

As nobody knows even approximately the number of inhabitants in the vast Chinese domain, so, perhaps, nobody can say definitely and positively how many distinct dialects are spoken by the peoples of the different provinces. A recent authority puts the number at "over a hundred." So widely differing in many respects are many of these dialects that they constitute practically distinct languages. To endeavor to group, combine and standardize these languages into one common speech for the whole empire would be a work of many years and of immense difficulties. In fact, it would seem to be an undertaking involving greater difficulties than the introduction of a complete new tongue. And it must be remembered that the official and educated classes are familiar already with English. The language is taught in the universities and many of the schools. It is the common medium of official communication with other governments. At the same time, the leaders of the new movement are enthusiastic friends of our country. If the republican movement shall succeed, that success may be followed by the transformation of the Chinese into an English-speaking people.

It was noted in these columns recently that the price of platinum in the New York market had risen to the highest figure ever reached—over seven hundred dollars a pound. All over the world the demand for platinum arising from the use of the metal in electrical appliances has made it highly prized. In connection with this subject a curious story comes from Paris. It is said that a number of twenty-franc gold pieces forged in the reign of Napoleon III, have been found to be worth at least double their face value. This is due to the fact that in the alloy of which these forged coins were made platinum was used. At that time platinum was cheap. A pound weight of it could be bought for a few shillings. The spurious twenty-franc pieces contain about six grammes of platinum each, and today these six grammes are worth about \$9.

A crusade on "fads and frills" in the public schools of the city is to be started in New York, with more thoroughness and less experimentation as its slogan. Everywhere there seems stirring this revolt against the excessive system of experiment to which the schools have been subjected, with corresponding loss of thorough grounding in essentials. The educational theories of the present seem to share the prominent American craze for speed, more or less regardless of the risks involved in attaining it. The agitation, which appears to be general, will doubtless result in restoring the pendulum, which has swung too far in both directions of conservatism and progress, to its normal swaying.

It's well to be clean, but if you wash your rugs with gasoline, be careful. A Springfield, Mass., merchant, who is fastidious, had his office rugs scrubbed with gasoline and then gone over with a vacuum cleaner operated by electricity. The cleaner collected gasoline fumes which were ignited by an electric spark, whereupon there was an explosion and a blaze necessitating a call on the fire department.

That collision between a steamship in the merchant service and a United States armored cruiser in the harbor of Honolulu, in which the cruiser was so badly damaged as to necessitate immediate retirement for repairs, while the merchant ship steamed off apparently uninjured, might be cited as illustrating Kipling's assertion to the effect that the "weaker vessel" is the deadlier of the two.

Prof. Worthington told a London audience that in order to obtain pictures of what happened when a drop of water fell into a vessel containing water he had taken photographs by an electric spark of the duration of three-millionths of a second. Some day, perhaps, Prof. Worthington will be able to take a photograph of the drug store soda-fountain wink.

One of the baseball umpires announces that it is not wise to see too much while umpiring. It isn't what an umpire sees, but what he hears or feels that makes his task a heavy one.

It is proposed in Spokane to make no policeman out of applicants whose wails are greater than their chests. However, rotundity will come with police service, as of old.

A Chicago man says ragtime is as dangerous as whisky. And just as disagreeable to take.

The debt of New York is larger than that of the nation. But then New York has all our money.

THE KITCHEN CABINET



GOOD THINGS.

A most appetizing breakfast dish is toast with a white sauce generously seasoned with cheese and poured over it.

Vermicelli added to a white sauce or a tomato sauce is another good dish for luncheon, on toast.

If there is a daughter or son away at college, a chicken or small turkey, or duck, roasted in a paper bag, and sent packed in a new one, to be used in warming it up if desired, will cause a son or daughter to "rise up and call his mother blessed."

Another dainty for that box of goodies is a nice cake. One that will keep moist for several days, is the most satisfactory.

The layer cake of three layers, the middle one of fruit and spices, put together with orange filling is especially inviting, and it will surely not last long enough to dry.

Home made candy and some of mother's good cookies, with a package of thinly-sliced dried beef, should not be forgotten in packing the box.

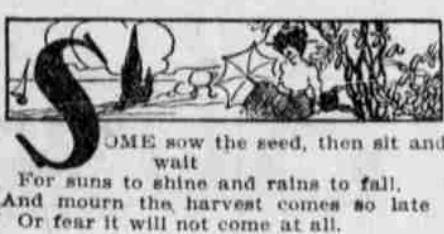
A jar or two of jam will delight the heart of a boy, and his friends will appreciate it as much as he.

Date cookies are another choice addition. Bake oatmeal cookies and put them together with stewed dates that have been seasoned with lemon juice.

One has the individual taste to help decide what is best to send in the box.

The following is a cake that many would find too expensive, but for such an occasion it will add to the pleasure, if the pocketbook is deep enough:

Macmillan Cake.—Take two cups of powdered sugar, one cup of blackberry jam, one cup of sweet milk, two-thirds of a cup of softened butter, five eggs or the yolks of twelve, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, spices to taste; mix all together and bake in layers. Put together with raisins and nuts and boiling frosting.



PAPER BAG DISHES.

These recipes are by Nicolas Soyer, the chef of the Brook's club, London:

Hare or Rabbit, Roasted.—Stuff and truss a rabbit in the ordinary way. Sprinkle well with flour and rub with cream, butter or drippings. Place in a greased bag with seasoning to taste. Place on the oven rack and bake forty-five minutes in a hot oven.

Stewed Hare.—Cut up the hare in small pieces; salt and pepper to taste. Add a little apple and fat bacon, one large onion finely chopped, a tablespoonful of flour and a bunch of sweet herbs. Mix together, add a quarter of a cup of stock and put all together into a buttered bag. Allow forty minutes in a hot oven.

Veal and Ham Pie.—Make a good paste for a pie, lay in the meat, well seasoned, and the crust; moisten the ends and corners, folding to cover the meat. Place in a greased bag and bake an hour if the pie weighs three pounds.

Stewed Kidney (Lamb).—Clean and cut up several pieces, not too thin; add salt and pepper to taste, and a teaspoonful of flour for six kidneys. Add a little tomato, mushrooms, a small piece of onion chopped, and a little chopped parsley. Mix all together carefully, slide into a buttered bag and bake in a very hot oven for eight minutes. The onion may be removed before serving.

Broiled Sheep's Kidney.—Skin the kidney, season and dot with butter, place in bag and cook ten minutes.

Chops of lamb are most delicious roasted in a paper bag. All the seasoning may be put on before putting them into the bag, except the addition of a little butter, if it is needed, on serving.



HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

When cooking cabbage, onions or any of the highly flavored vegetables, leave the dish uncovered while cooking.

After preparing celery for the table, save the tops and small bits for soups and stews.

The green tops of horseradish will grow again if planted.

For colds, a few drops of turpentine, four or five, on loaf sugar, will break up a cold in one night. If the cold is in the head, a good greasing of the nasal passages and the outside of the nose with carbolated vaseline is a great relief.

A severe cold on the chest may be relieved by a good greasing of lard and turpentine, one part turpentine to two parts lard.

Cough Medicine.—Boil two ounces of flax seed with a quart of water. Strain, and add two ounces of rock candy, a half pint of honey, the juice of three lemons. Boil all together until well mixed. Let cool and bottle. Two tablespoonfuls, taken hot, is a good dose.

Another fine cough cure is sliced onions. Sprinkle with sugar and put into the oven in a granite dish to cook. When the onions are dark brown the sirup will be ready to use.

A glass of warm milk taken before retiring is a good sleep producer.

Hot milk is a good drink to take before starting out into the cold, as it warms and nourishes at the same time.

Beets are fattening, and they are a food which should appeal to the thin woman.

Do not leave meat wrapped in paper. The meat is not only flavored by the paper, but the paper will absorb the juices of the meat.

When making French dressing, a small piece of ice in the salad bowl will make dressing thick and well blended.

The water in which a mutton stew is cooked or a leg of lamb boiled is a good basis for a soup.



HELPFUL HINTS.

To make ham tender, parboil and put to cook in a fireless cooker. Before serving, fry quickly until a golden brown. It will be tender, moist and altogether nice.

If a little vinegar is added to boiling fish it will keep it from falling to pieces. This will serve for cooking eggs in water, too.

A nice idea to follow, if boards are plenty, is to keep one especially for use in chopping or shredding onions. Burn a round letter O in the back and it will never be used for any other material.

An unusual combination for salad, but a good one, is sour pickles, peanuts and peas served with any desired salad dressing on lettuce, using a little onion juice in the dressing.

Another salad combination which is very delicious and most attractive in appearance is pears, almonds and candied cherries for garnish, using the French dressing.

Salad Dressing for Lettuce Sandwiches.—One egg yolk beaten light, add four tablespoonfuls of melted butter, half teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of vinegar, red pepper to taste; stir without cooking. Spread on bread without butter. Place a piece of lettuce or a slice of cucumber on each for a sandwich filling.

Add a few almonds to a potato salad to add to its food value and make it more palatable.

Nellie Maxwell.

A Billion Hellos.

In round numbers the system of the New York Telephone company consists of 526 central offices, 383,000 subscriber lines, 795,000 subscriber stations, 17,050 private branch exchange switchboards, and 35,900 local and toll trunk lines connecting the various central offices.

During the year 1911 we handled approximately 985,000,000 originating calls, of which about 470,000,000 were trunked to a second central office, thus involving the employment of a second operator in handling these calls. These figures represent an increase of approximately 9 1/2 per cent. over the originating traffic handled in 1910.—Telephone Review.

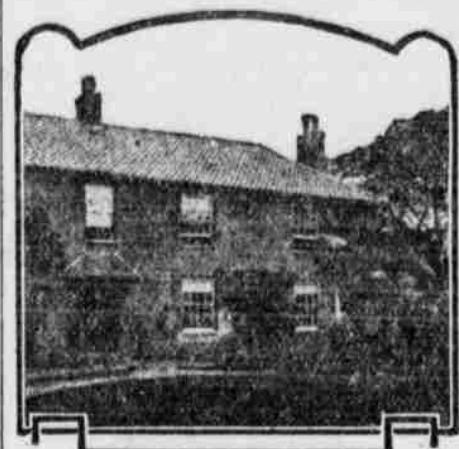
Best Advertisement.

Experience teaches that the very best advertisements printed are those which present in a clear, forcible, convincing manner the salient points about a product; the points which have actual selling value and create in the reader a desire to purchase. Such text as this, combined with good type selection and artistic illustration, will produce the sort of advertisement which can be depended upon to yield results and give prestige to the concern which uses it.—Wm. B. Nesbitt.

WAS SCENE OF MANY CRIMES

House Built by John C. Fremont in New York Was Believed to Be Haunted.

New York.—Mrs. F. A. Burrelle, who died a few weeks ago and whose funeral was delayed by a mysterious telephone message hinting at foul play, is the last victim of one of New York's "unlucky houses," says a writer in the New York Herald. This house, in West Nineteenth street, was built by Gen. John C. Fremont, one of the least lucky men in American politics. It was a wide English basement dwelling, standing between two vacant lots and regarded in its time as one of the best built houses in the city. After the house had passed out of General Fremont's hands a woman hanged herself from one of its upper staircases and her ghost was supposed to haunt the place ever since.



Once Occupied by Gen. Fremont.

Years ago one of these tenants described her own gruesome experiences within its walls, and I well remember her story of a mysterious and invisible shape that brushed by her one evening as she stood on the landing and sent the little dog in her arms into a fit of terror. The next owner of the property was Dr. May, whose family were pursued by ill luck for many years. The sad story of Dr. May's daughter, Mrs. William C. Whitney, who died after prolonged sufferings, is still fresh in the public memory. Afterward the house was the scene of a terrible tragedy, for it was there that a woman well known in New York society killed herself and her little children. The Burrelles used the lower floors of the house as the offices of their clipping bureau and lived in the rooms above. I called upon them there once, and Mrs. Burrelle, who apparently knew nothing of its reputation, told me that they liked the house, but had been much annoyed by mysterious sounds, and more than once had distinctly heard some one whom they were unable to see tramping up and down the great winding staircases. Mr. Burrelle died at sea and his wife followed him a few years later. The house, which has since made way for a loft building, is well remembered by old New York residents.

CITY OF TABRIZ AND ITS ARK

An Ancient Citadel That Was Once Used as a Place of Execution.

Tabriz, Persia.—The dominating feature in Tabriz is the citadel locally known as the Ark. It has a keep over a hundred feet high of solid burnt brick, which is said to have been raised by Ali Shah Tehan.

The citadel itself is a great walled structure on top of a mound overlooking the town. The walls are loopholed throughout and there is accommodation within for several thousand men. A hundred legendary traditions attach to this ancient monument. It is said that the bricks from which it is fashioned were all thrown to the masons by an Ethiopian slave who was liberated for the prowess he displayed. In the past the method of execution in Tabriz was to throw the condemned from the summit of the ark.

The Russian colony is quite large in Tabriz, and the consulate general is a big affair. The Russian bank also is a very considerable institution, besides which there are the engineering and telephonic institutions connected with the Tabriz-Julfa road service, which is a Russian-controlled highway.

Tabriz is also the point furthest from Hindustan to which the Indian army supplies a garrison. The British consul general at Tabriz has a consular guard of a non-commissioned officer and ten sows of the Indian cavalry.

GOLD CROWN ON PIG'S TOOTH

Cartridge Shell Through Long Use Had Come to Have Brightness of the Precious Metal.

St. Louis.—William Wellington, a farmer of Bridgeton, St. Louis county, several days ago discovered that one of his "fattens" hogs had what appeared to be a gold crowned tooth. The yellow metal gleamed every time the hog opened its mouth. The farmer was puzzled.

He butchered the animal and before he quartered it he examined the tooth. He found the animal had in some way got a 22-caliber brass shell around the tooth. Brightened by long use and worn to fit the tooth, the shell resembled a perfect gold dentist's crown.

The tooth was sent to the dental department of Washington university.

Goats Do Well in Brush.
Killekitat, Wash.—Goat raising is growing in favor in the Killekitat river country. Ten years ago Rev. Mr. Hylton, who came from Virginia and located in a brushy section, procured Angora goats.

Pleasant, Refreshing, Beneficial, Gentle and Effective.

NOTE THE NAME

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
In the Circle,
on every Package of the Genuine.

DO NOT LET ANY DEALER
DECEIVE YOU.

SYRUP OF FIGS AND ELIXIR OF SENNA HAS GIVEN
UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION FOR MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS
PAST, AND ITS WONDERFUL SUCCESS HAS LED UN-
SCRUPULOUS MANUFACTURERS OF IMITATIONS TO OFFER
INFERIOR PREPARATIONS UNDER SIMILAR NAMES AND
COSTING THE DEALER LESS; THEREFORE, WHEN BUYING,

Note the Full Name of the Company
CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.

PRINTED STRAIGHT ACROSS, NEAR THE BOTTOM, AND IN
THE CIRCLE, NEAR THE TOP OF EVERY PACKAGE, OF THE
GENUINE. REGULAR PRICE 50c PER BOTTLE, ONE SIZE
ONLY, FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS.

SYRUP OF FIGS AND ELIXIR OF SENNA IS THE MOST PLEASANT, WHOLESOME AND EFFECTIVE REMEDY FOR STOMACH TROUBLES, HEADACHES AND BILIOUSNESS DUE TO CONSTIPATION, AND TO GET ITS BENEFICIAL EFFECTS IT IS NECESSARY TO BUY THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY GENUINE, WHICH IS MANUFACTURED BY THE

CALIFORNIA Fig Syrup Co.

JEW SCORED ON ARISTOCRAT

Ill-Bred Remark Brought Discomfiture
on Duke of Westminster and
His Companion.

A friend of mine who is in Cairo just now told me a good story in a recent letter of an old Jew of that city who scored off the young duke of Westminster and his inseparable companion, Lord Ricksavage, when they were there a few weeks ago. They were buying some jewelry in the bazaar there, and the duke remarked audibly to his friend:

"The fool doesn't speak English of course." But the fool understood well enough.

"Do you spik Italian?" he asked them, to which they replied in the negative.

"Do you spik Grik?"

"No."

"Do you spik Turk?"

"No."

"Do you spik Russian?"

"No."

"Me one time fool," said the old man after a short but eloquent pause; "you five times fool!" And the duke and his friend retired discomfited.—Exchange.

Not That Kind.

"It would save a lot of trouble," said a newspaper man the other day to Representative Slayden of Texas, after the Democratic caucus on the Henry resolution to investigate the "money trust," "if you would allow us to attend the caucus."

"On the contrary," replied Mr. Slayden, with a twinkle in his eye, "I thought it would make a lot of trouble."

"Well, can't you give me an interview on it, now that the fight is over?"

"No," answered Mr. Slayden, "it would be against my principles. I never kiss and tell!"

Small Encouragement.

Kate—They say a woman is as old as she looks.

Maud—Never mind, dear; we all know you are only twenty-six.

HARD TO DROP

But Many Drop It.

A young Calif. wife talks about coffee:

"It was hard to drop Mocha and Java and give Postum a trial, but my nerves were so shattered that I was a nervous wreck and of course that means all kinds of ills."

"At first I thought bicycle riding caused it and I gave it up, but my condition remained unchanged. I did not want to acknowledge coffee caused the trouble for I was very fond of it."

"About that time a friend came to live with us, and I noticed that after he had been with us a week he would not drink his coffee any more. I asked him the reason. He replied, 'I have not had a headache since I left off drinking coffee, some months ago, till last week, when I began again, here at your table.' I don't see how anyone can like coffee, anyway, after drinking Postum!"

"I said nothing, but at once ordered a package of Postum. That was five months ago, and we have drank no coffee since, except on two occasions when we had company, and the result each time was that my husband could not sleep, but lay awake and tossed and talked half the night. We were convinced that coffee caused his suffering, so we returned to Postum, convinced that the coffee was an enemy, instead of a friend, and he is troubled no more by insomnia."

"I, myself, have gained 8 pounds in weight, and my nerves have ceased to quiver. It seems so easy now to quit the old coffee that caused our aches and ills and take up Postum." 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.



Astonished Husband.

De Wolfe Hopper tells a good story about the domestic unhappiness of another actor. The hero of the joke was a man who had married because the woman had much money, although no beauty. Naturally, after the wedding ceremony and the acquisition of the bride's financial resources, the husband was never very attentive to her.

Another member of the company in which the couple were appearing was, however, far more appreciative of the lady's charms, and proceeded to make love to her in an ardent but stealthy manner. The grand finale came one evening when the actor discovered the other man kissing his wife. The fond lover stood petrified with fear, and expected to be shot down the next moment.

No such thing happened. The outraged husband only lifted his hands toward the ceiling with a gesture of intense surprise, and exclaimed: "Merciful heavens! And he didn't even have to!"

They Should.

"My parents used to threaten to beat some sense into my head."

"Those idle threats that parents never carry out should be discouraged in every way possible."

Stop the Pain.

The hurt of a burn or a cut stops when Cole's Carbolic is applied. It heals quickly and prevents scars. 25c and 50c by druggists. For free sample write to J. W. Cole & Co., Black River Falls, Wis.

Its Nature.

"Does anybody ever win at a tea fight?"

"Of course not. It is a drawn battle."

FILES CURED IN 8 TO 14 DAYS

Yon druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure any case of itching, blind, bleeding or protruding files in 8 to 14 days. 50c.

A woman seldom eats if there is anything else for her to do.

But it takes a woman to keep a secret she doesn't know.

When the Millennium comes Garfield Tea and Holy Church will not be longer needed.

Usually a man is a poor judge of his own importance.

FREE

I want every person who is bilious, constipated or has any stomach or liver ailment to use my Paw-Paw Pills. I want to prove that they positively cure indigestion, Sour Stomach, Belching, Wind, Headache, Nervousness, Sleeplessness and are an infallible cure for Constipation. To do this I am willing to give millions of free packages. I take all the risk. Sold by druggists for 25 cents a box. For free package address, Prof. Munyon, 53rd & Jefferson Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

MUNYON'S PAW-PAW PILLS

Don't Persecute Your Bowels

Cut out cathartics and purgatives. They are brutal, harsh, unnecessary, injurious.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS

Purely vegetable. Act gently on the liver, eliminate bile, and soothe the delicate membrane of the bowels. Cure Constipation, Biliousness, Sick Headache and indigestion, as millions know.

SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE.

Genuine must bear Signature

W. Wood

I TREAT EYES FREE

I send free treatment for weak, sore, inflamed eyes, granulated lids, catarrhs, strabismus, falling sight, bloodshot eyes, etc. Write, describe eyes. DR. W. O. COFFEY, Dept. W, Des Moines, Iowa.

PISO'S REMEDY

Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by Druggists.

FOR COUGHS AND COLDS