown in this breed, except when contracted by direct contact with animals of other origin. The Canadians surpass all other breeds

In other words, a cow of great capacity is not necessarily a profitable animal. It all depends upon her ability to transform food into milk with the least waste of material. The following figures, which are the average for the best three French-Canadian cows in the Pan-American six-months' test will show what this breed is capable of doing: Amount of milk, 5,252.8; pounds; per cent. of fat, 4.19; value of butter at 25 cents per pound, \$63.86; cost of food, \$23.64; profit on butter, \$40.22; weight of cow at entry, 858 pounds; gain in weight, 51 pounds; percentage of profit to value of food, 177.

ATTENTION TO BREEDING EWES

Proper Care Must Be Given Sheep at All Times.

It is a good plan to allow the breeding ewes the run of the farm after the crops are off in the fall, as long as the ground is bare, so they can pick it over. Also let them have the run of the stalk field until the snow gets too deep and whenever the ground is bare



Some Good Ones.

In the winter turn them out so they can get exercise. The exercise is of more benefit than the food they get. For rough food there is nothing better than clover hay—the sheep never get tired of it, and corn fodder is next. Timothy or slough hay is very poor feed for sheep and they do not seem

to thrive on it as well as on clover hay or corn fodder. Be sure to save some clover hay until lambing time as the ewes will give more milk for the lambs on clover than anything else. For a grain ration a mixture of shelled corn, oats and bran makes an excellent feed ration. Do not neglect the bran part, as that keeps the system in good condition and aids digestion. Commence feeding grain to the ewes in time, so they will not run down and get poor before lambing time. A poor ewe cannot take proper care of her lamb, for she has nothing to draw on.

If you have comfortable quarters so you can take care of the early lambs, you will find that March lambs are the best for market or breeding purposes, as they get more size by fall and are ready to eat grass when it comes, the cheapest feed on the farm.

Use a good, pure bred ram on the flock, as the improvement in quality, size and feeding capacity of the lambs will more than repay the extra expense and you are getting a better flock instead of running them down, as with a scrub.

Picking Cucumbers.

Don't forget to keep picking the cucumbers as they ripen. Look through the vines carefully (they have a great way of hiding in the leaves), so that none will be overlooked; for two or three large ones going to seed will sap the strength of their vine, whereas in picking them right along new ones will form and a continued supply be secured.