

French Cookery Terms.

With the best of Anglo-Saxon intentions it is sometimes a little difficult to avoid the use of French terms in cookery or a bill of fare.

The term hors d'œuvre is the most difficult to translate. When cold it comprises all side dishes which are really accessories to the meal.

Hot hors d'œuvre are almost unlimited; they are very acceptable at large dinners, and are generally served immediately after the soup and before the fish.

The Boy Who Discovered the "Saw By." A few years ago a green country boy applied to the superintendent of a western railway for work, and, somewhat against the superintendent's wish, on account of the danger to life and limb attendant upon such occupation, was given a place as brakeman of a freight train.

"Well, how would you go about it?" asked one of the conductors, confident that the lad would soon find himself against a stump.

The boy took up a stick and traced in the sand a diagram to illustrate his plan. "Good gracious!" said the conductor, "I believe that will do it!"

An Expensive Infirmary. It happened to be in a Broadway optician's store and saw a good looking, well dressed matron with a slip of a girl and a small boy, all of whom wore spectacles.

The Shark Is a Slow Swimmer. One ill service nature has done the shark, namely, that of placing a triangular fin on his back which acts as a danger signal and gives warning of his approach.

Benzine Cleans Furs. Nothing cleans soiled fur better than benzine. Actresses immerse their wigs in baths of this liquid with most excellent results.

A Crisis in Spain. Queen of Spain—Moi gracial! The baby king has the stomach ache. Lord Chamberlain (excitedly)—Woo-o! Call the secretary of the interior.—Good News.

NEW LONDON IN WAR.

The Strategic Value of a Connecticut City in the Defense of New York. Navy officers who have studied the region have often and urgently pressed upon their department the importance of developing the station at New London and making it efficient.

The amount of trade that passes through Long Island sound coastwise is hardly conceived of by the majority of citizens. It amounts to a great many million dollars' worth a year, and all this trade could be paralyzed by a quick stroke from a foreign navy.

Cut off a city's supply of air and what would it matter whether that city surrendered or not? Shut off from New York in war time nine elevenths of the material it needed for war and it would be as helpless as a city without air to breathe.

Of the loss which would thus be caused a small percentage were now to be promptly applied to building up New York's outer line of defense, with a strong navy yard at New London as its base, the whole cost would be defrayed in a few years without inconvenience to any one.

Boston can be equipped effectually to defend herself; and Newport also, if fortified, is in a position to ward off an enemy. But neither of these, by so doing, can help to defend New York.

A Chance for a Fortune. There survive in this city a few hand cork cutters who still contrive to make a sort of living in competition with the cork cutting machines and the peasants of Catalonia.

How They Got Along. A Nantucket woman tells of the annoyance to which the Mitchell household was subjected, after its daughter, Maria Mitchell, became famous, at the hands of two importunate tourists.

Mysteries of Manufacture. Cigar Manufacturer—Yes, sir, it's an actual fact that cigar boxes are not made out of cedar at all; they are made out of paper and colored with cedar extract.

A valuable antiseptic soap is made by adding twelve parts of sulphate of copper to eighty-eight parts of any good soap. It will readily heal sores and scratches and is devoid of any irritating action.

KNOCKING OUT A JEHU.

Reverend of the Insults of a Big Stage Driver by a Little Dude.

Colonel William Greene Sterrett, of the Galveston-Dallas News, tells this story: "Once, a good many years ago," he said, "I was traveling in a stage in western Texas. It was long before the sort of the locomotive was heard on the prairies of that region, over which the buffalo yet roamed."

"Here," he said to the Englishman, "you come out of that and get up on the seat with me. There ain't room for you in there." The Englishman didn't move. "Come out, I tell you," roared the driver. The Englishman just sat still.

"All right," said the Englishman, at last. "I will come out, and when I am out I will whip you soundly."

"Well, when the little Englishman got out he took his coat off and handed it back into the stage. Then he started toward the driver and the driver started toward him. We heard a sound a good deal like that made by hitting a steer in the head with an ax. Down in a heap went the driver. He was up as quick as a flash. Down he went again.

"Hold on, stranger—hold on! I'm whipped and throw up my hands. You kin ride anywhere on this stage you darn please, outside or inside or on the horses. You're the boss now; but," he added, glaring savagely at the rest of us, "I kin lick anybody else on this stage."

Blunders of the Teachers. A friend, himself for many years a teacher, writes: "The blunders of teachers of English literature are sometimes more amazing than any that are told of their pupils. I heard the other day of a woman at the west who, when a class was reading Tennyson's 'Day Dream,' explained to them that the happy princess, in following her lover 'deep into the dying day,' went to America!

More than this—my name reminds me of three friends, all true and tried, etc. "One writer suggested that they were Professor Cornelius C. Fulton, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Charles Sumner.

Those who have sought in vain for lacets to match the color of silk on lamp shades and other decorative articles may be able to produce the right shade by using some of the French tapestry dyes. One should experiment on a bit of lace, first to see if the dyes are properly thinned, so as to get the desired shade.

A Young Diplomat. Mrs. Brown—I'm afraid to let you have a bicycle. Little Johnnie—Don't feel that way, ma. Even if it did kill me, remember that it would be the last thing I ever asked you for.—New York Epoch.

The Brilliant Student's Dilemma.

A Harvard student told me an amusing story about himself the other day. It seems that recently his mother had a young lady guest at his home on the Back Bay, and when he came from college in the afternoon he was introduced to her. At dinner also she sat opposite him at the table.

At will he could transform himself into a serpent, could become invisible and could travel at an incredible rate of speed. An arrow dipped into the liquid and shot at any living being, even if it did not hit its object, would nevertheless kill it.

We had rather throw aside this pen forever than to write a word to discourage any woman who is conscientiously striving to earn a position on the stage; but there are other women—some in the profession, some in the audience—to whom it is grossly unfair to put forth an inexperienced amateur as a star.

The Evolution of the Sword. As men in early times fought hand to hand, the oldest specimens of the sword are short; in fact, the sword is probably but an evolution of the club, which at first made of hard wood was gradually sharpened on one end and then on both sides, so as to inflict a more deadly wound.

The sword increased in length as men became more civilized and showed a disposition to fight farther away from each other, which required more dexterity in the use of the weapon.

Unasked Sympathy. I cannot touch a piece of velvet with my fingers or permit the furry side of a peach skin to touch my lips without experiencing immediately a sort of cold chill all over my person. It is not so very severe, but it is unpleasant.

Helping One Another. A seventh ward man rises in the early dawn of Monday morning and does the family washing, because his wife has an organic heart trouble. After he goes to his daily toil, with the consciousness of having performed his duty, she goes over and does the washing for the minister's family.—Springfield Homestead.

THE BEET SUGAR INDUSTRY.

At the meeting of the directors of the Lincoln board of trade, at which it was decided to hold a beet sugar congress, Mr. M. A. Lunn of Grand Island spoke as follows on the prospects of the industry in Nebraska: "This industry has become an established reality in this state and is no longer a legitimate subject for conjecture.

The commercial importance that it will be to the people of this state to manufacture the sugar that is used by them cannot be estimated. A slight conception of the most direct benefits that would accrue were this the case, can only be partially imagined when we reflect [by comparison the amount of sugar that is annually consumed by the United States. According to the best statistics obtainable we find our importations amounted to 3,383,442,325 pounds, and that the production in the United States was less than 200,000,000.

"According to the last census report the annual per capita consumption of the United States was fifty-five pounds. Of this amount we only produced eight pounds per capita of the consumption. The annual cost of sugar to each individual in the United States would be \$2.60, based upon these conservative figures and computed at 4 1/2 cents per pound. This would amount to 5 cents per week, or 5-7 of a cent per day for each individual.

"For Douglas county, which has the largest population of any county in the state, it would amount to over \$400,000 annually, or money enough to establish eight national banks with \$50,000 capital each.

"The growth of the beet sugar industry has been very rapid during the last thirty years, when it was first thoroughly taken in hand. The world's output of beet sugar for the years 1860 and 1861 was, according to M. Licht, 387,000 tons, whereas for the years 1890-91 it is computed by the authority at 3,666,000 tons as against 2,340,000 tons of cane sugar, a total of exactly 6,000,000 tons, an excess of beet sugar over cane of 1,320,000 tons.

As Germany, France and Austria are the largest producers of sugar from beets we will give the average cost per acre of raising beets in France in the following detailed figures furnished by M. E. DuFay, of Chevry, Cossigny, France:

"To the figures stated are still to be added the rent of the land and taxes \$9.40, making a total of \$80.01. The charge of harvesting is very low from the fact that the topping of the beets is performed by women and children whose average wages do not exceed 15 cents per day much less than the estimates call for in this country while the charge for fertilizers is much greater than we shall need on our soils for some years to come.

"We are of the opinion that if an equal amount of money is expended in the state of Nebraska for labor, ground rent and taxes that is expended in France for fertilizers, rent and taxes, that the result will be an equal average tonnage per acre; and when we again compare the percentage produced in Nebraska which has maintained an average of about 16 per cent with those of France and Germany, we have still a greater advantage in this respect.

Table with columns: Germany, Percent, Habs. Percent. Rows: 1890-91, 1888-89, 1887-88.

"According to Secretary Rusk's last report the average percentage of sucrose in the beets for this year at the experimental station at Schuyler is about 15, and a tonnage of twenty tons to the acre.

"It is evident that the cost of growing beets in Nebraska is less than in either France or Germany, where fertilizers are annually required.

"Several farmers at Grand Island have grown from fifteen to twenty-one tons of beets per acre this year at an average cost of about \$30 per acre, the contract price of which was \$4 per ton. Similar reports are also made from Norfolk and, while it is true that some farmers have not met with success or profit in growing beets, it certainly must be due to improper selection, or preparation of the land or else in neglect in cultivation.

"This crop is one that will not admit of neglect in cultivation, but it is one that if properly cultivated will return a larger per cent of profit for the labor bestowed than any other crop. When factories are established there can always be found a market for this crop at a uniform price per ton.

"As the price of a commodity cheapens, in proportion as the consumption is increased, and as it is estimated that it would require 700 additional factories in the United States, with a capital equal to the two already built in Nebraska to supply the consumption of our people, it naturally follows that this number must be very largely increased to meet the demand caused by the reduction in the price of the sugar.

"The question now arises, cannot Nebraska become the leading sugar producing state in the union? Are not its people warranted in making a united effort in that direction? To the end that all possible information and knowledge regarding this great industry may be thoroughly disseminated among all the people in the state and that capitalists may be informed as to the great natural advantages that are to be found here, and that the intention of the one to produce the raw material shall induce the other to locate factories in this state."

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