

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE

IRA L. BARE, Publisher
TERMS: \$1.25 IN ADVANCE
NORTH PLATTE - NEBRASKA

GROWING COUNTRIES.

The census department of Canada estimates the present population of the Dominion to be 7,350,000. The distribution by sections is: Maritime provinces, 1,037,112; Quebec, 2,088,461; Ontario, 2,619,925; Western provinces, 1,371,164; unorganized territories, 53,309. It is not surprising that Canada, with her many resources and her healthful climate and varied opportunities for industrial wealth-seekers, should grow all the time, says the Mexican Herald. A sturdy race which increases by the excess of births over deaths is continually being reinforced by immigration, and that of the best kind. The consuming power of the population of Canada is very large, and accounts for the heavy importations of foreign goods and the excellent support given to home industries. Argentina, with about a million less population than Canada, is rapidly increasing in wealth. It is interesting to see that the influx of immigrants into this country from Spain continues, just as it does in the case of Cuba and Argentina. The ancient Iberian motherland still breeds a sturdy race which send its sons to former colonies.

It used to be "King Cotton." Then corn came into active rivalry for supremacy. And now it looks as though rubber might be the great staple of commerce. There has been an enormous increase in the production of rubber and in importations into the United States. This is due to the rapidly augmenting demand, with rubber as an essential for automobile, bicycle and carriage tires and for other purposes. Word comes from Sumatra, which has been the source of supply for tobacco of a certain grade, that the planters are giving up the "weed" and are converting their estates into rubber farms. It is not believed, however, that tobacco growing in Connecticut, Kentucky and other American states will be supplanted by rubber production.

This is the day of the auto, the airship and the wireless telegraph. But some of the old-time slow coaches still come into play. A wealthy summer resident of Newport who went in his automobile to visit another gentleman found himself with his touring car stuck in soft sand from which it could not be moved unaided. An obliging farmer of the neighborhood hitched up his ox team and drew the machine out of the predicament into which the vehicle had plunged. Could troy further go? Still, the auto is a good and useful invention and has come to stay, although occasionally in the case of a breakdown, it stays too long in one place.

A new compass which may supersede the compass now in general use is under test on the scout cruiser Birmingham. It is a combination of the conventional compass with the gyroscope, and is said to eliminate all varieties of deviation of the needle. It can also be placed in the interior of a ship, where it is safe from the missiles of an enemy. A compass of this kind would be extremely valuable in naval service, but it would be far more valuable to commerce, as the influences which affect the compass on modern steel ships are puzzling, and sufficient in some instances to cause wrecks through deviations from proper courses.

The census officials expect to add the names of 60 cities in the United States to the list of those having a population of 25,000 or over which was compiled in 1900. Perhaps there will be even more than 60. The invention of machinery for the farm is one of the factors that have contributed to the rise of the cities.

A New York girl who is heirless to a fortune amounting to \$6,000,000 is compelled to work for the purpose of getting enough money to pay her board, because the lawyers are busy trying to divide the estate among themselves. The case affords a strong argument in favor of the "give while you live" theory.

Fair Parisiennes have adopted the hobble skirt style of bathing suit. It is absolutely impossible for them to swim when hobbled, but they probably don't mind that. If they wished to go into the water they would probably do so in their bathrooms.

Now that we get the true story of the life of the fly by the aid of the microscope we see that it merits nothing else so little as kind treatment.

Shirtwaists for men will not do. It has been decreed that men must wear coats. Old Grimes is dead, but his soul is marching on.

New York will make policemen out of farmer boys and Kansas is going to send it still harder to harvest its crops.

TO IRRIGATE BEETS

Land Must Be Prepared for Water by Ridging the Rows.

Care is Necessary in Arrangement of Distributing Laterals So That Water Will Not Need to Flow Too Great Distance.

(By ALVIN KEYSER, Colorado Agricultural College.)

When the condition of the sugar beet crop makes it unwise to long withhold the water, the land must be prepared for irrigation by ridging the rows. This is done by regular ditching shovels which come as regular attachments to the beet cultivators.

The process of ridging will be variously called ridging, ditching and furrowing. In some few localities the ditches are "logged out" so that a smoother ditch results, enabling the irrigator to better control the flow of water. This is done by dragging a log down the ditch or furrow. In the Arkansas valley a ditching sled is sometimes used to both make the ditch and to smooth the bottom. A sled is made of hewn logs or 6 by 6 timbers, sharpened at the bottom and having a ditching or furrowing shovel attached to the front end of each runner. The shovels do the furrowing and the runners which are 3 1/2 to 4 feet long, "log out" the furrow.

The ridging should be quite heavy, so that a strong ditch will be formed between the rows. This will not be very difficult if the cultivation has already performed a part of the ridging. If the cultivation has been shallow, the ground may be so hard and dry under the shallow soil much that the ditching shovels will not furrow deep enough in spite of the best effort to do so. In this case the soil should be opened and broken up by a deep cultivation with a small tooth cultivator. After such a cultivation, the ditching may be successfully done.

With the land properly ridged and the crop advanced to the proper state of root growth, everything is ready for irrigation. Care is necessary in the arrangement of the distributing laterals so that the water will not need to flow too far. An extremely long flow will unduly wet the upper or receiving ends of the rows before the lower or discharging ends have received enough water. When all is ready, the water is turned into the ditches between the rows. The flow should be regulated so as to prevent surface flooding. On heavy land, the head may be much less than on sandy land as the soil takes water more slowly.

The first watering should be given more painstaking care than need be given any subsequent irrigation. Every effort should be employed to prevent over-irrigation. If conditions permit, deep, thorough cultivation should follow the first irrigation as soon as the surface has dried sufficiently. Over-irrigation, for the first water application, seems to be more apt to injure the crop than too heavy irrigation applied later. When enough water has been added to supply the capillary capacity of the soil, irrigation should stop. Soil filled with water to the saturation point loses all its air. Puddling may result on the heavier lands, which will almost entirely stop further growth. Then a soil too wet, produces a watery beet of low sugar content and frequently very low purity.

In order to ripen the beet properly, irrigation should cease at least a month before harvest time. If the irrigation has been properly managed, the soil will contain water enough to properly carry the crop for this length of time.

Irrigate Cantaloups Properly.

It is something of an art to irrigate cantaloups properly. In the early stages of growth water should be given quite sparingly so that the roots will seek the moisture deep in the ground. This will give them a good hold and provide larger vines. If watered too much the roots will be kept near the surface and it will be necessary to irrigate often during the entire season. In this case the plants will not be so healthy nor so good producers of quality. The vines should be trailed away from the irrigating furrows and lie on the dry bed out of the water at all times during the entire season. The first two cultivations should be deep, and as the plants become larger continued shallow cultivation is more preferable for the reason that the laterals and feeders of the plants will be undisturbed.

Tonic for Stock.

Give a dose of one to one and a half pounds epsom salts, dissolved in warm water, this to be followed in a day or two with the following tonic: Pulverized sulphate of iron four ounces, pulverized saltpeter two ounces, pulverized ginger root two ounces, pulverized gentian root two ounces, pulverized nux vomica seed two ounces. Mix well together, and give night and morning in feed a heaping teaspoonful. In case she refuses it in feed, it had best be given from a bottle shaken up with a half pint of water. Allow all the green feed she will take within reason.

Hoe in Corn Field.

Someone asks does it pay to take a hoe into the cornfield? If the hoe is knife sharp and you use it vigorously to destroy the stray weeds along the row it pays well. Should you be one of those fellows who writes the average stuff about the man with the hoe you better take a typewriter.

ENORMOUS LOSS OF WATER

Not Enough Consideration is Given to Length of Furrows—Climate is Also Factor.

The care in which land is prepared for irrigation and methods of applying water bear directly upon the results obtained. Wherever the furrow system is used, the length of the furrows is a matter to which not enough consideration has been given, and the farmer who attempts to run the water eight rods in this dry country will under otherwise similar conditions get a very much lower duty than his neighbor who makes his furrows only half as long. Eighty rods is not an infrequent length in alfalfa fields, but better results with less water would be obtained if twenty rods were the limit and in some places where the soil is sandy, with underlying gravel, this is too far apart for head ditches and it would be wiser to make the furrows only about 250 feet long.

The climate and the length of the irrigating season also affect the duty of water. In Colorado the period during which water is applied to the land is about one hundred days and with very little rainfall and high temperatures prevailing the evaporation losses from the surface of irrigated fields is something enormous. Any method of application or cultivation which may effectually reduce such losses would result in a much higher duty for the water. Poorly constructed or ill-kept canals and laterals also have much to do with what may be accomplished with water and the highways are getting altogether too much of it. The low general duty under many of our irrigation systems is due largely to the losses which occur in getting the water from the river to the land.

In this way it becomes necessary to take from the river or from the canals, as the case may be, a great deal more water than would be required otherwise. This excess water sinks away into the earth and disappears or, percolating down through underground passages, finally reaches the lower lands or bottoms bordering the river and here accumulates to form swamps and alkali wastes such as we see all over Colorado nowadays. The statement is often made that this water lost from canals or wasted by careless irrigation in the upper parts of a valley finds its way back to the river to be used further down and that in this way such low lands and gravel bars act as reservoirs. The subsoil and bottom lands certainly have a capacity for an immense amount of water and the filling process begins with irrigation in the spring and continues throughout the entire summer.

DAIRY NOTES.

Stop feeding the calf only when you sell it.

A dairy cow should have a good width at the hips.

A good dairy cow possesses rather thin, pliable, elastic skin.

Like a dairy cow, the best way to get a high-class horse is to raise him. Don't feed cottonseed meal to young calves. Ground oats and corn are a better ration.

The dairy cow possesses a long face, thin, slender neck, a sharp, projecting shoulder.

With good calf meal, sweet, warm separator milk and alfalfa, how the dairy calves will grow.

One of the greatest needs on the average dairy farm at present is a better class of herd bulls.

The dairyman who keeps a scrub bull is in the same class as the fellow who feeds runt pigs.

If you keep only one or two cows plant a quarter acre of mangel beets to feed them next winter.

The only way to dry a cow up is to stop milking her and to take away the larger portion of her feed.

Some cows are born great, but they fall into the hands of such small men that the world never hears of them.

Those who do not enjoy the flavor of a dirty cow stand should not permit milk to stand about in such a place.

Much attention should be given the udder of the dairy cow—a large udder does not indicate that it is a good one.

A well bred, well fed dairy cow will give about 8,000 pounds of milk in a year; many of them give more. How much does yours give?

There is no better way of salting cows, calves or any other stock than to keep salt constantly accessible in a box of it fastened a little up from the ground in a protected shed.

It takes considerable quantity of feed to keep a cow living. Only what we give above this amount can be used in dairy production. Therefore, it pays to feed well.

Fast Growing Cabbages.

If the cabbage grow so fast that they are inclined to burst, tip the heads over far enough to sever a portion of them, and if this does not check the trouble, use them. A head that has burst soon becomes worthless.

Mule and Mare.

While a mule costs less for keep and will do an immense amount of work, it must not be forgotten that the brood mare will also do a great deal of work and raise a colt every two years besides. The mule's usefulness is confined to his work.

Buy a Good Ram.

A ten-dollar bill often stands in the way of a man's getting a good ram. The right kind of a ram makes ten-dollar bills for his owner.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

To Test New Mail Device for Trains



WASHINGTON.—After a series of tests continuing since February the Postoffice Department has arranged for a formal six months' try-out of an invention for delivering and picking up mails by fast trains. As a demonstration of the practicability of the system a live pig, weighing 65 pounds, was recently delivered without injury at Carrollton, Ky., the home of the inventor, without the slightest injury from a train running 25 miles an hour.

For years the Postoffice Department has sought an improved method of picking up and delivering mails over the old catcher-hook system, and the new device was the result of four years' advertising by the postal authorities, urging inventors to produce something that would meet the requirements.

It is 40 years since the catcher hook came into use, and in spite of the progress in railroading and the tremendous improvement in the mail service along other directions no forward step is recorded in the matter of exchanging mail sacks by moving trains. Under this system only one small sack could be picked up at any one station, and it is a matter of official history that not infrequently, instead of catching the suspended sack of mail, the hook, operated by a mail clerk standing in the open door of the car, would snatch up a chicken coop or something else not to be found in any classification of mail matter.

The delivery of mail from moving trains is still more primitive, consisting merely of having the clerk hurl or push the sacks out of the car as the train rushes past the platform. Great numbers of persons have been injured and some killed by being struck by the whirling and rebounding sacks, thrown with the force of a catapult.

Women of Diplomatic Set Are Smokers



IN CERTAIN parts of the city where society is familiar with the foreign habits of the diplomatic set and where cigarette smoking is so common among women that it is no longer a matter of much comment, there is a strong feeling that the anti-cigarette agitators have been unfair in directing their criticism at one or two individual women smokers.

The practice, it was pointed out, was not confined to any special few, but was quite general among fashionable women. As a regular feature of practically every ultra-fashionable dinner party here cigarettes are equally provided for the women. The old custom of the women leaving the men at the table to smoke has almost entirely disappeared.

At a recent amateur theatrical performance a purse was stolen from a prominent feminine member of the "younger set." The loss was advertised in the papers and among the contents of the purse was a jeweled cigarette case. The name of the owner was given without any apparent thought of embarrassment. Dealers patronized by fashionable dwellers here carry a large stock of women's cigarettes.

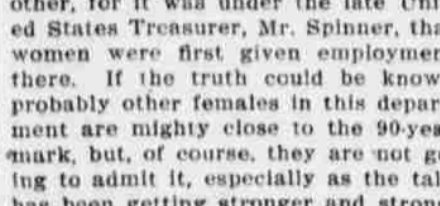
It is not a rare sight to see the wife of a foreign diplomat smoking complacently as she sits on the lawn of her home on a pleasant evening. Some foreign women prominent here have been known to smoke cigars.

Though these facts put the Washington situation in a light slightly different from that of other American cities, the local clergy fail to find any defense for the habit.

"The habit of cigarette smoking among women is, to my mind, a thoroughly pernicious one from any standpoint," said Canon Mays of St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

Father Eugene Hannon of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, was unusually severe in his criticism of the cigarette habit among women. He said: "The habit is obnoxious all around and in women, despite the fact that the law from a gospel standpoint is the same for both sexes, cigarette smoking is worse with women than with men because of the example they set. Society demands a different ethical code for women for its own protection."

Treasury Department Old Folks Home



A FEW days ago a woman clerk in the office of the Comptroller of Currency, Treasury Department, celebrated the 90th anniversary of her birth. The Treasury Department, sometimes facetiously called "the old folks' home," probably has more aged employees connected with it than any other, for it was under the late United States Treasurer, Mr. Spinner, that women were first given employment there. If the truth could be known probably other females in this department are mighty close to the 90-year mark, but, of course, they are not going to admit it, especially as the talk has been getting stronger and stronger that a superannuated list is going to be made up sooner or later, and a way found to get rid of their services.

Not so very many years ago Senator Teller of Colorado has passed in the senate a resolution calling upon

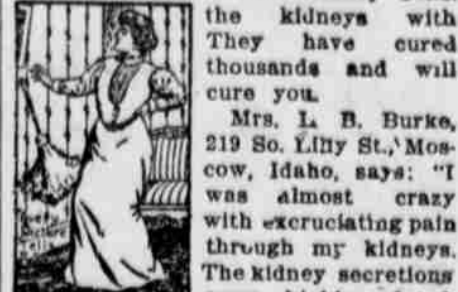
Where the Money of the Country Goes



THE cost of the national government is but a small part of the burden on the taxpayer. The expenses of cities are manifold greater to each person than are those of the Union. The census brings together the figures for the 153 cities of the country which have a population of 50,000 and over. Their expenditures for the year 1908 were \$16.81 per capita. Boston far surpassed this ratio, and leads in moneys paid for local administration, showing an outlay for each person of \$27.58; New York comes next with its municipal budget of \$24.71 per capita, while Washington follows close with a cost of \$24.05 for each person. The chief items of expenditure in cities are schools, police and fire protection. Last year under the laws of Congress for all purposes the nation spent \$600,726,752. This amount cared for

A TIMELY WARNING.

Backache, headache, dizzy spells and distressing urinary troubles warn you of dropsy, diabetes and fatal Bright's disease. Act in time by curing Doan's Kidney Pills.



the kidneys with they have cured thousands and will cure you. Mrs. L. B. Burke, 219 So. Lily St., Moscow, Idaho, says: "I was almost crazy with excruciating pain through my kidneys. The kidney secretions were highly colored, scanty and looked like blood. For over a month I was in bed, totally helpless. Doan's Kidney Pills benefited me wonderfully. They have my endorsement at all times."

Remember the name—Doan's. For sale by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

HIS COMEBACK.



Mr. Henpeck—I don't want you to put "Requiescat in pace" on my wife's tombstone. Make it "Requiesco in pace."

Stonemason—But that means "I rest in peace."

Mr. Henpeck—I know, and I want you to sign it "Husband."

Source of Revelation.

Twenty-seven new, crisp \$1 bills, says Harper's Weekly, weigh as much as a \$20 gold piece. Wouldn't have thought it, and have no means of proving the assertion, but if so it is probably owing in some way to the recent activity of the inspectors of weights and measures.

Important to Mothers

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the

Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson* In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Depend not on another, rather lean upon yourself; trust to thine own exertions, subjection to another's will gives pain.—Manu.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, cures wind colic, soothes the bowels.

The busy man wonders how the loafer manages to live.

Smokers like Lewis' Single Binder cigar for its rich, mellow quality.

The man whose bluff is not sometimes called never existed.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets regulate an irregular stomach, liver and bowels, sugar-coated, tiny granules, easy to take as candy.

And the only way to impress some people is to suppress them.

Don't Take Chances

of having a sick spell by delay, when you notice the first sign of Stomach, Liver or Bowel weakness. Act promptly and get a bottle of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. You are then on the safe side because it quickly restores things to a normal condition. It is for Poor Appetite, Cramps, Heartburn, Indigestion, Costiveness, Malaria, Fever and Ague. Get



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