

# Our Unrivalled Premium Offer

## 42--PIECE MONOGRAM DINNER SET



JUST NOTICE the beautiful decorations and the exquisitely traced design. The ware is semi-vitreous, semi-porcelain decalcomania, and the glaze is put on so perfect and the decorations are burned on underneath so carefully, that we guarantee this ware never to craze, should last a lifetime. It makes no difference what initial your's may be; and we use only the most beautiful style of lettering. An opportunity to secure a beautiful Monogram Dinner Set made to order with your initial on each dish, at half the usual price does not come very often, and may never come again. Our contract with the factory calls for a limited number of sets at a special introductory price, which enables us to make the unparalleled offer we do. The price to the press, for the purpose of advertising the wares, is lower than factory price to jobbers.

Monogram Dinner Sets are all the rage. Never so Popular as now. Order a set at once.

**The Independent One Year and the Dinner Set \$4**

Each Dish Decorated  
With Your Initial.

THIS DINNER SET WILL BE SENT FREE to any one sending us \$10.00 to pay for ten yearly subscriptions to  
**THE INDEPENDENT**

Wild Rose Designs in  
Colors and Edges  
Traced in Gold.

### THE BUFFALO

The total area inhabited by the buffalo was about 3,000,000 square miles. Of this the open plains were one-half. According to figures supplied me by A. F. Potter of the Forest Service, the ranges of the Dakotas, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, Texas and Oklahoma (a total of about 750,000 square miles, or half of the plains) were, according to the census of 1900, carrying 24,000,000 head of cattle and horses and about 6,000,000 head of sheep. This means that when fully stocked they might sustain a number of buffalo at least equal to the number of cattle and horses. The buffalo had to divide their heritage with numerous herds of mustangs, antelope and wapii; on the other hand, a buffalo could find a living where a range animal would starve, many of the richest bottom lands are now fenced in, and we have taken no account of the 6,000,000 sheep. Therefore, we are safe in placing at 40,000,000 the buffalo formerly living on the entire plains area.—Scribner's Magazine.

### HOW OYSTERS ARE FATTENED

At Lynnhaven, Va., the United States bureau of fisheries has been working for several years on a plan to establish an artificial fattening bed for oysters. The oyster lives chiefly on diatoms and other microscopic marine plants. These plants require for their growth a large supply of inorganic salts in the water. The nec-

essary plant food is supplied by putting commercial fertilizers into the water. The fattening bed must be in shallow water, so as to have a relatively high temperature.

A wall is maintained around the fattening ground, so as to retain the fertilizer and diatoms. Even after the diatoms have multiplied enormously the oysters receive no benefit from them unless a current is maintained in the water to carry the food to the oysters. Salt water is pumped in to prevent the fattening beds from becoming too fresh, and a little lime is added to the water to prevent the growth of algae and other plants which give a disagreeable flavor to the oysters. Too much lime, on the other hand, will destroy the food plants of the oyster. The process seems somewhat complicated, but it has been demonstrated to be feasible and to yield fine results in the number and quality of oysters.—Country Life in America

### COTTAGE PUDDING

Simeon Ford tells of a woman in a Chicago hotel who was known as the most inveterate "kicker" the hostelry had ever known.

One evening at dessert the lady who was always complaining asked the waiter why the dish served her was called "ice cream pudding."

"If you don't like it, ma'am, I'll bring you something else," suggested the polite negro.

"Oh, it's very nice," responded the

lady. "What I object to is that it should be called ice cream pudding. It's wrongly named. There should be ice cream served with it."

"Yes, ma'am," replied the waiter, "but that's jest our name for it. Lots o' dishes that way. Dey don't bring you a cottage with a cottage pudding, you know."—Success.

### FORCING THE MILLENNIUM

Thomas A. Edison, celebrating his fifty-ninth birthday, prophesied that the world would soon have flying machines, cheap automobiles and a dozen other marvelous things.

"Do you think, sir," said a young lady reporter, "that the world will ever be Christianized?"

Mr. Edison smiled.

"Not only do I think so," he said, "but I think we shall both live to see it. Just look at the way these big improved machine guns are wiping out the heathen."—Baltimore American.

### THE BUSY ANGLER

An angler in the River Meuse, in Belgium, while fishing recently, felt a light bite as he was pulling in his line. Then there was a second pull, and just as the fish was appearing on the water an enormous pike made a spring at it, and went off with his prey and 100 feet of line. After much trouble it was wound in, and the astonished angler found that he had caught first a perch of about one-

pound weight and well on the hook, then a pike of four pounds, which had half swallowed the perch, then a pike of thirteen pounds weight, who had seized on the smaller pike, in his endeavor to wrest the perch from him.—London Daily Mail.

### Its Coming Vacation

"Yes, I'm going to spend a few weeks at Kloseman's summer resort. need a rest."

"Well, your stomach will get a good rest there, too. I know the place."—Chicago Tribune.

### Will Leave Her Alone

"Miss Cutting says she is going to sleep out of doors all summer."

"Why, the mosquitoes will eat her up!"

"No, they won't—she's too sour."—Detroit Free Press.

### Practical

"You are the only girl I ever loved," he declared passionately.

"That's nice," she answered. "But, really, you know, it's a lot more important for me to be assured that I'm the only girl you're ever going to love."—Cleveland eLader.

"He is an accomplished linguist," said the admiring friend.

"Yes," answered Miss Cayenne. "He is one of those people who speak many languages but never think anything worth saving in any of them."—Washington Star.