

Making Figures Lie.

"Most of the figures handed out by these physical culture cranks on the subject of cheap living," said a housekeeper who does her own marketing, "make women extremely weary. Our husbands and sons read them, believe them, and then sniff significantly at the weekly totals in the grocer's book. I was reading the other day an article by a well known New York physical culturist who undertook to show how he had lived fifteen days on 84 cents. He put down crushed oats at 3 cents a pound. Eight cents is the correct figure if you want oats that have any nourishment in them. He mentioned watercress at 5 cents a bunch. Well, one bunch lasts my husband two meals. It would look pretty thin strung out over fifteen days. He charges for three pounds of rice, 15 cents. It costs 11 cents a pound if you want good rice. For ten apples he allows 10 cents. Must be queer apples. For six swede turnips he puts down 6 cents. The grocers have been charging 6 cents for one all winter. No use trying to fool women with figures like these. They know better."

Intelligence and Brain Weight.

The intelligence of a man is stated to be in direct proportion to the weight of his brain. M. Mathiege, an anthropologist of Prague, has been conducting experiments into the matter. Having first ascertained that the male brain weighs on an average 1,400 grammes and the female brain 1,200 grammes between the ages of twenty and sixty, he has gathered the following statistics, based on the study of the brains of 235 persons, differing widely in their occupation and intellectual culture. The weights of the brains of the different people are calculated in grammes. Day laborers, 1,400; workmen and unskilled laborers, 1,433; porters, guardians and watchers, 1,436; mechanics, 1,450; business men, 1,466; physicians and professors, 1,500.

A New Riley Story.

Here is a new and true James Whitcomb Riley story:

Mr. Riley, at a dinner in Indianapolis, told an anecdote in which he dwelt upon how scared a certain person was. Looking directly at the man who sat opposite him, he said:

"Why, he turned as white as your shirt."

Then, bending forward with a very intent gaze, he added:

"Whiter."

Of Course.

A Washington newspaper man has a little girl who gets some original sayings. A few days ago she asked her mother to hear her Sunday school lesson. The mother smilingly assented, and, taking the book asked:

"Who was the first man?"

"Adam," was the quick response.

"And who was the first woman?"

"Adam's mother, of course."

It required some time to convince the little one that she was in error.

Increase in Exports.

In 1840 the total value of American exports was \$123,668,000, or \$7.25 per capita. For the fiscal year ended June 30, last, the total value was \$1,392,231,000 or \$17 per capita. The population has increased 470 per cent, and the exports over 1,000 per cent. The average American is a better wealth producer than his father or grandfather.

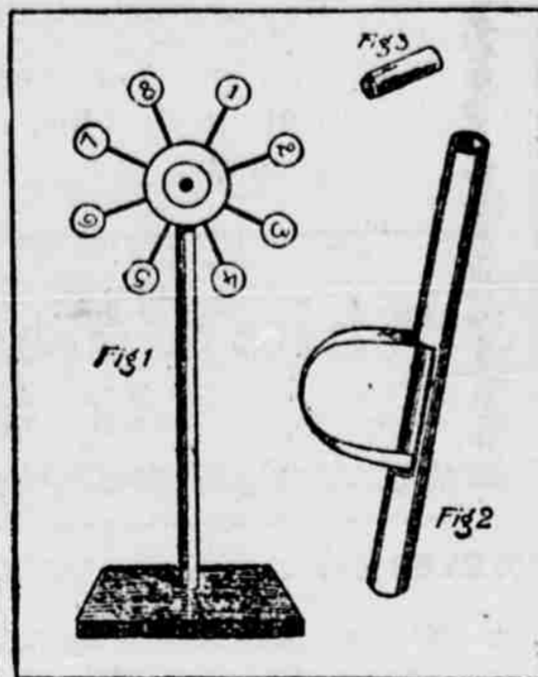
Murders and Executions.

The murders in the United States in 1903 numbered 8,976; the legal executions numbered but 123.

BOYS AND GIRLS

Target Shooting.

Figure 1 shows the target cut out of cigar box wood. A circular piece is first cut, about one inch in diameter, and eight small round pieces of cardboard with the numbers 1 to 8 on them are mounted on toothpicks and grouped around it at even distances; the other ends of the toothpicks are then inserted in the sides of the circu-



lar piece of wood. The target itself is fastened to a stick of wood about eight inches long, fastened to a stand, as shown in the picture. The gun consists of a paper tube, which is made by winding cardboard, well covered with glue, around the stem of a lead pencil. When it is dry a piece about five inches long is cut off. At 1 3/4 inches from one end we make an incision about two inches long, cutting down to about half the thickness of the tubes. (See Fig. 2.)

Figure 2 shows how a piece of whalebone about six inches long is inserted, acting as the propelling power of the gun. You shoot with a wooden peg about 1 1/2 inches long, fitting loosely into the barrel of the gun. To give it more weight and strength we insert a carpet tack as shown in Figure 3.

To shoot, hold the gun with the right hand, pulling the whalebone back with the index finger and inserting the peg. As soon as the index finger releases the whalebone it springs forward and forces the peg out. To aim well hold the tube in such a way that the whalebone spring points downward.

Balancing Cup on Knife Point.

If the subject of too much coffee drinking making one nervous and unsteady ever comes up at your breakfast table, here is a little trick by which you can prove, with your own



The Balanced Cup.

coffee cup, that you are not nervous and have got a steady hand.

Get a cork; squeeze it within the handle of your cup as shown in the drawing. Then take a fork and stick it into the cork so that two of its prongs are on either side of the handle, being sure to fix the fork in such

a position as to insure its handle coming under the cup's bottom.

You have now fulfilled one of the laws of gravity which will permit you to balance your cup on the point of a knife if you are careful about one thing—find the exact place on the cup's bottom on which it will balance.

Your hand should be very steady and must not tremble a particle or the cup will slip off, because its bottom is usually glazed and very smooth. The same result may be obtained by using two knives instead of the fork.

It would not be wise to try this balancing feat with any coffee in your cup on the first attempt.

Aquarium Ink Trick.

There are many tricks which may be done with ink, but perhaps the simplest and one of the most interesting is the ink aquarium trick.

Present a glass full of ink to the view of the spectators, then prove that it is ink by dipping a visiting card in it and showing the card. Now announce that there are live fish in the tumbler that just thrive on ink, and you will prove they are there by changing the ink to water so that the onlookers may see them.

Throw a handkerchief over the glass so as to entirely envelop it, repeat an incantation and then suddenly whisk the handkerchief away.

The audience will be very much astonished to find the glass filled with water, clear as crystal, with several fish swimming about in it.

The trick is performed in this way: Get a piece of thin black rubber cloth and line the inside of the glass with it, then tie a black thread to the upper edge of the cloth. Attach a little button or bit of cork to the end of the thread overhanging the tumbler, as shown in the drawing.

Fill the glass with clear water, and introduce several fish, live ones in



The Trick Explained.

you can possibly procure them, but if not, toy fish will serve, though the trick will hardly be so effective.

The ink test with the visiting card is accomplished by means of a confederate who is in the audience and who hands you a card which is marked with ink on one side. As you dip the card into the tumbler you contrive to turn it around, and the audience then sees the black side, thinking naturally that it has just been immersed in the ink. The startling change from ink to water is effected by pulling out the rubber cloth by means of the attached thread and button when the handkerchief is whisked away. Some practice is needed first in order to do this without spilling the water in the glass, but after you have tried it several times you will find that the cloth may be removed without spilling a drop, and that you are in possession of a very clever trick.

Some Indian Names.

- Kakagos—A wood raven.
- Musquash—A muskrat.
- Cheokhes—The mink.
- K'dunk—The toad.
- Hawahak—The hawk.
- Malsum—The wolf.
- Moween—The bear.
- Kagax—The weasel.
- Killoolet—The white-throated sparrow.
- Meeko—The red squirrel.



Milking With Wet Hands.

In milking, the hands do not need to be wet. The habit of wetting them should be abandoned, as it is practically impossible to keep the hands moist without using the foam on the milk as a source of moisture. The milker may imagine that by merely touching his fingers to the top of the foam no injury comes to the milk, but the habit had better be abandoned in the interest of cleanliness. We think however that some of our writers overdraw the matter when they talk of milkers dipping their fingers into the milk. The inference is that the fingers of the milkers reach the solid milk. The writer has never seen a case of this kind. According to the writers referred to, the milkers dip their fingers into the milk and convey to the teats of the cow so much of the milk that the latter drips from the teats into the pail and oozes out from between the fingers in milking. Who ever saw a case of this kind? But even at its best, the habit of moistening the teats with milk is not one that should be perpetuated. If the hands were to be moistened at all, pure water would have to be kept near for that purpose. This is impracticable. Therefore let us put aside the practice of moistening the teats at all and milk with dry hands.

Reckless Feeding of Grain.

Some men never feed grain to their cows and some go to the other extreme and feed too much, thus wasting a high-priced feed material. Only the man that is to some extent an experimenter can tell exactly where the dividing line between profitable and unprofitable feeding of grain is. It is now pretty well established that the men that have been feeding from fifteen to twenty pounds of grain per day to their cows have been wasting a good deal of money. When the roughage is good hay and silage, from five to ten pounds of grain per day is sufficient for all needs in winter, and half of that quantity will do in summer. The feeding of too much grain induces many intestinal diseases and troubles in cows, just as overfeeding a human being would do.

Who Adds the Formalin?

Talking recently with Professor Eaton of the Illinois Pure Food Commission, a representative of the Farmers' Review was told that the farmers that produce the milk are not the ones that, as a general thing, add the formalin. The farmer keeps the milk but a short time after it is drawn, and during that short time it will not sour. It is the man that keeps it longest that has the most occasion for adding preservatives to it. This may in some cases be the buyer and in others the peddler. Occasionally the consumer is guilty of the same act, thinking that it is a harmless way of keeping his milk sweet. It would be interesting to have a thorough investigation made of the use of preservatives by farmers supplying milk to Chicago.

Feeding Meat.

We have raised poultry for years, and have fed meat in various ways; have tried many experiments; and after all our work we really cannot say that meat food is a valuable egg producer, or that it increases the fertility of the eggs. Where fowls are confined in pens, meat food is more necessary than where they have a large range; and we think crushed green bone is the best form of meat food. Where fowls have range they do not suffer for meat food. Pure water in abundance, grain and green food are needed to make poultry pay. A variety of grains and green or succulent foods are far more important than meat.

Mrs. Nellie Bullock.