

Should a man go about with a suit case bearing printed notices that he had been as far away from home as California, and had been to New York more than once and stopped at a hotel charging "three dollars a day and upward" or "patronized by wealth and fashion"—or should he employ someone to announce such facts at railroad stations, or at country houses where he arrives with his luggage to spend the week-end, he would be considered "impossible." Yet this is the spirit in which label-adorned luggage is carried about by more than half of those who carry it, says the Louisville Courier-Journal. And that is why they are not only willing, but anxious, to give foreign hotels advertising space upon their trunks, boxes and bags. Braggings in red, white and green letters of having crossed the Atlantic—or the Pacific—and having been quartered at high-priced hotels while abroad is not very good taste. It may be said truly enough that many travelers preferred a rusty and well-worn portmanteau or "kip bag" before the instruction of the label advertisement, but they could at least plead modesty and assert that they did not like old luggage for its traveled appearance, but disliked new bags because of the attention they attracted. The only escape for the bearer of label-plastered baggage is to assert that he objects to the custom.

Awakening China has taken another leaf from the experience book of the progressive west. She is going to establish playgrounds in her cities. It was during the recent ravages of the plague in the crowded empire that some of the more enlightened of her rulers made the observation that western civilization was free from such wide-spread destruction of life as China had witnessed, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer. When they sought an explanation of the freedom of western peoples from deadly epidemics, they did not look far until they found it in the attention given to producing healthful living conditions. First of all the recent improvements they decided to seize was that of the scattering of breathing spots in the cities. Now Antung is to have a playground operated on the most modern of American plans. Public subscription provided for the purchase of a large tract of land, which is being fitted in such a way as to meet the demands of every class of the city's population.

A brightly polished iron golf club attracted a bolt of lightning which killed a golfer while he was playing on a Washington course. Better let the irons get a little rusty.

If those steamship companies continue to increase the size of their liners, we shall soon be able to walk from one end of the boat to the other and be half way across.

A man has succeeded in crossing from Providence, R. I., to Gibraltar in a twenty-foot yawl. Goodness, how he must have wanted to get away from Providence.

Desperadoes who tried to rob a man in Seattle recently ran away when their intended victim began to recite poetry. It may pay you to read poetry.

Chicago has an Enoch Arden who came home after an absence of twelve years, tried to smash the furniture, and was fined \$75. The original Enoch was by all odds the luckier of the two.

A movement has sprung up to have the clocks roll off 24 hours straight, and a man may yet try to use his latch key at 22 o'clock which would be by no means unduly late.

A St. Louis judge says he finds newspaper reporters as honest and reliable as lawyers. Some of the reporters will consider it a left-handed compliment.

A woman in Connecticut ordered the savings of her lifetime to be spent on her funeral. As the sagacious man in "The Mikado" remarked, there was plenty of fun, but she didn't see it.

St. Paul's business men who plan to move the bed of the Mississippi river will perhaps put it on casters.

Facts show that it is better to be shaken around in a steel car that leaves the rails than squeezed and cremated in a wooden car that collapses and burns.

Hardly appropriate to call an aeroplane a "roadster." Wouldn't "cloudster" be better?

If potatoes are to become legal tender cash registers will have to be rebuilt.

TALES OF GOTHAM AND OTHER CITIES

Eccentric Millionaire's Will is Void



NEW YORK.—A jury in the supreme court found that a man who dances around with a cut-glass bowl on his head for a helmet, even though he is worth a million dollars and made it by means of his own ingenuity, is not in any mental condition to make a will.

The eccentric testator was Alexander Miller of Brooklyn, owner of the Vulcan Iron Works, and he made a will in which he cut off his widow, Mrs. Mary Ella Miller, with \$12,500, leaving the great bulk of his estate to his brother and sister, Mrs. Miller, by her own testimony and through the testimony of other witnesses, proved that her husband was eccentric beyond the highest known Brooklyn records for eccentricity.

Before his death two years ago Mr. Miller manifested his scorn for the conventions by giving barefoot din-

ner parties in the home and presiding at the festive board in his under shirt. If the guests appeared to Mr. Miller in any way bored he got up and performed for them. His favorite stunt was to put the cut glass salad bowl on his head and then dance a sprightly saraband around the table.

The millionaire iron manufacturer, also possessed original ideas on serving oysters. He had a basket of bivalves taken into the library, where he opened them on a mahogany table. As he opened each oyster he hurled the shells at the portraits of his ancestors which decorated the wall.

Whenever he scored a hit upon the countenance of an ancestor in oil, Mr. Miller would pause in his bombardment to carve the initials of said ancestor on the mahogany table, calling upon his guests to follow his example. He decorated much of his costly furniture in this manner.

Mrs. Miller declared that her late husband was very fond of playing mumblepeg on the mahogany chairs. It also gave him unbounded amusement to drive his wife out into the street, then rush out after her and beg her to come back.

Lure of the City Reaches Out to Farms

ST. LOUIS, MO.—Sixty per cent. of the young men who wear blue uniforms on the trolley cars are farmers' sons. Most of them have pulled and tugged at plow-lines over the backs of refractory mules long before they ever pulled a bell cord in this city.

Half the clerks in the big railway offices in St. Louis are boys from the smaller cities and the little railway stations where the fast trains never stop. Fifty out of every hundred of the young men who are putting kinks in their spines and ruining their eyesight over long columns of freight earnings and "ton miles," know when to plant potatoes and how to plow corn.

Every other waitress in the quick lunch places down town was once a country lassie. That is, they were born and raised up in one of those little towns that dot and speckle the state maps. Thirty out of 40 of the men who run trains, hammer telegraph keys and make out bills of lading for the railway systems were recruited from the farms. Many of the little stenographers who scurry in and out of the office buildings at lunch hour were once upon a time little pig-tailed lassies, who played about the big yards of some little half forgotten town with elm shaded streets.

When a middle aged man or woman goes into the city to make his or



her home there, it is nine chances to ten that they have failed at everything they have ever tried in the little cities, and have come to the big town to start a boarding or a rooming house.

And nine out of every ten of them is certain that the city, any city, is the very wickedest of wicked places. Back in the country, where they come from, the big town was held up to them as a symbol of sin. The older folks talked in low tones of its snares and pitfalls, of the sin and degradation that were everywhere in the big town. Why do they come? Many of them fail to drag themselves back to take up life where they left it out on the farms.

The great majority manage to live on the salaries they receive or the wages they are able to earn. A few of them become wealthy and successful, and are able to go back and buy up a whole township around the old homestead, if they desire.

Home-Made Bread Declared Murderous



KANSAS CITY, MO.—The National Association of Master Bakers devoted a part of their annual convention to the housewife who bakes her own bread. She was pictured in every position. The bakers showed their sorrow for her by applauding every reference to the Lot kitchen in which she has to work to turn out the homemade product for her family. They declared she should be rescued from her slavery and the only way to effect a rescue was through bakers' bread.

That the modern housewife produces a soggy article of bread and is committing murder in allowing it to be eaten, was the statement made by Paul Schulze of Chicago, president of the association. "This country is full of housewives who are proud of their cooking and who think they are doing

their duty by baking at home," Mr. Schulze said. "The long-suffering stomachs of their families continue to pay the penalty of this mistaken sense of duty."

"The American housewife—the American mother—of today is an earnest and sensible individual, but very set in her ways." She is still influenced by the working methods adopted in her girlhood.

"One thing which we bakers in the larger cities see most plainly today is the absolute necessity of educating the housewife to quit baking at home. Let us come forward. Let us show these women that home baking is wrong. Let us show them the overwhelming benefits of buying bread baked in a sanitary bakery."

Mr. Schulze told of a Chicago woman who had built up a business selling "health bread," a home product. She brought him a loaf and wanted to sell the formula. "I cut into the loaf," said Mr. Schulze, "and saw that the center was unbaked dough. I have been wondering since what effect that woman's 'health bread' has had on the death rate in Chicago. She was unquestionably committing murder."

Notorious Firebug Gang is Revealed

CHICAGO.—Six men are in custody here and the arrest of another has been ordered by the police in connection with the operations of an alleged arson ring which caused a property loss of \$1,000,000 during the last twelve months. Three other men, including a former policeman, are being sought by the police in connection with the alleged conspiracy. The arrests were made after David Korshak, the alleged leader of the firebug gang, had made a statement implicating several business men in the alleged arson conspiracy.

Korshak in a statement made to the police declared that 75 per cent. of all fires in Chicago in the last five years were of incendiary origin, and were either the work of the proprietors of the building or of professional firebugs. He says there are more than a hundred men in Chicago who make a good living by setting fire to buildings, to enable the owners to collect large sums of insurance; that the firebug is usually paid a lump sum in advance, but that sometimes he works on commission, receiving a percentage of the insurance money.



Korshak said that in all his fires he used jugs filled with gasoline, to which he set fire, with the result that flames rapidly spread to all parts of the structure. He fled from Chicago after he was charged with having set fire to the store of Leopold Dreyfus & Co., wholesale clothing store, June 3, this year.

Both Leopold and Lazard Dreyfus, members of the firm, were arrested on suspicion immediately after the fire. Three days later Leopold Dreyfus made a statement implicating Korshak and then committed suicide. Lazard Dreyfus was charged with conspiracy, and the case against him is pending. Three barrels of gasoline are said to have been used in firing the plant of the Northwestern Can company.

TO ELECTRIFY WATER

Benefits Which Are Said to Be Secured Are Two-Fold.

System Is Expected to Materially Increase Crops and to Combat Effectually Drought, Insects and Other Troubles.

(FROM THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.)

We have had occasion in these columns to refer repeatedly to experiments carried on by Sir Oliver Lodge and others on the influence of electricity on the growth of plants. Mr. Emilio Olsson of Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic, at present in the United States, has of late years been giving his attention to the practical development of a process in which it is proposed to make use of electrified water for sprinkling fields. The inventor claims that his experiments demonstrate the practical utility of such a procedure. The benefits which are said to be secured are two-fold. First, there is a direct advantage to the plants, and secondly, Mr. Olsson states that according to his observations various harmful insects and other organisms are destroyed because of his process.

The need of artificial irrigation is severely felt in many places where, owing to the nature of the climate, long terms of drought have to be contended with. It is particularly in such districts as these that Mr. Olsson proposes to introduce his system, by the aid of which he expects to increase the crop and to combat effect-

water is raised to a suitable height by a motor or traction engine. The supply may be drawn from a river, stream, artesian well, or any other suitable source. Two high towers may be installed, from which pipes are suspended by means of suitable supporting cables. The pipes apply circular spray nozzles which revolve automatically, and five to ten acres of land can readily be thus supplied with an evenly distributed shower of water.

When it is desired to use electrified water, a reservoir is used, into which the water is pumped, to be subsequently distributed in the manner indicated above. The reservoir consists of an iron tank placed on an insulated support and charged from a dynamo supplying 0.5 ampere at 110 volts. The iron wall of the tank serves as positive pole; the negative pole consists of a copper wire insulated all except the tip. It is claimed that certain chemical reactions take place in the water, with production of oxygen, ozone, and hydrogen peroxide at the anode, and that certain of the products formed are beneficial to the plants. Mr. Olsson further suggests that this electrification of the water would tend to purify it and render it better for drinking purposes.

Mr. Olsson has installed his apparatus in a plantation near Buenos Aires and states that by the use of six sprinkling nozzles at a height of five meters above ground some 600 acres of ground under cultivation were treated with beneficial results. The apparatus has also been adopted by the municipality of Buenos Aires and is giving satisfaction in the public parks and gardens in that city. Mr. Olsson also states that during the long drought from which the republic suffered for over six months in 1910, he



(FROM THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.)
Irrigation by Means of Artificial Rain.

ually drought, insects and other troubles. The cost of the Olsson system is estimated at a figure which is quite moderate as compared with the benefits to be derived. The cost of installation for the sprinkling apparatus is figured at \$50 to \$100 per acre, according to local conditions. The system is very simple. The

was able to produce a very fine crop of alfalfa and vegetables and to supply the owners of race horses with fresh fodder. By installing a system of artificial irrigation over some part of their crop, farmers should be able to insure themselves against drought, falling back upon artificial sprinkling in case natural rain falls.

IRRIGATION OF AN ORCHARD

Not Necessary to Use Water in Such Quantities as to Transform Highway into Mudpuddle.

It is not necessary in the irrigation of an orchard to use water in such quantities or in such manner as to transform the adjacent highway into a continuous mudpuddle for the length of the farm, or if the road is on a grade wash deep gullies in it and thus make travel either disagreeable or dangerous, as is so often illegally done in our irrigated districts, writes S. O. Jayne in the Denver Field and Farm. Again, at the opposite extreme are instances in which only a small head of water is used and none is permitted to run off the field, yet the loss is as great in proportion to the amount applied, as when it runs into a road. This may occur through a desire on the part of the irrigator to be economical. The water is applied in homopathic quantities, at frequent intervals, not enough at one time to thoroughly moisten the ground, and as a result of the subsequence baking of the top soil in the shallow furrows, practically all the water applied quickly escapes by evaporation and accomplishes no good.

Very often much water is wasted, or at least excessive amounts are needed for orchards because of undue haste in planting and lack of care in first properly grading and preparing the land so that the trees may be economically irrigated. This is a matter that should always be given careful attention, for patience in getting the orchard established has sometimes made it necessary to replant and is invariably a source of aggravation, expense and waste for years. We know by experience that depth of furrows used in irrigating bears a marked influence upon the rate at which evaporation takes place and is therefore a factor to be taken into account in checking losses by this cause. When they are made only three inches deep, the losses are three times as great as in cases where the water is applied in furrows twelve inches in depth. The use of furrows shorter than those commonly made would likewise make a considerable saving possible in most instances.

Coal Ashes on Stiff Clay.

Coal ashes have no particular fertilizing value, yet they are good for stiff clay garden soil, making it lighter and easier to work. Wood ashes are an excellent general fertilizer for both the vegetable and flower garden, as is also soot from stoves and pipes.

POULTRY NOTES.

A \$10 rooster is generally cheaper than a \$2 one. The good blood will tell the second year.

Oyster shell is absolutely the best shell making food for the hens. Keep it before them constantly.

The market garden furnishes a large amount of waste products which may be utilized for poultry food.

The March pullets are the ones that will begin to lay in November if they have been given the proper care.

If you buy a homer that has large warts on his beak you may be sure that it is more than two years old.

The best place in the world for the poultry yard is the orchard—any kind of an orchard where insects abound.

A woman who makes a success of poultry raising has the laugh on the man who makes a failure at farming.

A hen is a good deal like a cow; she likes to be let alone to wander at her own sweet will wherever she pleases.

Keeping many breeds is a poor way to succeed. Get down to one or two varieties and give them the best of care.

Duck eggs do not hatch as well if they are to be washed. Therefore keep the duck pen bedded with clean litter.

If the hens were compelled to work a little harder these days for what grain they get it would be a good thing for them.

It is almost a waste of time on your part as well as that of the hen to set her in a nest and in a house infested with vermin.

The poultry raiser who is too lazy to keep his poultry house absolutely free from vermin does not deserve success nor will he have it.

Eggs in March and early in April may not prove as fertile as those laid in "nature's" own time, but once hatched, you can hardly kill an early chick.

Now is the time to begin to think of the molting season and prepare for it. Study the subject carefully as it has an important bearing on winter egg production. Winter eggs are eggs of gold nowadays.

Two Forms of Power.

For pumping water I prefer a windmill, as it is the cheapest power, but for grinding feed a gasoline engine is best. I have used a windmill for ten years, says a writer in an exchange. It cost me \$60 complete, and the expense for repairs has not exceeded five dollars. We always have plenty of water and supply about sixty head of horses and cattle and fifty head of hogs the year round. The well is 240 feet deep and the supply tank holds 40 barrels.

WOMAN ESCAPES OPERATION

Was Cured by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Elwood, Ind.—"Your remedies have cured me and I have only taken six bottles of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I was sick three months and could not walk. I suffered all the time. The doctors said I could not get well without an operation. For I could hardly stand the pains in my side, especially my right one, and down my right leg. I began to feel better when I had taken only one bottle of Compound, but kept on as I was afraid to stop too soon."—Mrs. SADIE MULLEN, 2728 N. B. St., Elwood, Ind.

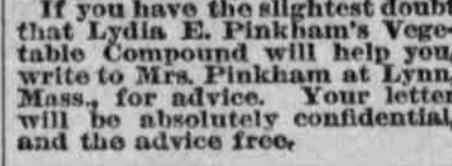


Why will women take chances with an operation or drag out a sickly, half-hearted existence, missing three-fourths of the joy of living, when they can find health in Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound?

For thirty years it has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has cured thousands of women who have been troubled with such ailments as displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, indigestion, and nervous prostration.

If you have the slightest doubt that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will help you, write to Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass., for advice. Your letter will be absolutely confidential, and the advice free.

ADDED 'EM UP.



Hix—You said your gun would shoot 900 yards.
Dix—I know I did.
Hix—It's marked to shoot only 450 yards.
Dix—I know, but there are two barrels.

One Cure for Sarcasm.

Bunsen always was sarcastic. One evening last week when he got home his wife had a new hat to show him. It was some hat. Anybody could have seen that it was the final phrase in female headgear.

But Bunsen started to make remarks. He said it looked as if it had been trimmed by a cross-eyed milliner on an empty stomach. An he made a lot of other disparaging remarks.

Mrs. Bunsen was almost in tears. Bunsen had to go into the other room to have a quiet laugh at her expense. The next day he had forgotten all about the hat.

The day after that he was reminded of it. Mrs. Bunsen handed him a bill for rettriming that hat—\$18.34 it came to.

Bunsen paid it without a murmur and said the revised edition of the hat was just exactly right. He is not criticizing hats any more.

Wifely Sarcasm.

"I hear they are wearing nothing but old clothes at Plunkville-under-the-Peak. That's the place for you to go, wife."

"Yes. I can take seven trunks of old clothes. If old clothes are the racket, I can make a splurge."

How About It?

It may also be true that the rolling moss gathers no rocks.

The Flavour of Post Toasties

Is so distinctly pleasing that it has won the liking of both young and old who never before cared much for cereal food of any kind. Served direct from the package—crisp and fresh, and—

"The Memory Lingers"

Postum Cereal Company, Ltd., Battle Creek, Mich.