

By D. M. AMBERRY

BROKEN BOW, - - NEBRASKA

India's Curse.

One of the great perils of India is the danger from serpents and wild beasts, which annually cause enormous loss of life in that part of the world. There is a belief in many pagan minds which prevents the killing of wild animals, no matter how ferocious they may be, and which leaves undisturbed the most venomous snakes. The awful havoc wrought by serpents is made the subject of official mention in a report by William H. Michal, the American consul general at Calcutta, in which that gentleman says: "The serpent question is still a very 'live,' very serious question in India. Snake bites occur frequently, and they are generally inflicted by venomous snakes, like the cobra." Then he relates that last year there were reported 21,797 deaths from snake-bite. But it is admitted that the statistics are kept very loosely, and it is believed the actual fatalities will exceed the quoted figures by at least 50 per cent. This sort of thing has gone on indefinitely, and for at least 30 years the total has averaged as high as that of 1906. Add to this the ravages of flesh-eating beasts, including the tigers and lions, many of which become "man killers," and some conception may be formed of the result. India is a country of many millions population, but the census would show still greater growth were there some well-organized effort in the way of disposing of its noxious wild creatures.

Plea for Enlisting.

No man who will look carefully into the work of the army of the navy can fail to realize that a career in either branch of our military service is one to which any man may give himself with the fullest devotion and with the highest ideals. Americans, as a rule, know little about the actual work of either of these services, and few realize that when a man enters the service of the army or of the navy, whether as officer or as enlisted man, he enters a great school, a school in which is taught not only the discipline of self-restraint, of cleanliness, of devotion to duty, but in which are taught also the elements of an education, says H. S. Pritchett, in Atlantic. An enlisted man who enters a regiment of the army, barely able to read or write, comes out, if he be a man of ambition and industry, at the end of three years, in possession of the fundamentals of an English education. His officer stands to him not only in the relation of a military director, but in the relation also of a teacher and of a friend. There is no career open to an American boy, unless it be that of a teacher, which offers a larger opportunity than that of the army or navy officer to minister to the service of men.

A Consumptive Flood.

The flocking of consumptives from all parts of the country to the southwest has created problems in the latter region with which the various states are dealing in different ways. In Texas the state health officer has just issued a statement in which he says that victims of tuberculosis in its advanced stages will be debarred from entering or remaining in that state. He declares that conditions make such a rule imperative. So many indigent consumptives have been pouring in and becoming charges on the public that the people of certain sections are seriously burdened in caring for such patients. This increase of the pauper population not only works hardships on taxpayers, but the scattering throughout the state of throngs of tuberculosis sufferers of all classes causes an inability to control the spread of the disease. This is rather hard on health seekers, but Texas surely cannot be blamed.

Vanishing Forests.

The old forests of Kentucky are vanishing. In all the good farming regions men saved fine bits of forest, set with old beeches, oaks, ashes, poplars, hickories, elms and walnuts. When the undergrowth was taken away the grass set about the trees and grew luxuriantly. Now these trees are very old, and many are in decay. The beech is an especially fine tree, and it is worthy of note that there is not one beech to a thousand old and decaying trees! Some day, says Our Country, the beech will be an extinct tree in all the more fertile and cultivated regions.

Smokers who have been longing to break themselves of the tobacco habit will rejoice to know that a French doctor has invented a fluid called nicoty, one drop of which will cause a man to have nausea at the mere thought of tobacco.

By a process of kite flying the weather men of the country are going to promulgate new rules for weather forecasting. Prognostications concerning the weather are usually a little "up in the air," anyhow.

FIXING OF THE COST

THE FACTORS IN PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

Equity in Division of Profits to All Engaged in Producing, Manufacturing and Selling.

Were the masses of people better informed as to principles underlying business transactions and commerce in general there would be less cause for complaint as to matters pertaining to buying and selling of commodities.

One of the faults, if it may be so termed, is the inclination of the people to complain about prices they must pay for goods required for domestic and other uses. There can be no doubt but that in many districts retail merchants exact exorbitant prices, this to an extent is the fault of the people who are little acquainted with real values. There are three important things to be considered in the fixing of the selling price of all commodities. These factors are the cost of the raw materials, the expense of manufacturing and the expense of distribution. From commercial transactions neither of these basic elements can be eliminated. The farmer who is the grower of corn, wheat and other cereals that comprises food stuffs, receives compensation for his product in accordance with the laws of supply and demand, and the values that may regulate the monetary markets of the world. The producer of cotton in the southern states, must receive for his product compensation that is based upon the cost of labor, manufacture and what finished articles in the cotton line may bring in the markets of the world. The producer of the raw materials must pay for his labor, and for his investment in farm lands and farm equipment. The manufacturer who buys the raw products must take into consideration the expense of labor, the maintenance of his manufacturing plant, the interest upon the amount invested, and also various other items, and the sum of these with what he can secure for his finished product, regulates the price that he pays for the raw material. In the distribution of goods the middle man plays an important part. He is the go-between the producer of the raw material the manufacturer, and the manufacturer and the consumer. He cannot well be eliminated from commercial transactions. He performs a service that neither the producer of the raw material or the manufacturer can more economically perform. The middle men are the jobbers, the commission agents and the retailers; each performing his special service in the matter of distribution. The consumer is the end of the chain, the final buyer of commodities who utilizes them for his own use and the uses of his family. There should be a margin of profit in each of the different transactions that will allow equitable compensation to each and every one interested in the production of a finished article. All goods have a real value and this value is determined solely by the elements referred to herein. The consumer must expect to contribute his mite towards the support of all engaged in commerce. He is the beginning link, as well as the ending link of every transaction. The farmer who grows wheat, when he forces the grocer from whom he buys his flour to sell the flour at a low rate, indirectly has an influence in lowering the market for the wheat that he produces. When the consumer demands that goods be sold at a price below the cost of production, he invites substitution of inferior goods, adulteration of the articles and encourages a system that is unwholesome.

The people should understand that they never receive something for nothing, or receive anything of value for less than its value unless under some abnormal circumstance. Of late years there has a system grown up of offering great bargains in various kinds of goods by catalogue sent through the mails, and presenting attractive and illusive advertising that goods are being sold at less than cost. The intelligent man or woman will carefully consider all the circumstances relative to such offers, and will be guided accordingly. It is evident that when special bargains are made there are conditions that justify such bargains; that goods are not of standard grade, are stale, or deteriorated in some manner. Also there has a system of offering "free premiums" grown up that is unwholesome, and to an extent an imposition upon the people as the system compels them to pay for articles that are not essential for them to have. The man who buys sugar does not care to be forced under the guise of paying for sugar to pay for a paper of pins or a package of needles, even though these may be a "free premium." It is well to bear these points in mind, and a little study into business economics and principles will be highly advantageous to the one who desires to know about the proper value of goods he must buy.

Care of Shade Trees.

While shade trees are very desirable along sidewalks and roads, unless they are kept well trimmed they become much of a nuisance, preventing evaporation of rains and helping make muddy streets. It is well for citizens of every town to look after the trimming of shade trees, and the planting of shade trees where they are needed.

SCHEMES TO DEFRAUD.

Some of the Plans to Secure Money Without Adequate Compensation.

Plans to secure money from the people without giving adequate returns are numerous. Not alone are the residents of country districts made the victims of schemers, but city people as well are now and then humbugged by shrewd fakirs. Within the past year or two it was announced in the columns of magazines and the farm papers of a seedless apple being evolved. A few months later seedless apple trees were widely advertised from different parts of the country. One concern which started in to operate on an extensive plan organized seedless apple companies in different states of the western country. Within a few months hundreds of thousands of dollars were taken from the pockets of the people for seedless apple trees. These trees were just the ordinary kind, and poor stock at that. So bold were the operations of the seedless apple tree schemers that the secretary of agriculture found it necessary to issue a bulletin warning the people of the fraud, and later the post office department issued fraud orders against those engaged in the nefarious business. There are nurseries located in nearly every state. It is a good plan for the residents of farming and fruit growing districts to carefully investigate concerns selling fruit trees and similar lines before they are given patronage.

A number of petty grafts have lately been worked throughout the country. One of the common ones is the hiring of agents to sell soaps, perfumes and other commodities on the premium plan. The concerns which operate games of this class generally have their headquarters in some large city and through advertising secure the names of people desiring employment as canvassers and agents. To such they send letters holding out extraordinary inducements. Those who agree to act as agents sign a contract which is an agreement to pay for such goods as may be sent to them on consignment. The sample outfits which are forwarded, or the small stock of goods, are billed in such a way as to allow the concern an exorbitant profit. If the agent succeeds in selling the goods and remits promptly there is not likelihood of being any trouble, but generally the goods are so poor in quality that they remain dead stock in the hands of the canvasser, and he will find that the agreement he has signed will hold him to pay for the goods.

One of the humbugs that is perpetrated upon the people of many communities is the selling of stock in cooperative mercantile companies. During the past three or four years the residents of many small towns and agricultural districts have lost hundreds of thousands of dollars, if not millions, through the buying of stock in alleged cooperative establishments in large cities. One company with headquarters in Chicago, doing a mail order business, sold stock in excess of \$1,000,000, and when the concern went into the hands of a receiver about a year ago there was not ten per cent. of assets to return to stockholders. Other alleged cooperative deals involve what is termed a profit sharing plan. This plan does not require the purchase of stock, but the cooperative part is purely a scheme devised for the securing of trade.

COSTLY LESSONS IN ECONOMY.

It is Not Always a Matter of Saving to Buy Cheap Goods.

Almost every rural community has within its confines people who have paid well for experience and have learned costly lessons as to buying of goods.

Not long ago in a western town a citizen desired to buy a kitchen range. A visit to the local hardware store was made and the prices asked by the dealer were not satisfactory to the prospective purchaser, who by the way had his attention attracted by the advertising in his farm paper of "a bargain" in a kitchen range. The range was advertised as equal to those costing "twice the money at the local store." The citizen sent a money order to the concern advertising the range, and in the course of a few weeks he was notified by the railroad agent that the range had arrived. In removing it from the station to the farm house, in some inexplicable way part of it was broken. The broken pieces were taken to the local hardware store but could not be duplicated. A letter was written to the range company and in the course of a few weeks a duplicate of the broken part was received, but it was discovered that it would not fit the stove. It had to be returned and a few weeks later another piece was sent; then the stove was placed in use. Within six months the top had become so warped that it interfered seriously with the drafts. At the end of the year the stove was burned out and ready for the junk heap. The purchaser of the stove then determined that he would secure another range from the home dealer. He paid the home dealer the price he was asked which was about one-third more than the poor range cost, and after a few years the range was found to be as good almost as when first bought.

This is one illustration of how economy wrongfully practiced is expensive. It is not always wise to seek the bargain counters when good articles are wanted. Neither is it a wise idea to buy goods before you have an opportunity to carefully examine them and determine their value.

THE PARABLE HE LIKED.

Darkey Would Have Had Trouble Picking It from Sacred Book.

An old darkey, anxious to be a minister, went to be ordained. He was questioned thus: "Can you write?" "No, sah!" "Read?" "No, sah!" "How do you know about the Bible?" "Ma niece reads it to me!" "Know about the Ten commandments?" "No, sah!" "The Twenty-third Psalm?" "Nebber heard of him, sah!" "Know the Beatitudes?" "No, sah!" "Well, what part of the Bible do you like best?" "Par'bles, sah!" "Can you give us one?" "Deed, yes, sah!" "Let us have it, then." "Once w'en the queen of Sheba was gwine down to Jerusalem she fell amonk thieves. First they passed her by on de oddah side den dey come ovah an' dey say unto her, 'Fro down Jezebel!' but she wouldn't fro her down; and again dey say unto her, 'Fro down Jezebel!' but she wouldn't fro her down; and again dey say unto her for de fird and last time, for I ain't gwine to ax yo no mo', 'Fro down Jezebel!' and dey fro'd her down for 70 times and 7, till de remains were 'levon baskets; and I say unto yo', whose wife was she at de resurrection?"—"Bystander.

THE NEW YORK LIFE'S PROGRAM.

Economy, Publicity and the Paramount Interest of Policyholders.

President Kingsley, of the New York Life Insurance Company, says, in an address to the policyholders, that his plan of administration involves these points:

"First: Strict economy; second, the widest, fairest and fullest publicity; third, the continuance of the New York Life as a world-wide institution; fourth, such an amount of new business under the law as we can secure while practicing intelligent economy, and enforcing the idea that the interest of the policy-holder is paramount."

Too Much Exposure.

Elsie is a laundress of color. She is well past youth, wears a perennial smile and sports a single front tooth of much prominence. Recently she missed one of her visits to a patron, and when she next put in an appearance she was suffering from a bad cold. When asked how she took such a serious cold she said: "During the recent festivities our club gave a ball. The gentleman what's paying attention to me is very particular, so I had to go in full evening dress, and I had to leave off a few pieces, and it got me."

All in Cold Storage.

An Oregon attorney, representing a client whose tie to a certain cold storage plant was under fire, closed an able argument before the Oregon supreme court recently with the following bit of pathos: "Your honor, there is more resting upon your decision than this cold storage plant: a human life is at stake. My client's life's efforts are in this cold storage; his life's blood is in this cold storage; his body and soul are wrapped up in this cold storage."—Law Notes.

Took Exception.

"Remember, brothers!" shouted the orator of the strenuous life, "I haven't any use for mollycoddies." The very old gentleman who was sitting in the last row removed his pipe and retorted: "Wal, by heck, mister, even if you haven't any use for Molly Coddies yeou needn't to stand thar and talk behind her back, seein' that she is not present to defend herself."

District Densely Populated.

The District of Columbia has the greatest population a square mile of any section of this country. The figures are slightly more than 3,839. In Alaska there is only one person to ten square miles. Rhode Island is second to Washington, with 407 persons a square mile.

SOAKED IN COFFEE

Until Too Stiff to Bend Over.

"When I drank coffee I often had sick headaches, nervousness and biliousness much of the time, but when I went to visit a friend I got in the habit of drinking Postum.

"I gave up coffee entirely and the result has been that I have been entirely relieved of all my stomach and nervous trouble.

"My mother was just the same way. We all drink Postum now, and without coffee in the house for 2 years, we are all well.

"A neighbor of mine, a great coffee drinker, was troubled with pains in her side for years and was an invalid. She was not able to do her work and could not even mend clothes or do anything at all where she would have to bend forward. If she tried to do a little hard work she would get such pains that she would have to lie down for the rest of the day.

"At last I persuaded her to stop drinking coffee and try Postum Food Coffee and she did so and has used Postum ever since; the result has been that she can now do her work, can sit for a whole day and mend and can sew on the machine and she never feels the least bit of pain in her side, in fact, she has got well and it shows coffee was the cause of the whole trouble.

"I could also tell you about several other neighbors who have been cured by quitting coffee and using Postum in its place." "There's a Reason." Look in pkg. for the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville."

NEBRASKA POINTERS

STATE NEWS AND NOTES IN CONDENSED FORM.

THE PRESS, PULPIT AND PUBLIC

What is Going on Here and There That is of Interest to the Readers Throughout Nebraska.

Greeley county will hold a three days fair this fall.

The Gage county fair will be held the last week in September.

Threshing around Linwood shows twenty-five bushels to the acre.

Revival meetings, with many conversions, are in progress at Diller.

The new flouring mill at Holdrege is completed. It has a capacity of two hundred barrels per day.

The farmers around Herman are making it very lively for the tramps who claim they are hunting work.

Peter McMahon has been farming in Merrick county for thirty years and never in that time has he lost his crop by hail.

On petition of their clerks, most of the merchants of Central City have gone into an agreement to shut up shop at 7 p. m. except on Saturdays.

The big agricultural show in Seward county is billed for August 27 to 30, inclusive. The Blade thinks it will be the best fair ever held in the county.

A stable belonging to Prokop Janouch of Wilber, in the rear of his bottling works, was completely destroyed by fire. Two valuable horses perished.

According to the Ravenna News the wheat crop in Buffalo county this year is unusually good. The yield is from fifteen to thirty bushels per acre, machine measure.

The many friends throughout the state of Hon. Trenmor Conser will regret to hear that he lies at his home in Wahoo seriously ill with what purports to be typhoid fever.

Colonel T. J. Majors and Rev. N. G. Olinger will address the old settlers of Burt county at their annual reunion on August 30. The meeting will be held at Folsom park.

The Alliance Packing company has been organized with \$25,000 capital, all of which has been subscribed. Messrs. Eugene A. Hall, Robert Graham and James Graham are the incorporators.

County Superintendent Anna Day of Gage county has completed her report to the state superintendent. The census for this year shows 10,265 school children in the county, of which 5,190 are males and 5,075 are females.

The Young Men's Christian association of Hastings has begun a campaign to raise the remaining indebtedness on the new association building which was completed several months ago. It will not be opened until the balance, about \$4,000, is paid.

Congressman Richmond P. Hobson, the hero of the Merrimac, addressed a large audience at the chautauqua in Hastings on the subject, "Peace and Our Navy." He advocated spending fifty million dollars each year for ten years for the development of the navy.

The ladies of Alliance will arrange the display contributed by the farmers of Box Butte county for the Burlington crop exhibit car. They are now at work with ribbons and shears, and when the exhibit is sent to Omaha it will present a very attractive appearance.

Guy Grosjean and W. H. Woods dug a very large bone from a creek bed west of Fort Calhoun, where it had been buried in fourteen feet of soil and it is supposed to have been a very large buffalo. Some years ago Urban Casheban unearthed a portion of a tooth that weighed fifty-six ounces, which was sent to Washington, and Otto Frahm found the head of a female mastodon at the foot of an eighty-foot bluff, half a mile north of the old fort.

When the Burlington switchmen at Nebraska City were pushing a train of cars on a side track they were horrified to find they had run over a man and his body lay partially across the track. The coroner was called and after taking charge of the body found nothing on it to tell the name of the party, but a union card issued by the Bricklayers union No. 25, of Bronx Borough, New York. The card showed dues paid to August, 1907, and bore the name of J. E. Street.

A severe hail storm occurred in West Point and vicinity. Gardens were almost destroyed, many windows broken and some trees stripped of their foliage. The storm was limited in area, only a small section of farming country west of the river suffering any damage. Standing grain in the path of the storm was beaten into the ground and corn stalks were stripped of their leaves. About two inches of hail stones covered the ground, some of them much beyond the usual size.

The Dempster Mill Manufacturing company at Beatrice, distributed \$2,500 on profit-sharing certificates among its employees. Men holding these certificates are entitled to a share of profits based on position and time of service.

Dr. J. T. Mathews, of Omaha, whose certificate to practice medicine was revoked by the state board of health as the result of a complaint that he had caused the death of Miss Edith Short by criminal operation has appealed to the supreme court from the district court of Lancaster county.

TIRED BACKS.



The kidneys have a great work to do in keeping the blood pure. When they get out of order it causes backache, headaches, dizziness, languor and distressing urinary troubles. Keep the kidneys well and all these sufferings will be saved you. Mrs. S.A. Moore, proprietor of a restaurant at Water-ville, Mo., says: "Before using Doan's Kidney Pills I suffered everything from kidney troubles for a year and a half. I had pain in the back and head, and almost continuous in the loins and felt weary all the time. A few doses of Doan's Kidney Pills brought great relief, and I kept on taking them until in a short time I was cured. I think Doan's Kidney Pills are wonderful."

For sale by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

The Sad Sea.

The thin, pale man in the large bathing suit, standing knee-deep in the water, sighed.

"Why," we asked, "are you so sad?" "Alas," he answered, "the sea is the grave of my first wife."

Our lips curled superciliously. "But you married again," we murmured.

"Yes," said he, "and my second wife won't go near the water."

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Laundry work at home would be much more satisfactory if the right starch were used. In order to get the desired stiffness, it is usually necessary to use so much starch that the beauty and fineness of the fabric is hidden behind a paste of varying thickness, which not only destroys the appearance, but also affects the wearing quality of the goods. This trouble can be entirely overcome by using Defiance Starch, as it can be applied much more thinly because of its greater strength than other makes.

Long Time to Sweep.

Everything, even a magnificent church, must be regarded from the point of view of the beholder. A London paper says that two country girls, who acted as if they might be enjoying a holiday from domestic service, were observed walking down the aisles of St. Paul's Cathedral. Under the great dome one of them stood and gazed around her with an air of such wonder that a spectator might well suppose that she was awestruck by her solemn surroundings. But when she spoke, the idea was dissipated. "Oh, Sarah," she exclaimed, "wouldn't this place take a long time to sweep?"

The Advantage of Reading.

"Beg pardon, sir," said the weary hobo as he stood at the farmhouse door, "but might I sleep in your barn to-night? I haven't had a roof over my head for ten days."

"I congratulate you," said the kindly farmer. "That is a splendid thing. I have just read in one of my ten-cent magazines that it is not too much to say that to the delicate, highly-strung, easily-knocked-up individual the advantages of sleeping in the open air are enormous. Pallid cheeks take on a ruddy hue, colds are unknown, nerves are forgotten, and irritability becomes a phase of the past. A small plot and a little perseverance are the only necessities and the result is assured. You are very welcome to the use of my potato patch, and my sky is at your disposal."—Judge.

Brains are Built

from certain kinds of

FOOD

Try

Grape-Nuts

"America has become a land of nervous emotionalists, largely owing to our sins against the dietetic health laws of nature.

"Only outdoor exercise in a cold climate would enable vigorous individuals of our species to digest the viands forced upon alimentary organs enfeebled by sedentary occupations," wrote Dr. Felix Oswald.

Brain workers must have different food than laborers, because brain work uses up parts of the brain and nerve centers, while physical labor uses up other parts of the body.

Grape-Nuts, a food for brain workers, prepared by scientific food makers, is a pure, natural food made from selected parts of field grains known to contain the natural phosphate of potash and other elements required by the system in rebuilding and repairing the brain and nerve centers. This food is skillfully cooked at the factory and is ready to be served instantly with cream. At all first-class grocers and made by the Postum Co., at Battle Creek, Mich. Read the little health classic, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Reason."