

# THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE

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VALUE OF IMAGINATION.

Life naturally must be more interesting to the person of vivid imagination than to one who lives only for the tangible things about him and who fears to dream as his fancy will because reality bears heavily upon him. We do not think that even the man of affairs would find the indulgence of a few day dreams detrimental to his interests, while to those who look only upon the serious side of life and share only its darker aspects, a few dreams of what perhaps may come to pass would act as a tonic upon tired nerves, says the Charleston News and Courier. Our dreams are often companions to us, and sometimes we find ourselves moving unconsciously with them in a world far removed from our real habitation, but one whose promises seem easy of fulfillment and whose delights compensate for some of the hardships we may, perhaps, be called upon to bear during our waking hours. The world which is our idea of happiness, with all its wonder of accomplishment and all its measure of appreciation—the world in which we naturally play an important part—who has not seen its shining sands, and lofty summits, and flowering paths, beckoning, telling us how good it is to live and defying us to resist its appealing call? We cannot all gain its shores and discover long-hidden secrets, but, at least, we can turn its promises to our advantage and make our day dreams cease, as it were, in the desert spots of life.

James H. Collins, writing of "the orderly German mind," notes that a generation ago the chief exports of Germany were philosophy, poetry, music and emigrants, while today she ships machinery, chemicals, textiles and other manufactured products, and the mere thought of her competition scares America and has brought England to the verge of hysteria. How has this come about? You could put all Germany, and Pennsylvania to boot, in the state of Texas. Yet there are upward of 70,000,000 Germans. With scant natural resources, the Teuton had to think hard and make the best of it. Just as in scholarly and scientific research, his agricultural and industrial labors have been intense, methodical, plodding, thorough. He has taught the world how to farm. He is supreme in the economic use of chemicals.

It is rather comfortable to hear that the opinion of experts in the Lake Superior region is decidedly adverse to the view that the supplies of iron ore at the present rate of increased use will last only a short time. Those familiar with the region point out billions of tons in the Cascade range, besides millions proved up in the Negaunee, Ishpeming and other ranges to the west ward of the latter. Possibly a strict analysis of the prophecy of short life for our ore supply would disclose that it refers only to the exhaustion of the Mesaba deposits. Even then they are predicated on the maintenance of a rate of increase in mining equal to the exceptional one of the past two decades. Apart from the correctness of that calculation the fact is well known that there are vast deposits of ore yet practically untouched.

Look into the eyes of the oriental and you look into orbs that are opaque to Occidental discernment. A mystic and alien light hints an appalling gulf of sentiment. But somewhere behind the screen with which the patient Chinaman holds his dignity of solitude there beats a heart as ready to bleed at the story of suffering of his own people as that of the stranger all too prone to call him devil. The "heaven Chinese" is perhaps not so peculiar as his reputation.

A zoo expert says that snakes must be protected. For obvious reasons, those who disagree with him will be afraid to do anything but give an apparent acquiescence, if they do not wish to subject themselves to serious suspicion.

The oldest woman in New York died the other day at the age of one hundred and seventeen. She did not advise the world to follow her mode of living. Blessings on her soul!

"Women always are and constitutionally ought to be tougher than men," says Prof. Tyler of Amherst college. Still, no man ought to leave it to his wife to bring up the kitchen coal.

"Woman is stronger than man," opines Professor Tyler. At any rate, a good many of us are led to believe that she is stronger in the vicinity of the jawbone.

Finally a good word has been said for the English sparrow. Somebody claims to have found that it eats the cotton maple scale. Go it, birds.

## DRAINAGE IS NEEDED

Apparent in Every Section Where Irrigation Is Practiced.

Water-Logging of Lands Is Not Confined to Any Particular Part—Makes Its Appearance Even on the Bench Lands.

The necessity of draining irrigated lands has become apparent, not only in every section of our own arid west, but in every country where irrigation is practiced. India and Egypt and Spain have their problems and their characteristics are much the same as our own. A conservative estimate shows that nearly a million acres of valuable land in the west are in need of drainage. The water-logging of the irrigated lands is not confined to any particular section. It makes its appearance in the river bottoms and in low lying swales and depressions, as would be expected, but it does not stop there. The gentle slopes, the hill-sides, yes, even the bench lands are attacked.

I once saw a tule swamp on a hillside that had a slope of 20 degrees and one of the wettest propositions I ever encountered was on the very brow of a high gravel bench, 300 feet higher than its drainage basin, writes B. A. Hart, in the Denver Field and Farm. Nor is waterlogging confined to any particular soil type—clay, silt, sand and gravelly lands are all susceptible to its ravages. Many men have declared that their lands will never need drainage, because they have a gravel sub-soil. I have found, however, that a gravel sub-soil is often a source of drainage. Everyone realizes the need of drainage on humid lands, but few understand the necessity or even the possibility of draining irrigated lands. As a matter of fact, its necessity is even more imperative than in humid sections for the reason that water-logging in the west is always accompanied by a concentration of alkali salts on and near the surface. Certain of these salts are necessary to plant growth but certain others are exceedingly injurious. Water-logging is the natural result of over-irrigation and is made natural by the absence of natural drainage outlets. The soil filling of a valley consists of decomposed rock and is often very deep. The rainfall of the arid regions is very light and the evaporation factor high, so that little water percolates downward through the soil and as a consequence the ground water reservoir is usually well below the surface previous to the irrigation of a valley.

It has been demonstrated that a rainfall of 18 inches properly distributed will produce crops. The plant, of course, receives only a part of this amount. Much is lost by evaporation and some by percolation. When irrigation is practiced, however, from two to twenty times this amount of water is supplied. The plant undoubtedly uses more than before, more is lost by evaporation, but by far the larger part of the excess percolates downward through the soil and eventually finds its way to the ground water reservoir, the level of which is thus raised year by year until finally water-logging and the attendant alkali troubles result. The bogs usually appear in the lowest part of the valley first, while the alkali shows up on slight elevations.

Having once begun, the spread of the seepage is rapid and the infection makes its way up the slopes until eventually even the highest parts are injured. The appearance of the bogs is viewed with alarm and their spread with consternation by the farmers who are steadily driven back, abandoning their farms and taking up higher lands from which in turn they are often in danger of abandonment. But, notwithstanding the intensity of the alarm, it never occurs to these same farmers to reduce the supply of water that is doing the damage—in fact, they often use more water in the vain hope of washing the alkali away. It cannot be truthfully said, however, that these man-made swamps could have been prevented altogether by a sane use of water, but the evil day would have been postponed to a considerable extent. Nor will regulation of the supply prove a complete cure for the difficulty.

## FOREIGN ENEMIES OF MOTH

Millions Being Bred in This Country for Service—Elm Bush Beetle Doing Much Damage.

At the meeting of the Massachusetts Forestry association, W. F. Fiske, in charge of the insect laboratory where the foreign parasites that prey on the gypsy and browntail moths are reared, gave an encouraging account of their multiplication and work.

Strictly speaking, they are of the predatory class. One of these does a good, but limited work, reaching only the top layer of eggs in the gypsy egg-blotch. Last August 25,000 were liberated; 2,000,000 will be let loose this summer. Another, liberated three years ago and lost sight of, has spread over 500 square miles. It attacks the pupae. There is need of a parasite for the egg, the caterpillar, and the pupa.

Mr. Fisk did not doubt that in a few years the moths would be checked and their damage reduced to a minimum.

Mr. Chapman described the ravages of the leopard moth in Cambridge, and of a new pest, a European elm bush beetle, which has attacked elms in large numbers.

## ALFALFA IN ROWS FOR SEED

Object Is to Secure Greater Control of Moisture—Furrows May Be Smoothed Out.

(By ALVIN KEYSER, Colorado Agricultural College.)  
Mr. P. K. Bliss, alfalfa specialist of the Colorado experiment station with headquarters at Rocky Ford Colo., has called attention to the necessity of planting alfalfa in rows for the most successful seed production. So much inquiry is being made at the present time that it seems advisable to again call attention to certain points which should be observed in growing alfalfa in rows for seed production.

The object of putting alfalfa in rows for seed production is to secure a greater control of the moisture. Under irrigation this greater control is obtained because by the row method the alfalfa can be irrigated by furrows. The furrows may be smoothed out with the furrowing machine so that the water may be run through quickly, thus giving a light irrigation. Cultivation of the rows assists in the conservation of moisture. Thus by control of the two factors, irrigation and cultivation, the necessary amount of moisture for the best crop development is secured. Too much water tends to produce vegetative growth at the expense of seed production. Under irrigation, the rows should be planted 20 inches apart, and every other row furrowed out for irrigation. When, however, alfalfa is planted on dry land for the production of seed, the rows should be further apart and the plants thinner in the row. In order to permit the amount of water commonly present to suffice for the plants which are actually on the ground. By dry land methods, the rows as a consequence should not be placed closer than 36 inches apart. The plants should be drilled in the row and may well be thinned to 20 inches apart in the row, leaving good, strong plants when the thinning is done.

Mr. Bliss reports that he saw alfalfa planted 40 inches apart between rows, and 40 inches in the rows, at Highmore, N. D., which yielded seed at the rate of five bushels per acre, where the rainfall was only seven inches for the entire season. From our experience and the experience of others on dry land, it would seem that 36 to 42 inches is about the proper distance to plant alfalfa in rows for dry land seed production. The alfalfa should be given as thorough cultivation as is given corn or potatoes. If this is done, a good average seed yield can be produced for each season. If thicker planting is made on the dry land, it does not leave a sufficient supply of soil moisture to mature a good seed crop. Success is only guaranteed when the number of plants is reduced to the carrying capacity of the soil.

## TO DESTROY SAN JOSE SCALE

Practical Orchardists Have Found Usefulness of Several Washes to Kill Pests.

Remedies for San Jose scale are now confined largely to winter applications. Practical orchardists have found in the various lime-sulphur washes, judging from the amount used, a most satisfactory remedy for this pest. This material may either be the home-brewed lime-sulphur wash, the preparation of which has been repeatedly described, the new lime-sulphur wash known as the Cordley formula, a combination calling for approximately twice as much sulphur as lime, or the commercial lime-sulphur washes now on the market under various trade names. Any one, if well prepared and thoroughly applied, the latter an essential, can be relied on to keep the pest in check.

Various so-called "scible" or miscible oils have been widely used here and there, and some prefer them to the lime-sulphur preparations. They are undoubtedly very convenient and particularly desirable for use in cities and villages where there is danger of spotting paint if a lime-sulphur wash is employed. Generally speaking, these latter preparations are not as safe as the lime-sulphur wash, and in a long series of years hardly as effective. Treatments with either should be given while the leaves are off the tree, preferably shortly before the buds swell in the spring.

## Learn Amount of Snowfall.

In districts where the irrigation system is followed it is decidedly desirable that the amount of snowfall in the neighboring mountains during the winter should be known with reasonable accuracy in order that the water available for irrigation may be approximately estimated. These mountainous localities are generally uninhabited and there is no opportunity for making daily observations such as may be done in the more accessible sections. The most satisfactory results have been obtained with what is known as a "snow bin"—a cubical box five feet on a side, standing on a frame ground. The bin is fitted with a system of louvers on the inside to prevent the wind from blowing out the snow and to insure a level deposit within.

## Irrigation in Brazil.

Irrigation projects are receiving serious government attention in Brazil, particularly in the northern states, with their total irrigable area of 500,000 acres and their 2,000,000 persons.

## Irrigation in New South Wales.

New South Wales by irrigation has reclaimed more than 2,000,000 acres of land for farming.

# WASHINGTON GOSSIP

## The White House Is Closely Guarded



WASHINGTON.—Probably no other building in America is so well policed as the White House. It takes 42 men to do it daily. If any mischievous stranger should seek entrance, he would not get far. Twenty-four men guard the outside of the building and 18 the inside. Eight are in the executive offices. Fourteen guard the White House within and without at night. The number of men enumerated does not include the secret service men who guard the person of the president and who are sometimes in service to guard the members of the president's family. Every door in the White House has its policeman constantly on guard.

There are always two in the basement of the executive offices, where there is a large door leading from the street for the reception of supplies. There is always a policeman at the kitchen entrance. Two men in livery, not policemen, guard the main entrance into the White House at the north portico. In the daytime there is a policeman in the east room and one each at both stairways that lead

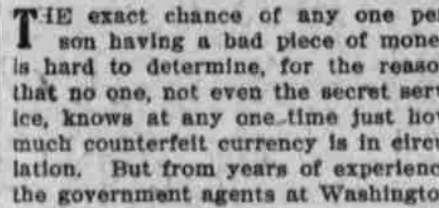
to the private apartments of the president and his family on the upper floor.

There is a policeman always in the basement, the entrance to which is from the east wing of the mansion. At night a policeman guards the basement corridor of the interior, another the corridor of the main floor and another the corridor of the upper private floor.

Outside there is constant vigilance in front and in the rear, if the White House may be conceived as having any rear. The south front is as beautiful as the north front and indeed more so.

That the White House should have to be thus carefully guarded may seem strange to Americans whose chief executive is after all only a democrat who is a citizen temporarily, holding a high public office. But it is necessary. Three Presidents have been assassinated, although none ever at the White House. It would seem none ever could be because of the vigilance kept there. But a fierce light plays upon the White House and the occupants of it, especially the president. It attracts all kinds of people, and cranks are ever dangerous. Many is the one apprehended before he has gone far. And in this land of liberty there are also other people who have dangerous ideas centering on the life of the chief magistrate.

## Bankers Quick to Detect Bad Money



THE exact chance of any one person having a bad piece of money is hard to determine, for the reason that no one, not even the secret service, knows at any one time just how much counterfeit currency is in circulation. But from years of experience the government agents at Washington have figured out that in paper money the proportion of bad to good is about \$1 to \$100,000, and in coin somewhere between \$2 and \$3 to \$100,000.

The larger the coin or bill to be counterfeited the greater the danger of detection and the need of a more expensive plant. The commonest way of making spurious money is the turning out of base metal coins—but the operation is expensive. Silver, for instance, cannot be successfully cast. Base coins with silver in them must therefore be struck off in a steel die—a die representing days of work on the part of an expert engraver. Then there must be a powerful press to make the impressions.

In the counterfeiting of paper money there are three methods used, copying by hand, photographic reproduction, and the raising of genuine bills from lower to higher denominations. It takes a good man a whole day to

change one bill. Fives raised to tens are the most frequent offenders of this sort. The workman thus makes \$5.

And yet in spite of all care and all precautions, counterfeiters are eventually run to earth. Why? Three reasons: Bank, secret service and system. In the long run most money in circulation comes into the hands of some bank. And there the counterfeit, good or bad, eventually meets its downfall. Tellers and cashiers handle so much currency that they seem to be gifted with second sight.

If he cannot tell at first glance whether the money is bad, he consults two monthly counterfeiting magazines and usually finds what he is after. The magazine people co-operate with the secret service. And the next teller or cashier who gets the mate of the note knows right off what the counterfeit is.

## Woman Soldier Now Seeks a Pension



NOT many men have had the varied and adventurous life led by Mrs. Louise E. Bliss of Sheridan, Wyo., who has just applied for a pension on the grounds that, dressed as a man, she served four years in the federal army as a member of Company G, Sixty-third infantry, from Illinois, from 1861 to 1865. Mrs. Bliss is now an old woman, with white hair and wrinkled face, and is almost destitute. In one cheek she bears the scar left by a bullet fired at Vicksburg; a long gash across the upper left arm is a memento of Corinth and a Confederate saber.

According to the story told by Mrs. Bliss to the pension agent, and sworn to by her, she was living in Illinois at Jonesboro, when the war broke out. She was enthusiastic and

patriotic and wanted to join the army, but of course could not do so in skirts. So she cut off her hair, obtained a suit of men's clothing and applied for enlistment. In the excitement and hurry of the early days of enlistment, when there were thousands of applicants, the disguised girl was passed and found herself a member of Col. McCowan's regiment, the Sixty-third infantry. She was assigned to Company G under Captain Richardson.

After drilling and being otherwise "whipped" into line, the Sixty-third started south, and with it went the girl soldier. For four years she stood the strain of army and camp life, taking her "medicine" as it came to her, and in all ways being treated as were the other soldiers of the regiment.

Just before the war ended the true sex of the young soldier became known to a comrade, and immediately after being mustered out of the service because of the termination of hostilities, she married John Sibley, who had served in the same company and regiment with her throughout the war.

## Uncle Sam Warns Against Mosquitoes

WAR on the mosquito as well as on the house fly has been declared by the department of agriculture. As a disseminator of disease the mosquito is branded as being as great a menace to humanity as the fly. L. O. Howard, chief of the bureau of entomology, has issued a bulletin on the protection of communities from mosquitoes. He lays stress on the necessity of abolishing breeding places of the insect pest.



"Where the rain barrel and rain water tank are necessary they should be screened. The waste places in the immediate vicinity of a house should be carefully searched for tin cans, bottles and wooden or tin boxes in which water can accumulate, and all such receptacles should be destroyed or carried away. The roof gutters should be carefully examined to make sure that they are not clogged so as to allow the water to accumulate.

"These pests of mosquitoes will breed. In slightly marshy ground a favorite breeding place is the footprints of cattle and horses. In one country village, which contains many small vegetable gardens in clay soil, during a rainy season mosquitoes were found breeding abundantly in the water accumulating in the furrows.

"Even in the house these mosquitoes breed in many places. Where the water in flower vases is not frequently changed mosquitoes will breed. They will breed in water pitchers in unused guest rooms. Public dumps are great breeding places, because here accumulate old bottles, cans, boxes, bits of tin or iron vessels and other objects in which water may accumulate for a time."

**Libby's**  
Sliced  
Dried Beer  
Old Hickory Smoked  
Highest Quality  
Finest Flavor  
In sealed glass jars at your grocer  
Ask for Libby's

## GOOD WORK WELL SUPPORTED

People Are Liberal in Their Contributions to Young Men's Christian Association.

This year Young Men's Christian associations are likely, it is said, to break all records in amount of money raised for new buildings. The success at Philadelphia, when \$1,030,000 was secured in twelve days, has given stimulus both to Young Men's and Young Women's associations. Added to it was the \$2,000,000 campaign for buildings in foreign capitals. Brooklyn women, with the aid of a few men, have just secured \$415,000; Atlanta men, \$600,000; Reading, \$217,000; Elyria, Ohio, \$127,000, where the committee asked for but \$100,000; Charleston, S. C., \$150,000; Raleigh, N. C., \$75,000; Walla Walla, Wash., \$48,000, and Ishpeming, Mich., \$22,500. Association leaders say three things help them in getting these large sums; Christian unity, a short and public appeal, and real results accomplished in buildings already erected.

**The Passing of the Wife.**  
We have known for some time that the wife would have to go. We have held off as long as possible the inevitable moment, but it might just as well be over with at once.

The wife was a very desirable article while she lasted. She mended the hose and did the housework when necessary and sat up patiently and waited for hubby's return. A useful person certainly—one to love, to honor and obey.

Now the suffragette age is upon us and the wife is rapidly becoming extinct, says Life.

In a few more years she will be exhibited in museums.  
Adieu, madam! We respect your memory!

**Fitting.**  
"Did your nephew make a suitable marriage?"

"Yes," replied the man who habitually thinks along erratic lines. "He has curly blond hair, and has never done anything more heroic than to pick flaws on a guitar, and—well, he married a female baseball player."  
—Puck.

Unless he is home where he can rage before the family about it, a bald-headed man will pretend he doesn't know there are such things as flies.

Many a man's idea of being well dressed is a noisy necktie.

**MENTAL ACCURACY**  
Greatly Improved by Leaving Off Coffee

The manager of an extensive creamery in Wis. states that while a regular coffee drinker, he found it injurious to his health and a hindrance to the performance of his business duties.

"It impaired my digestion, gave me a distressing sense of fullness in the region of the stomach, causing a most painful and disquieting palpitation of the heart, and what is worse, it muddled my mental faculties so as to seriously injure my business efficiency.

"I finally concluded that something would have to be done. I quit the use of coffee, short off, and began to drink Postum. The cook didn't make it right at first. She didn't boil it long enough, and I did not find it palatable and quit using it and went back to coffee and to the stomach trouble again.

"Then my wife took the matter in hand, and by following the directions on the box, faithfully, she had me drinking Postum for several days before I knew it.

"When I happened to remark that I was feeling much better than I had for a long time, she told me that I had been drinking Postum, and that accounted for it. Now we have no coffee on our table.

"My digestion has been restored, and with this improvement has come relief from the oppressive sense of fullness and palpitation of the heart that used to bother me so. I note such a gain in mental strength and acuteness that I can attend to my office work with ease and pleasure and without making the mistakes that were so annoying to me while I was using coffee.

"Postum is the greatest table drink of the times, in my humble estimation." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a reason." Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.