

Progress of Inventions Since 1885.

In the year 1885 the present owners of the American newspaper commenced its publication, and soon after established a bureau for the procuring of patents for inventions as home and in foreign countries.

Up to the first of July this year there have been granted 406,413. Showing that since the commencement of the publication of the Scientific American there have been issued from the U. S. Patent Office, 402,166 patents, and about one hundred more applications have been made.

Persons visiting the offices of the Scientific American, 361 Broadway, N. Y., for the first time, will be surprised, on entering the main office, to find such an extensive and elegantly equipped establishment, with its walnut counters, desks, and chairs to correspond, and its numerous safes, and such a large number of draughtsmen, specification writers, and clerks, all busy as bees, reminds one of a large banking or insurance office, with its hundred employees.

In conversation with one of the firm, who had commenced the business of soliciting patents in connection with the publication of the Scientific American, more than forty years ago, I learned that this firm had made applications for patents for upward of one hundred thousand inventors in the United States, and several thousands in different foreign countries, and had filed as many cases in the Patent Office in a single month as there were patents issued during the entire first year of their business career.

The circulation, had performed a mean share in stimulating inventions and advancing the interests of the Patent Office. But it is not alone the patent soliciting that occupies the attention of the one hundred persons employed by Munn & Co., but a large number are engaged on the four publications issued weekly and monthly from their office, 361 Broadway, N. Y., viz: The Scientific American, the Scientific American Supplement, the Export Edition of the Scientific American, and the Architects and Builders Edition of the Scientific American.

Seeking for Information.

The chemical department at the state university is doing a remarkable work in aiding the beet sugar industry in Nebraska. Analyses of beets are made without cost to the producer. The chemical department is gathering all the information it can that will be of interest and of value to those ready to embark in beet raising.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, P. O. BOX 674, LINCOLN, NEB., March, 1899.—To the Farmers of Nebraska: In as much as the sugar industry bids fair to become, in the near future, very prominent in our state, we ask your co-operation in the collecting and distributing of reliable information in regard to it.

If you plant, this season, sugar beet seed, will you kindly note the facts in season and answer the following questions:

- First—Kind and variety of seed planted.
Second—Number of acres planted.
Third—Date of planting.
Fourth—Kind of soil.
Fifth—Method of cultivation.
Sixth—Time of harvesting, yield per acre.
Seventh—Cost per acre.
Eighth—Kind of season.

Answers to these questions should be sent either to Professor Rachel Lloyd or myself as early as November 1, 1899, as we intend to publish, for the benefit of the public, the information thus obtained together with our analyses of the beets raised in different portions of the state. Very Respectfully, H. H. NICHOLSON, Director of the Laboratory.

The above circular was sent early in the season, together with a small quantity of beet seed, to a number of prominent farmers in the state. Many of them are now responding by sending to the laboratory, for analysis, specimens

of the beets raised. The object of this is to determine, if possible, whether or not beets can be raised in Nebraska with a sufficient content of sugar to make it a matter of profit to the farmer.

To this end, it is necessary to obtain as many facts as possible. We again send out the circular and earnestly request any person who has raised sugar beets this season to send to the chemical laboratory, state university, at our expense, one medium sized specimen of each variety raised.

Beets thus sent should be carefully labeled, wrapped in strong paper, and accompanied by as complete answers to the above questions as it is possible to give.

Reports of results of analyses will be sent, gratis, to those sending beets. H. H. NICHOLSON.

TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

Conducted by the W. C. T. U. "For God, and Home and Native Land."

The Helping Hand. On the lowest round of the ladder I firmly planted my feet, And I looked up the dim, vast distance That made my future so sweet.

I climbed till my heart grew weary, I climbed till my brain was on fire; I planted each footstep with wisdom, Yet I never seemed to get aligher.

For this round was glazed with indifference, And that one was gilded with scorn, And when I grasped firmly another, I found under veiled a thorn.

Till my brain grew weary of planning, And my strength began to fall, And the flush of the morning's excitement

Ere evening began to fall, And just when my hands are unclasping Their hold on the last gained round, And my hopes coming back from the future

Were sinking again to the ground, One who had climbed near to the summit

Reached backward a helping hand, And refreshed, encouraged and strengthened, I took again my stand.

And I wish, oh, I wish, that the climbers Would never forget as they go, That though weary may seem their climbing, There is always some one below.

What horrifying details of liquor tragedies come to us in private letters as well as in all myriads of newspapers of the land! Mrs. Bassett says in a recent letter, "last night across the river a man came to his death by getting drunk and lying on the hay with a lighted pipe in his mouth. It set the hay on fire and burned his body to a crisp, besides causing a fire which did damage to the amount of \$6,000. Another man was found dead in his chair in a saloon. Thus the end of the victims of intemperance are constantly shocking us."

The W. C. T. U. of Columbus, Miss., sent an earnest request to every clergyman in the place to preach a sermon on "The Evils of the Open Saloon." The plea was considered in the ministers' meeting, and the chairman made answer by a note saying that the ministers, after prayerful consideration of the request, deemed it inexpedient to comply.

A Mississippi town of 7,500 inhabitants provides a large number of saloons for the men to get drunk in, but has repeatedly failed to sustain the existence of even one ice cream parlor for the refreshment of wives and children. The stream of money could not flow in two opposite directions.

"What you tell me, missus, sou's mon'sous luminous, but when the politician splinifies it to me it appears spontaneous in the other direction," said an honest-hearted colored brother to Mrs. Sallie Chapin, who was trying to convince him that if prohibition didn't really prohibit the saloon men would not fight it so furiously.

After mature deliberation the McCook Tribune comments the following advice to girls who possess beaux who want to sit up all night or away into the sawed off hours of the morning every time they come sparking. If you want to get him away early take a pencil and paper and with your sweetest smile say that you have a new puzzle. Then tell him to make a row of eleven ciphers, then to make a perpendicular mark downward from the right of the first cipher, upward from the right of the fourth, downward from the right of the fifth, upward from the right of the seventh and eighth; downward from the right of the tenth. The marks should be half an inch in length. Ask him what he has written. The effect is electrical.

The terrible drouth in portions of Minnesota is becoming serious. The farmers near Spokane have to haul water from eight to ten miles to keep their stock from perishing. To add to the trouble fires are raging in the timber and on the prairies, and the losses will foot up many thousands of dollars.

The Kearney Hub has existed for a whole year and it is safe to predict that it will prove a stayer. The Hub works for the good of its city and county and is appreciated by the people.

The Barber Shop. First door south of the court house. E. L. GALPIN, Proprietor. Here you can get a clean shave, a first class hair cut or a WARM or COLD BATH

Smith Bros., OF THE ONLY FIRST CLASS LIVERY, FEED AND SALE STABLE. Wish to call the attention of the public to the fact that they are prepared to furnish at reasonable rates First Class Rigs On short notice. A Dray Line Run in Connection.

City Restaurant, HENRY SNYDER, Proprietor. Boarding by the day or week at lowest living rates. WARM MEALS AT ALL HOURS. Call and see us when you are hungry and we will give you the worth of your money. ONE DOOR NORTH OF BLACKSMITH SHOP. Main Street. Harrison, Nebraska.

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