

**PITH AND POINT.**

"I'm about tired lookin' for a job."  
"Wot ye goin' to do?" "Oh, I guess I'll  
have to go to work."—Indianapolis  
News.

A public official should be appointed  
whose duty it would be to yell "Whoa!"  
at certain people every once in awhile.  
—Atchison Globe.

Office Boy—"Goin' ter de ball games  
his secun?" Second Office Boy—"Naw,  
de boss knows I ain't got enny rela-  
shuns ter git sick er die."—Ohio State  
Journal.

Man is a contrary animal. Call him a  
sad dog and he will look knowingly  
and feel flattered; but call him a mis-  
erable puppy, and he will immedi-  
ately show his teeth.—Chicago Daily  
News.

She said she loves horticulture. They  
were wandering through Horticultur-  
al hall. "And where do they keep  
the electric plants?" she asked. He  
was too shocked to reply.—Philadel-  
phia Times.

"My, the house looks changed some  
way," said the woman who had moved  
out a month or two before, and re-  
turned to make a call and see what  
kind of furniture the new tenants had.  
"Yes," her hostess replied, "we've  
cleaned it up."—Boston Gazette.

Willie Borem (entertaining his sister's  
caller)—"Do you like baseball  
very much, Mr. Jamaica?" Mr. Jama-  
ica—"I never played ball much. I en-  
joy golf." Willie Borem (disappoint-  
edly)—"Why, I heard pa tell Susan  
you were a great catch!"—Brooklyn  
Eagle.

One on Him.—Hardware Dealer—  
"What was old Kranky kicking  
about?" Clerk—"He wanted ten pounds  
of nails. Said he'd pay for them and  
take them home himself. Wouldn't  
trust us to deliver them, he said."  
Hardware Dealer—"Surly old codger.  
I hope he'll sweat for it." Clerk—"Oh,  
I took care of that. I threw in an  
extra ten pounds, and he never knew  
it."—Philadelphia Press.

**SENTIMENT AS TO OLD SIGNS.**

Many Weatherworn Boards Retained  
Without Change in Spite of  
Changes in Firm Names.

People who think that there is no  
sentiment in commercial life need  
only wander about any of the old  
business centers of New York to  
have their belief changed. They will  
see old signs, some of them in a  
state of decay almost bordering on  
dissolution, on the walls of the  
houses of the older firms, says the  
Sun of that city.

In some instances these signs re-  
main even though the name of the  
firm has been changed. In cases  
in which signs have succeeded to the  
business, many of the old signs of  
the firm which established the busi-  
ness are still to be seen. Many are  
weatherworn, and the lettering al-  
most indistinct, but the present  
firms do not permit them to be re-  
touched.

Occasionally the boards split, and  
the edges break. These ravages are  
repaired for safety's sake, but the  
dim outlines of the lettering remain.

A sign writer who had been called  
to repair one of these ancient land-  
marks in Greenwich street, asked the  
head of the firm, who represents the  
third generation in the concern, if  
he should not regild the letters.

"Certainly not," was the answer.  
"If I consented to your doing that  
I should expect the business of this  
firm to fail."

In some cases in which new names  
have succeeded to the business old  
signs have been removed from the  
outer walls and placed inside. In an  
office in a Broadway store there is  
an old wooden sign suspended over  
the desk of the grandson of the  
founder of the firm, who is at the  
head of the business.

"I couldn't think of leaving the old  
sign out of doors at night," said the  
young man, who looked at it with a  
glow of pride. "I have heard my fa-  
ther say that when that sign was  
first put up by his father all the mer-  
chants in this part of the town came  
over and looked at it, and admired  
it, and my grandfather gave them a  
dinner on account of it. If I ever go  
out of business that sign goes to my  
house."

There is an old sign over the main  
entrance to the office of an old con-  
cern in William street which has  
no connection with the firm doing  
business in the place, but the firm  
has steadfastly declined to have it  
removed although the old firm went  
out of existence nearly 50 years ago.

**The King and His Dog Tax.**

A recent Greek law is to the effect  
that every owner of a dog shall pay  
a yearly tax of 12 drachmas. Those  
who do not pay in time are con-  
demned by the new law to pay double  
the tax. King George sent recently  
to the police in order to register his  
four dogs and pay their taxes. But  
the official found that his majesty  
owed for the taxes a sum of 48  
drachmas, and had been fined another  
48 drachmas for having delayed pay-  
ment. His majesty has paid 96  
drachmas for his dogs.—St. James'  
Gazette.

**Looked Up To.**

The Missionary (in surprise)—And  
you once visited the United States?  
What did you think of it?  
The Cannibal King: It impressed me  
as a nation of rubbernecks.  
The Missionary (coldly)—Indeed!  
What led you to think that?  
The Cannibal King: During my so-  
journ there I was the star feature of a  
side show. Puck.

**Peevish Tendencies.**

"Do you feel nervous after you have  
had your dinner?"  
"No, but I'm sometimes nervous  
until I know where my dinner is to  
come from."—Chicago Record-Herald.

**YOUNG LIFE SAVERS.**

Girls and Boys Who Have Per-  
formed Deeds of Heroism.

Notable Instances of Rare Presence  
of Mind in Mere Children—Cool  
Heads and Brave Hearts  
of the Young.

In a paper in St. Nicholas, on "Life-  
Savers, Old and Young," Gustav  
Kobbe tells of the remarkable doings  
of half a dozen young boys and girls.  
"Among those not connected with  
the government service who have re-  
ceived medals for saving or aiding  
to save life are a number much young-  
er than the average age of this stu-  
dent crew. One of the first girls thus  
honored was Edith Morgan, of Ham-  
lin, Mich., who endeavored with her  
father and brothers to row in a  
northerly gale and heavy sea to a  
vessel capsized three miles out. When  
the boat was forced back, Edith aid-  
ed in clearing a track through logs  
and driftwood for the surfboat, which  
had meanwhile been summoned, and  
also helped launch the boat. On a  
previous occasion she stood in snow  
six hours helping the life-savers work  
the whipline of the beach apparatus.

"Edith Clarke, when 16 years old,  
and a pupil in a convent of Oakland,  
Cal., plunged into Lake Chabot to re-  
scue a companion who, in wading on  
the treacherous margin, had disap-  
peared in 60 feet of water. Edith  
seized the unconscious girl, and keep-  
ing her head above water with one  
arm, paddled with the other, and  
trod water until a boat came to the  
rescue.

"Marie D. Parsons, of Fireplace,  
Long Island, N. Y., was only ten years  
old when, seeing a man and a child  
swept off a pleasure boat by the  
boom, and observing that the child  
clung to the man so that the latter  
could make no headway, she sprang  
into a small boat and reached the  
spot just in time to save these two  
lives.

"Maud King, when only 13 years  
old, saved three lives off Castle Pick-  
ney, the lighthouse depot in Charle-  
ston harbor. At the time there was a  
southwest gale and a heavy sea. In  
a furious squall, which added impetu-  
sity to the gale, a yawl containing  
three men and a boy was capsized.  
The boy managed to swim ashore;  
but two men got only as far as the  
piles of the wharf. There they hung,  
too exhausted to climb up, while the  
third man, unable to swim, clung to  
the yawl. Maud, notwithstanding her  
mother's protests, prepared, unaided,  
to launch a small boat in the boister-  
ous sea. But she was joined by her  
aunt, Mrs. Mary Whiteley, and, to-  
gether, this brave girl and her aunt rescued  
the imperiled men.

Frederick Kernochan, when only  
ten years old, sprang into the Navesin-  
k river and rescued a woman. Henry  
F. Page, of Schenectady, N. Y., is  
also one of the lads who at ten years  
of age have been honored with life-  
saving medals. Fully dressed, he  
plunged into a mill pond and saved  
one of his playmates who had sud-  
denly found himself in deep water.  
William B. Miller, 13 years old, of  
Elkton, Md., showed he had a cool  
head as well as a brave heart by the  
rescue of his companion who had  
stepped from shallow water into a  
deep hole. When William seized the  
drowning lad, the latter began to  
struggle, and it was a toss-up wheth-  
er William's life would be sacrificed  
or not. But, with great adroitness,  
he, while swimming, lifted the strug-  
gling boy to a tree trunk which pro-  
truded into the river, and thus saved  
both his companion's life and his  
own.

When the O. M. Bond, of Oswego,  
was stranded an eighth of a mile out  
from Rondeau, Ont., and the crew was  
hanging half perished, in the rigging,  
Walter Claus, a lad who lived upon a  
farm not far away, made four trips  
out to the wreck through the raging  
sea in a small boat, and by his own  
exertions saved the entire crew.

These young rescuers were inspired  
by the noble impulse to risk their  
lives for the lives of others. Their  
exploits awaken not only the grati-  
tude of those whom they saved, but  
the admiration of all to whom knowl-  
edge of their heroism may come. The  
age of chivalry has by no means gone  
by; for what can be more truly  
chivalrous than the deeds of these  
young heroes and heroines of our  
coast?

**To See the Earth Move.**

I believe in the erection of a tower,  
say 1,000 feet high. The Eiffel tower  
is 985 feet high. Why could we not  
go the French 15 feet better? The  
idea of a triangular tower, I believe,  
is altogether new. There are quad-  
rangular towers in profusion, and  
towers with five sides and hexagonal,  
octagonal and various other sorts  
of towers, but I have never seen or  
heard much of a three-cornered tower.  
My idea is to have the top of the  
tower bell-shaped. This would per-  
mit the carrying out of a pet idea of  
mine. That is the construction of a  
pendulum. It could hang on ball-  
bearings from the top of the bell  
like a clapper, and extend down to  
just far enough from the ground to  
be conveniently safe. Once started  
this pendulum would swing all  
through the time the exposition was  
open. The earth's motion would be  
readily perceptible.—Inventor, in  
World's Fair Bulletin.

**Longevity of Quakers.**

During the last year the average age  
of all the Quakers who died in Great  
Britain and Ireland was a little over  
61 years and seven months. The re-  
turns also show a very low mortality  
rate among Quaker children.—Chicago  
Inter Ocean.

**MAINE'S CONSUMPTION CURE.**

It is Said to Be Tolerably Certain, But  
Not More Than One in Ten Per-  
sons Will Take It.

Maine doctors send patients suffer-  
ing with tuberculosis into the  
northern pine woods. There the pa-  
tient must live far from his kind, en-  
during a loneliness that is often as  
bad as death. People whose lungs  
are seriously affected and who know  
the conditions upon which their lives  
may be prolonged often hesitate to  
accept the advice of their physicians  
and go thus into exile, says a New  
York exchange.

Every man who seeks the prolonga-  
tion of his life in the woods must pay  
a heavy price. If he could go to an  
up-river hotel and come into contact  
with persons who travel to and from  
the cities, or if he could build a sanitar-  
ium and make his environment to  
suit himself, it would be different, but  
the physicians have learned that iso-  
lation is one of the most potent of  
the curative agents that can be em-  
ployed. Sufficient light work to keep  
up the appetite and to occupy the pa-  
tient's mind so that he shall have no  
time for brooding over his ills is an-  
other part of the cure. Isolation,  
occupation and warm, dry quarters  
on high land among the pine woods  
complete the treatment which the pa-  
tient must take, which in time will  
probably restore him to health.

There are from 25 to 50 consump-  
tive patients in the Maine woods at  
all seasons of the year. They reside  
in the forest year in and year out un-  
til their lungs begin to heal. After  
this, if there is no unfavorable symp-  
tom for six months longer, the exile  
is permitted to visit his friends for a  
few days, not often than twice a  
year.

After four years of such solitary  
confinement he is permitted to take  
board in a sporting camp where not  
more than four persons can be ac-  
commodated at one time; and to live  
there until his cure is completed or  
he is able to do a full day's work  
without fatigue. At the end of about  
five years the patient, if hale and able  
to work among men, gets a certifi-  
cate which sets him at liberty.

Among the more than 400 Maine  
people who are taken with consump-  
tion every year, not one in ten will  
agree to undergo the ordeal which is  
the price of recovery, and of those  
who do go to the woods, not one in  
five will stay long enough to take the  
full treatment. The majority prefer  
an early death to the prolonged ab-  
sence from those who make life  
worth living. Yet the records show  
that nine out of every ten men who  
have been steadfast enough to see  
the treatment through to the end,  
have come out cured, while of those  
who have died in the woods, only two  
out of nearly a hundred have died  
from consumption.

**SMUGGLERS ARE AT WORK.**

Much Trouble Is Caused to Customs  
Officers at Seaports by  
Women.

Collector Bidwell, of the New York  
customs service, was in Washington  
the other day in consultation with As-  
sistant Secretary of the Treasury  
Spaulding with reference to the work-  
ings of the new order of things at  
the New York customhouse. Collector  
Bidwell brought figures to show that  
the duties collected from passengers  
on four steamers arriving on three re-  
cent days were \$22,000 greater than  
were received from passengers on cor-  
responding days last year.

The extent of the smuggling dis-  
closed by the new system at New York  
has almost dumfounded the treasury  
officials and steps are being taken to  
apply the New York system, so far as  
practicable, to other ports of entry.  
Investigations resulting from these  
disclosures has brought to light the  
fact that a large number of trans-At-  
lantic passengers who were supposed  
to be women of wealth and fashion  
were in fact milliners and dressmak-  
ers regularly engaged in the business  
of smuggling goods from Paris and  
other European capitals. The expen-  
sive gowns and headwear were  
brought over in trunks as personal  
wardrobes and afterward placed on  
sale. Some of these women make as  
high as four or five trips across each  
year, the profits accruing from their  
avoidance of tariff duties enabling  
them to travel in the best of style.

It is hard for the treasury officials  
to believe these women could have regu-  
larly engaged in this business with-  
out coming under the suspicion of in-  
spectors and men on the surveyor's  
staff, and if it is possible that the busi-  
ness could have been engaged in with  
the connivance of officials at the New  
York port there is considerable un-  
casiness as to what a foothold it has  
at other ports of entry, where suspicion  
could be even less likely to fall. These  
disclosures are likely to result in the  
near future in some radical changes at  
Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and  
other large cities whence trans-Atlan-  
tic liners sail.

**A Clean City.**

Sydney, Australia, is said to be one  
of the cleanest cities in the world, if  
not the cleanest. The streets are  
thoroughly cleaned every night and  
anyone throwing refuse or waste ma-  
terial of any sort on the streets is  
arrested and fined. All the kitchens  
in the larger residences are on the top  
floor and all the clothes are dried on  
the roof.—N. Y. Sun.

**Mexico's Foreign Trade.**

The foreign trade in Mexico, both  
import and export, now amounts to an  
annual value of \$140,000,000. Nearly  
one-fourth of Mexico's foreign trade  
was handled through the port of Tam-  
pico last year.

**BEANS IN CALIFORNIA**

Immense Ranches That Produce  
Large and Profitable Crops.

One Field That Requires Forty Tons  
of Seed to Plant It—Interesting  
Particulars of the Grow-  
ing Industry.

The singular adaptability of our na-  
tive soil to the cultivation of foreign  
products was never more vividly dem-  
onstrated than in the growth of the  
Lima bean. It was in the spring of  
1867 that this nutritious commodity  
was first introduced from Peru by the  
pioneer farmers of California. Prior  
to this time the only varieties grown  
in this section were the small white  
navy bean and the Mexican frejole,  
the great Lima having been regarded  
as a luxury distinctly peculiar to the  
region indicated by its name. Hence  
its introduction was altogether in the  
nature of an experiment, says a  
Pasadena (Cal.) letter to the St. Louis  
Globe-Democrat.

But, whatever the theory that  
prompted the venture, its soundness  
was speedily manifested. Within five  
years from the time the first Lima  
beans were planted in California the  
world's output of the product was in-  
creased from about 500,000 to more  
than 3,000,000 pounds annually. The  
experiment proved to be the founda-  
tion of an industry of more substan-  
tial and permanent value to Califor-  
nia than the richest of her gold mines.  
The district of Carpentaria, an excep-  
tionally fertile seacoast valley near  
the south boundary of Santa Barbara,  
was for a number of years the cen-  
ter of the Lima bean industry. This  
locality seemed specially suited to  
the requirements of the new product,  
and the annual yield increased to an  
enormous figure.

Notwithstanding the immense gain  
in the total production, however, the  
supply was inadequate to meet the  
demand, which resulted in the exten-  
sion of the industry into the neigh-  
boring colonies of Ventura and Los  
Angeles. Here conditions developed  
that were quite as favorable as those  
obtaining in the Carpentaria district,  
and thenceforth the annual output  
of Lima beans rapidly increased, un-  
til to-day the average yield in south-  
ern California aggregates some 22-  
000,000 pounds, or more than three-  
fourths the total production through-  
out the world.

In California, the recognized realm  
of the Lima bean is confined to a suc-  
cession of valleys situated within the  
limits of 100 miles along the south-  
ern seacoast. The principal reason  
for this lies in the frequent fogs pres-  
ent in the districts referred to,  
which constitute one of the principal  
requisites in Lima bean culture.

The most extensive of these favored  
valleys is situated in the county of Ven-  
tura, and contains many bean ranches  
of immense acreage. The largest cov-  
ers an area of 1,500 acres, represent-  
ing the most extensive bean field in  
the world. It requires 40 tons of  
seed beans each season to plant it,  
and produces an average of 2,460,000  
pounds. While the revenue from  
such a yield is immense, the expense  
of cultivating and harvesting 1,500  
acres of beans is proportionately  
large. As an instance, the planting  
and tilling of the field in question re-  
quires the services of 100 men with  
horses.

Originally the Lima bean, like nu-  
merous kindred varieties, grew in the  
form of a vine and was trained to  
entwine itself about a pole after the  
method commonly pursued in the  
east. In course of time, however,  
through propagation, this vine was  
reduced to a small, densely consti-  
tuted bush, after which the bean pole  
no longer entered into its cultiva-  
tion.

As the cultivation increased, the lat-  
ter process was found to be inade-  
quate, and was succeeded by the  
trading-out method. This consisted  
of throwing the harvested plants  
into a circular pen, the ground floor  
of which had been packed down to  
the hardness of cement. Into this  
inclosure a band of half-tamed horses  
were driven and made to race about  
over the crisp leaves and pods, until  
the whole was thoroughly pulverized.  
After this the waste was carefully  
raked from the surface, and the dust  
and chaff beneath gathered up and  
run through a fanning mill, whereby  
the separation of the bean was ef-  
fected. But such original, if some-  
what plebeian, methods were eventu-  
ally abandoned in favor of the more  
practical contrivances necessitated by  
the subsequent colossal development  
of the Lima bean industry.

The latest process in harvesting is  
to cut the plants, three rows at a  
time, by means of a machine fitted  
with knives, which pass horizontally  
over the surface of the ground, the  
implement being drawn by a team of  
horses. In view of the erstwhile  
thrashing floor, the plants are run  
through a steam grain separator,  
which method not only economizes  
in time, but obviates all waste or dam-  
age to the product.

The common valuation of land suit-  
ed to the cultivation of Lima beans is  
necessarily high, from the fact that  
almost every acre of land available  
to the industry is being utilized, and  
is, therefore, difficult to purchase.  
When, occasionally, transfers are ef-  
fected, the bare land brings in the  
neighborhood of \$200 an acre. And  
when it is considered that the average  
acre of the lima bean country yields  
its owner upwards of \$100 each  
season, such an investment might  
well be regarded as a bonanza.

Plantation for Mississippi Convicts.  
The penitentiary board of Mississippi  
has purchased 13,000 acres for a  
state convict plantation.

**FRILLS OF FASHION.**

Fresh Finery for Feminine Follow-  
ers of the Latest in  
Dress.

The foundation skirts of the new  
thin gowns get the fluffy effect around  
the feet from a two-inch plaited ruffle  
set on the edge of the plaited ruffle,  
says the New York Sun.

The new shirt waists are varied in-  
deed; but the variety is accomplished  
mostly by the modes of trimming and  
the great diversity in material used.  
The bishop sleeve, in a modified edi-  
tion, prevails, and the yoke has disap-  
peared altogether. No embroidery is  
too fine for the dainty white waists,  
and there are chemisettes, and vests,  
undersleeves and frills to make them  
dressy.

The Algon shirt bears out the name  
quite as well as any, but the material  
used is so exquisitely fine that it hard-  
ly suggests a shirt. Finest white  
batiste sheer and soft tucked all over  
in quarter-inch tucks make a very pret-  
ty Algon shirt. It is full and long in  
front to give the full blouse effect and  
ties down from the under arm seam in-  
stead of being sewn into a belt. Down  
one side of the front there are two  
gathered frills of batiste either with  
hemstitched or lace edges. If you pre-  
fer one of the frills may be of blue,  
pink or red batiste, and they are fully  
three or four inches wide.

Small buckles used as slides on silk  
bands and velvet ribbon are one fea-  
ture of dress decoration.  
Pretty white gauze scarfs dotted  
over with printed flowers in natural  
colors and novelty to the department  
devoted to neckwear. Scarfs of every  
kind are in demand, and another pret-  
ty variety is in thin white silk with  
chinese borders. Others are striped with  
cashmere designs.

**THE DUTY OF MOTHERS.**

Should Keep Their Own Feelings in  
Healthful Condition for the  
Sake of Their Children.

It is a kind provision of nature that  
the mother may exercise such a con-  
trol over her child's organization that  
her forethought can shield it to a large  
extent from the effect of its father's  
physical defects, as well as from her  
own, says Florence Hull Winterburn,  
in Woman's Home Companion.

A mother should therefore keep her  
own feelings in such a healthful con-  
dition that their strength shall not  
degenerate. She should cultivate hope  
and aspiration, courage and cheerfulness;  
avoiding those feverish ambi-  
tions and anxieties which waste nerve  
substance rapidly. Steady and cheer-  
ful application to duty, the practice  
of temperance, kindness and generos-  
ity are the bright flame in the moth-  
erly soul which shall give heat and light  
to the better nature of her unborn child.  
Should she not attach herself to what  
is beautiful and good when the beliefs  
and wishes of a single day in her life  
may echo down the ages? This is sim-  
ply an imperative duty that she owes  
to herself, to her child and to society.  
Some day, let us hope, the world will  
understand this matter, and then  
mothers will realize the premature  
duty they owe to their unborn chil-  
dren, for whose chances in life they are  
responsible.

**HOW TO KEEP YOUR FRIENDS.**

Give Them Your Confidence and Loy-  
alty and Do Not Expect Too  
Much in Return.

The less you exact of your friends  
the more they will give you, writes  
Helen Watterson Moody, of "The First  
Tragedy in a Girl's Life," in Ladies'  
Home Journal. For yourself give as  
richly and as nobly as you want to—  
of your love and your confidence and  
your loyalty. Live up to your highest  
ideal of what a friend should be (and  
the higher you make that ideal the  
finer woman you will be and the more  
friends will flock to you), but never  
exact of your friends that they shall  
give you more than they choose easily  
to give. If some one you love disap-  
points you, and as many, many more  
will do in days to come, do not hold up  
your ideal of what they should be and  
do as a mirror in which to count their  
imperfections. Let it pass, if you can,  
with a little smile that may be sad, but  
need not be at all satirical. And never  
be jealous of a friend if you want to  
keep one. If anybody you are fond of  
forms other friendships, or seems to  
be engrossed with other friends, do  
not let it make you unhappy, and above  
all never offer comment upon her all  
too evident neglect of her old friends  
for her new ones.

**Cultivate a Sense of Humor.**

If you are fortunate enough to  
have even the germ of a sense of hu-  
mor, cherish that carefully. It is the  
very salt and savor of life. Learn to  
smile over the foibles of your friends,  
loving them none the less, but more,  
because of their little weaknesses.  
Do not take people too seriously, and,  
above all, do not take yourself too  
seriously. You are only an atom in an  
incomprehensible universe, after all.  
Why find fault during your brief mo-  
ment with the other atoms by your  
side? It surely will not pay.—Ada C.  
Sweet, in Woman's Home Companion.

**The Way to Force Plants to Branch.**

There is only one way in which a  
plant can be forced to branch, and  
that is by cutting off the stalk. The  
plant thus interfered with will make  
an effort to grow, and either a new  
shoot will be sent up to take the  
place of the lost top, or several  
shoots will be sent out along the  
stalk. If but one starts cut it back.  
Keep up this cutting-back process  
until you have obliged as many  
branches as you think are needed.  
Persistence and patience will oblige  
the plant to do as you would like to  
have it do.—Ladies' Home Journal.

**EGGS BY THE MILLION**

Handled by the Commission Men of  
Chicago Market.

Big Contracts Taken by Single Firms  
of South Water Street—How  
Hens Have Helped Western  
Farmers.

South Water street men the other  
day discussed the recent order of an  
eastern man for 2,400,000 dozen eggs  
to be supplied by the commission men  
of the west. This order runs into big  
figures, and counted in eggs or dozens  
it looks large. At any rate, it means,  
even at the price of ten cents per doz-  
en, a transaction of nearly \$200,000.  
The eastern buyer is undoubtedly  
making his purchase for cold storage  
purposes, and will calculate to make  
six profit on the advance in price next  
winter. Commission men are recalling  
the transaction last season by which  
Cudahy, of Omaha, and Chicago parties  
collected and stored several millions  
of dozens of eggs, which were after-  
ward sold at the winter price and at a  
handsome profit, says the Chicago  
Tribune.

When talking about a recent offer  
made to the convention of Kansas and  
Oklahoma commission men to buy  
2,400,000 dozen eggs, several South Wa-  
ter street dealers said that such an  
order could be easily handled by com-  
mission firms in the ordinary business  
way. One was of the opinion that there  
are firms doing business with head-  
quarters in Chicago that would not be  
stumped if called upon to furnish twice  
that quantity in the course of a couple  
of months. They would simply set to  
work among their business connec-  
tions over the country and call for all  
that could be supplied at stated times.

The question of the ability of the  
hens to produce the eggs called for by  
these big advance orders does not  
seem to be doubted by the handlers  
of that product. It is called to mind  
that throughout the western states  
from the beginning of the warm days  
which are the forerunners of spring  
here is a constant flow of eggs to the  
markets. From every farm come the  
little tricking streamlets which flow  
ten, 15 and 20 dozen each week into  
the small towns where the farmers and  
their wives trade. These accumulated  
stores flow out to the jobbers and city  
commission men swelled to dozens and  
hundreds of cases, each case carrying  
360 eggs. Thousands of these latter  
dealers are direct and daily shippers  
to the great commission centers,  
where the output of hundreds of thou-  
sands of farms and poultry yards is  
collected and distributed to the other  
dealers, who supply the consumers.

It would be from these channels that  
a big order for 2,000,000 or 3,000,000  
dozen eggs would be supplied, and  
South Water street could do it, in the  
opinion of those who conduct the busi-  
ness of that bustling quarter.

Dealers who are brought in daily  
contact with this large accumulation  
from many thousand small sources ap-  
preciate more fully than outsiders can  
the importance of the apparently small  
output of eggs from each farm. In  
some sections of the west where the  
farmers took up government and rail-  
road land and started life with little  
or no money and sometimes large  
debts the hens were depended upon to  
supply all the ready cash needed by  
the family for its support. There are  
thousands of prosperous farmers in  
the western states to-day who can re-  
call the time when all the food, cloth-  
ing and extras which were bought at  
the village store were paid for by the  
sale of eggs produced on the farm at  
comparatively no expense. The hen is  
a good forager and will live through  
most of the year without any extra  
feed or care. While the farmers of the  
prairie states continue to keep their  
few hundreds of hens, there are every  
year more and more poultry raisers  
who devote their whole attention to  
fowls, and these help to swell the sup-  
ply of eggs which finally get to the big  
markets. These exclusively poultry-  
men, however, are not the main source  
of supply. This is and must continue  
to be for many years the individual  
farmer, whose wife keeps a few hens  
comparatively as an adjunct to the se-  
rious business of raising hogs, corn  
and cattle.

Denizens of Kansas remember with  
gratitude how, in the gloomy times of  
drought and crop failure which af-  
flicted that section for two or three  
successive years, the small collections  
of eggs made daily served to supply  
the absolutely necessary articles which  
would have otherwise been unattain-  
able. The hen could live and thrive  
under conditions which ruined field  
crops and caused the ordinary domes-  
tic animal to become enfeebled and  
unproductive. Kansas poets have em-  
bodied the hen in verse, and rightly,  
too, and when an eastern buyer comes  
in and places an order, the profitable  
filling of which depends upon the fu-  
ture attention of the hen to business,  
the produce dealer banks on the in-  
tegrity of the hen, and he will win.