

MAY CORNER COCOA CROP

Brazil Is Much Pleased With Its Success in Raising Price of Coffee.

Encouraged by the success it has achieved in controlling the coffee crop of the republic and forcing Americans to pay a high price for the Brazilian government is now planning to enter into a combination with Portugal and Ecuador to corner the cocoa crop and manipulate prices at will.

These three countries produce more than half of the world's output of cocoa, and Jose Marcellino, a Brazilian who formerly served in the senate of that country, is the father of the plan to swoop up the prices of cocoa the world over.

A large London banking house is reported to have offered \$10,000,000 to the promoters of the valorization plan in case the three governments interested will enter into a satisfactory agreement. Valorization of coffee by the government of Brazil has been very successful. The government has financed the crops and by lending money to growers has been able to prevent the sale of coffee, except at prices which were satisfactory to the growers.

A few years ago, when the United States took the duty of five cents a pound off coffee, Brazil repaid this country by placing an export duty of the same amount on coffee. In repayment for this greedy act it has frequently been argued that the United States should again tax Brazilian coffee and many economists insist that the imposition of a duty on coffee would upset the Brazilian valorization plan without increasing the price of coffee to the American consumer.

Cocoa is a much more difficult crop than coffee to control, because of the perishable nature of the cocoa beans. When kept for any length of time they become wormy and are worthless.

MOST VALUABLE OF GARDENS

It Is Located Inside the Bank of England and Was Once a Graveyard.

"As safe as the Bank of England," has become almost a proverb. But recent events have shown that the bank is not quite as safe in its foundations as was generally supposed. One or two great cracks have suddenly appeared, which necessitate the help of the builder.

There are many curious things about the bank, but among them how many know that it possesses a respectable garden? It is to be found just inside the Threadneedle street entrance, on the left hand side.

This old-fashioned garden has a fountain in the center, graveled paths and a couple of trees, the whole forming a quadrangle with the bank building running all round.

Its history is a curious one. In reality this garden is the churchyard of the vanished church of St. Christopher-le-Stock, which used to stand where the Mansion house now is.

One reason why the church was pulled down was because its tower completely overlooked the bank, and it was feared that it would be a danger to the "Old Lady" if the church was occupied by rioters.

As the bank occupies the site of the entire parish of Christopher-le-Stock, it is said that any freeman of the city can claim admission to the old garden. But, as a matter of fact, any one who cares to see it may do so during business hours, and it is well worth a visit. It is only for the fact that it is the most valuable garden in the world!—Stray Stories.

How Women Take Criticism.

In the Life of John Oliver Hoobes, edited by her father, John Morgan Richards, there is a slashing arraignment of the literary woman in her attitude toward those who criticize her work. It is from the pen of Moberly Bell, the famous editor of the London Times. Moberly Bell and Mrs. Richards were personal friends, and the latter wrote protesting against the treatment that the Flute of Pan had received at the hands of the Times reviewers. In response the editor wrote in part: "There is one thing, and only one thing that the omnipotent has absolutely failed to create. He has made good women, bad women, clever women, silly women, selfish women and heroines of self-sacrifice, but he had never yet made a woman who could stand—I will not say adverse criticism, but—no note of deviation from absolute and unqualified praise of any of her literary efforts. This is not in blame of anyone—unless the Creator—it is a law as certain as the law of gravitation, and there is and has never been any exception to it from Deborah to George Eliot, and even later (the assumption of a masculine name cannot alter the fact), there is a unanimity of proof."—Bookman.

The Mosquito Still Here.

Along in the early springtime—about the time when the frogs come out of the mud and tune up for the concert—we organize a mosquito-exterminating crusade here in Baltimore, and we proceed, hypothetically, to exterminate the pests with energy and enthusiasm. By August we have forgotten all about the mosquito warfare, and September always brings the swarms. The spring of the year is the right time to start the war on the mosquito. Just as it is the proper time for inaugurating the fly-exterminating crusade. But in either case the warfare must be a matter of eternal vigilance.—Baltimore American.

DREAM REVEALS \$300

Lost Money Found in Home of the Accuser.

Police Are Not Convinced and Arrest of Furniture Dealer Is Ordered After Investigation of Mystery.

St. Louis.—When Assistant Chief of Police Gillaspay declined to allow his prosaic conception of things to be swayed by any suggestion of the occult and in consequence ordered the arrest of Louis P. Brasch, thirty-three years old, who conducts a furniture store at 2618 Franklin avenue, he spotted a good "dream" yarn.

Brasch was arrested at 1926 Montgomery street, his home, by Special Officers Doyle and Murphy of the Dayton station and Ira Cooper of headquarters after the latter had worked up the case.

Brasch is accused by the police of being responsible for the departure of three \$100 bills from the home of Mrs. M. E. Nichols, living at 1702 Chestnut street. Mrs. Nichols said that Brasch called at her house to collect a \$10 bill, and she said she placed the three big bills on her bed while paying the smaller amount. The bills disappeared. She searched for them and even went to Brasch's store.

Brasch, she said, denied all knowledge of the bills, and said Mrs. Nichols must have misplaced them. He said she ought to search the house thoroughly before making any such accusation. Mrs. Nichols then told the police about the case, and Cooper went with her to the Brasch store. He and Mrs. Nichols claim that Brasch again insisted that Mrs. Nichols was mistaken.

"I am so convinced that you have misplaced the money that I will be willing to pay \$250 for the privilege of searching your house on the chance of finding the \$300," Brasch is said to have declared.

Mrs. Nichols wanted to take him up, but Cooper would not permit. He says that he and Mrs. Nichols left the Brasch store and that Brasch and his wife followed. Brasch all the way pleading with Mrs. Nichols to make no accusation until she had thoroughly searched her home. At the house Mrs. Brasch asked to be allowed to search. "I had a dream about this money," she is said to have declared. "I am good at finding things, and this dream ought to lead me to it."

She asked the way to the parlor and inquired if there was a bookcase there. Mrs. Nichols said there was. Mrs. Brasch went into the room. She told Mrs. Nichols the money ought to be in the bookcase, if the dream were true. Then, the officer and Mrs. Nichols state, Mrs. Brasch went to the bookcase. She fumbled in it for a moment and then with a cry fell back, apparently fainting.

"There it is. Look there. Didn't I tell you I could find it? I am good at finding things," Cooper said Mrs. Brasch cried.

Mrs. Nichols went to the spot indicated and there found the three missing bills. She was positive she had not placed them there. Brasch and his wife were equally as positive they had not put the bills there, and so Cooper decided to put it up to Chief Gillaspay. He brought Mrs. Nichols and the bills to headquarters. After Gillaspay had heard the story he ordered the arrest of Brasch.

Brasch is well connected here and both he and his wife insist the police and Mrs. Nichols are wrong.

Mrs. Brasch is gifted with a remarkable mind for finding lost articles. A few months ago her husband lost a valuable diamond stud which Mrs. Brasch found in a joint of the ceiling of a new-erected addition to their home. Shortly afterward she found a \$50 bill in a handkerchief which her husband had thrown into a clothes hamper.

MOTOR VEHICLES IN CHINA

Chinese of Singapore Spend Large Sums of Money for Cars Luxuriously Fitted Out.

Singapore.—Not only are machines necessary for the managers of large plantations, but the Chinese, who possess most of the wealth of this district, are willing to spend large sums for cars luxuriously fitted out and which will hold a family of six or eight. As a rule, the wealthy Chinese of Singapore have special cars for pleasure purposes. There is now on exhibition at one of the local garages a car costing \$8,000 in gold purchased by a wealthy Chinaman from the settlement of Malacca. Money is no object where the question of luxurious fittings is concerned.

Another feature to be taken into consideration, according to the United States consul, is the indifference of the wealthy Chinaman as to horse power. He does not want speed for pleasure; he wants comfort and luxury; and the fact that one car is ten horse power stronger than another will not constitute a decisive argument in its favor if the fittings do not appear as good.

Rattler Chokes Boy.

New Haven, Conn.—While George Nash, a fifteen-year-old boy, was asleep in the woods near the other day he was attacked by a big rattlesnake, which, contrary to the practice of such reptiles, wound itself about his neck. Nash was unconscious from strangulation when the snake was killed.

FRANCE NOW PRODUCING JAM

Price of Sugar Goes Down, Although Bread and Meat Stay High—Paris Living Is Easy.

Paris.—The Association of General Statistics in France has published a volume on the cost of living in Paris. The working classes as well as the middle classes have not been faced with any sensible increase in the cost of food during the last forty years. But new necessities and the desire for increased comfort and luxury have raised the standard of living in Paris as well as in London, while taxation has increased.

The price of bread and meat is higher in Paris than in London, and this is due to the import duty on wheat, which increased the price of bread except in years of bountiful harvest, and to the prohibition of the entry of dead meat, which is justified on sanitary grounds, but which is really a protective measure.

On the other hand, the price of sugar, owing to the signing of the Brussels convention, has materially decreased. Sugar is a food of the first class, and if the duty has decreased the amount of sugar available for France is much greater, so that the price is considerably lower. This has given an impetus to the industries which use sugar as a raw material, and for the first time France has taken her place among the jam-producing countries.

The price of wine has also diminished, owing to overproduction, and while the south of France has suffered Paris has gained. There has no doubt been a gradual rise in rent, and the working classes of Paris have to pay more for lodging in proportion, owing to the protective taxes on the raw material of the building trades, than the English working classes.

But, on the whole, it is reassuring to learn that the cost of living in itself has not risen to any appreciable extent in Paris. Indeed, it is likely to decrease in the near future.

PREFERS BLUBBER AND OIL

Eskimo Woman Quits Children to Return to Old Life—Couldn't Prove Her Marriage.

Seattle, Wash.—American food and the ways of civilization pleased an Eskimo woman but a short time. When she first struck these shores with her white husband and children the contrast to her own ice-bound home was attractive, but soon she tired of our ways and sighed for the snow-covered plains of her native land, for the luscious seal oil and the succulent blubber.

She arrived here for the recent expedition, and her mate decided to make his home once more among his own race, purchasing a ranch on Vashon island. His wife learned a little English from neighbors, but American ways did not appeal to her and her temper suffered. Hubby traded his ranch and wished to establish near Springfield, Mo. Wiley, however, would have none of it, and learning that it was the white custom to settle matrimonial troubles in a law court applied for assistance to attorneys. Her native land, however, was far away, and she had no evidence of being married, so she contented herself by just embarking upon the first steamer bound for the Arctic regions, and our great civilization knows her no more.

AIMS TO ABOLISH TROUSERS

Berlin Society of Scholars and Artists Proposes New and Unique Garments—Discard Linens.

Berlin.—A society of seventy persons has been organized in Berlin for the purpose of reforming the style of men's garments. It is composed of persons from all sorts of professions and aims at abolishing trousers, substituting knickerbockers; while coat and waistcoat are to give way to a sort of loose blouse hanging well down to the knees. Linen of all sorts is to be discarded.

The newspapers treat the matter as more or less absurd; and some of them challenge the members of the society themselves to appear in public in the new garb. The Cologne Gazette goes deeper and points out that Germany can have no influence over the world's fashions for men's clothing because of the predominance of the military uniform over civilian clothing here, where even the emperor never lays aside his helmet for a silk hat. It thinks that the fashion for men's garments will continue to be set at London, for "a popular dandy of London clubland has more influence in setting the fashions than the whole of this society of German scholars, artists and writers."

Stamp Out Pellagra.

Memphis, Tenn.—After experiment Dr. A. J. Albright, secretary of the Tennessee state board of health, announced the other day that the mosquito transmits pellagra. The state board will begin war on the insect. Over a thousand cases have been found in Tennessee, principally in lumber camps where several saw mills have been closed down on account of illness among employes. Over 150 cases exist in Shelby county and around Memphis.

Dogs for the Antarctic.

London.—Forty-nine dogs and a number of puppies selected in Greenland for the Australasian Antarctic expedition are on their way from Copenhagen to England, and will be quarantined for a time at Beedington, Surrey.

AT WAR OVER BATHS

Water Commissioner Would Fix Limit at One a Week.

Question Has Become Burning One Throughout State of Massachusetts—Head of Board of Health Approves.

Boston.—How many baths does a person require in a week?

The above question is being asked by about every one of Lynn's 400,000 population, and the answers are varied ones. Some people claim only one is necessary, thereby upholding Water Commissioner Thomas Campbell, who has decreed that one bath every seven days is enough.

Discussion of the subject is not confined to Lynn, as the question has become a burning issue throughout the state.

The water supply at Lynn became low recently, and Water Commissioner Campbell, seeking to care for the city's interests, asked that the citizens content themselves with one bath a week. The outburst of indignation which resulted fairly overwhelmed the water commissioner, and he increased the bathing privilege to twice weekly. He did so grudgingly, however, and still insists that one bath a week would be sufficient—of course, taking into consideration the condition that exists.

Chairman Michael Ward of the board of health said he approved of the suggestion. He felt that the comparatively few who had become accustomed to the luxury of a daily bath should sacrifice their wishes for the good of the many. Their abrogation would be for a good purpose, he said, and redound to their credit.

Chairman Ward went a bit farther and expressed the belief that many of the politicians at the city hall should practice the self-denial asked for. He said that they were devotees of the daily bath and declared that now was the time for the city fathers and other public officials to show their mettle by putting aside their custom of bathing daily and restraining themselves for the welfare of the public.

Chairman Ward was asked point blank if he bathed daily, but he would not reply. He is, however, the most outspoken of the city department heads and believes that the citizens should bathe infrequently for a while.

Street Commissioner McPhetras was the real brave man in city hall. He was a boomer of the twice a week plan and freely stated his conviction that experience would never disprove that twice a week would be too infrequent bathing for any man. A lot of people have been wondering just what he meant, but his phraseology was so lawlike they still remain puzzled.

Chief Thomas Harris of the fire department raised a dissenting voice in the general chorus of approving acclamation of the plan. He asserted vigorously that neither he nor the other members of the fire department ought to be included in any restrictions prescribing a weekly bath or a biweekly bath.

He said that firemen had to bathe after every fire and ought to be allowed the privilege "or should I say right," he continued. As for himself, he said that on his tours of the city in his automobile he became covered with dust every day and that a bath had become "not a luxury, but a necessity."

The discussion still rages and it looks as if the twice-a-week plan would be adopted. It is said to be a decided advantage, viewed either from a sanitary, health, or even moral standpoint.

SNAKE ANCHORS MAN'S WRIST

Policeman, Reaching Into Ground for Edible Roots, Is Given Big Surprise and Held Fast.

Darby, Pa.—Policeman Tom Clark, Link Dutton, James Bogan and Tom Pappas, all of Darby, had an exciting experience with a bed of blacksnakes while hunting poke near the First regiment rifle range at Essington. They had gathered a fair supply of the edible root when Clark found a huge root, which stubbornly refused to be dug out.

After excavating the ground, Clark thrust his arm into the hole to cut off the root, but a minute later when he attempted to withdraw his hand he found himself anchored. Not realizing that his wrist was enmeshed in the coils of a five-foot blacksnake, which held him fast, Clark gave directions to Dutton to dig the root out, when it was discovered that he had thrust his hand into a nest of snakes.

Seizing sticks, the three men went to the rescue of their companion and after five minutes succeeded in beating the snakes off and killing three of them, including the largest. Clark suffered only from a squeezed wrist and a bad scare.

"Boy" Rooster Angers Town.

Philadelphia.—Maurice Megonigal, the eight-year-old son of Charles Megonigal of Lansdowne, a suburb, has developed an obsession for crowing like a rooster and cackling like a hen.

All the birds answer him, causing such a din in the neighborhood that all of the residents are up in arms, declaring his crowing and cackling are becoming a nuisance.

Maurice says he cannot help it as he was born with a proclivity to crow and he expects to keep on crowing until he dies.

CHINA POWER IN HEN WORLD

People Have Ever Seen Enormous Poultry Raisers and Exporters—Ducks Are Pickled and Dried.

Hongkong.—For hundreds of years China was the greatest poultry producing nation in the world, and probably this is true today, not only as regards the total production, but also per capita use. Of the more than 300,000,000 population of China, shown by the last census, there are few indeed who do not in the course of a year consume something in the way of poultry—chickens or ducks or geese—and certainly a large number of eggs. For considerable portions of the population poultry is the only animal food used, and for the more well-to-do classes it is an ordinary meat diet the year around.

Ducks are pickled, dried, tinned and otherwise preserved and shipped to many parts of the world to Chinese who are away from a home supply. Eggs of all kinds are used fresh and are cured by burying in clay and lime until they acquire something of the quality of cheese and are a great Chinese luxury. It is easy to calculate that to meet all these lines of consumption the output of poultry and poultry products needs to be enormous.

For the most part chickens and ducks are produced upon the usual basis of practically all Chinese production—the family household—or at most a small farm. There are few families in China, even in the larger cities, that do not have at least some chickens. Near the ports open to foreign trade there are a few rather good sized poultry farms, as a rule. Ducks are raised in immense numbers on farms along the canals and rivers of central and south China and are much more common than chickens. One of the customary sights along the grand canal in mid-China, for example, is that of a Chinese duck farmer in his boat watching his flock feed in and along the canal. The ducks are trained to obey him, and armed with a long bamboo pole to guide them, he controls their movements and takes them back to shelter for the night. The surplus of poultry and poultry products which China can export annually is immense. Up to the present exportation has taken the form largely of egg products, mostly dried albumen and yolks.

GREAT SLAUGHTER OF FISH

Ammonia Tank in Ice Factory Bursts and Liquid Kills Many Thousands of Denizens of River.

Pullman, Wash.—A peculiar accident, which nearly resulted fatally to a man and had fatal results on thousands of fish, occurred here. A valve in one of the ammonia tanks in the Star bottling works ice factory burst, allowing the ammonia to escape. The fumes drove the workmen from the building, and one of them was so overcome that he lost consciousness and was rescued by heroic efforts of his companions, who braved the fumes to drag him to the open air.

The ice plant was shut down and the town is threatened with an ice famine. Today there was a shortage, as the entire product of the plant has been used as fast as made during the summer.

The ammonia, which flooded one of the floors, found its way to the waste water sewer and into the creek at the bridge on Kamistuck street. People passing over the bridge noticed a commotion in the water, and hundreds of fish, two inches to a foot in length, were seen jumping and capering about. Some spectators described the actions of the fish as "crazy," while others declared they were "drunk." The surface of the water near the mouth of this sewer was covered with dead fish, while hundreds were on the bottom of the stream.

The city health department is now confronting with the problem of removing and burying these fish, which cover a pond probably 100 feet in length and 20 feet wide. There is little current to the stream at this point, and the ammonia seems to have lost its strength after getting a short distance above and below the sewer mouth. Hundreds of people stood on the bridge and viewed the strange sight.

BATTLES RATTLER TO DEATH

Hunter Pins Head by Gun Stock, but Snake Coils About Legs Until Finally Killed by Knife.

Ross, Cal.—Handicapped by a huge buck which was strapped to his shoulders, A. L. Marshall of Marin county had a hair-raising battle with a big rattlesnake near Bald Hill. Marshall almost stepped on the snake, which had evidently been asleep. It was too late to retreat, and he was too close to strike an effective blow, so he imprisoned the snake's head beneath the stock of his gun. Unable to release its head, the snake kept coiling around Marshall's legs, while its rattles hummed with anger.

Marshall sought to get his knife in a hip pocket, but it was almost unattainable because of the deer on his back. After much effort he got the knife and made an ineffectual stab at the snake's head.

The rattler wiggled its head almost out from under the gun stock. Marshall suddenly raised the gun and brought it down with great force, but quicker than he could move the snake coiled and struck the gun barrel. Marshall soon plinked its neck again. This time he made effective use of the knife.

LOSES RUSSIAN GIRL

Fiancee, After She Arrives, Falls in Love With Another.

Former Cossack Finally Gives Her Up For Consideration—Then Rushes to Immigration Officer to Stop Wedding.

Chicago.—Back in Bielogrodka, Russia, George Litvin, a dashing Cossack, won the good favor of the parents of Josephine Burmister. They promised him their little daughter's hand in marriage when she became grown up. That was ten years ago. One night shortly after the betrothal Litvin went to the country home and told them he intended going to America. He did not give his reason, but said he would send for his bride-to-be.

Shortly afterward a troop of soldiers swept down on the little town and carried Litvin's parents and two brothers off to Siberia. They gave no intimation of the charge against the family.

George Litvin came to Chicago. He worked hard for ten years and saved money. On his forty-fifth birthday he sent \$140 to Josephine's parents and asked that she be sent to him. Five weeks ago his betrothed arrived. There was much joy on in the Russian colony. In a little hall, the back room of a saloon, several dances were held in her honor, and merriment ran high.

At one of these pre-nuptial celebrations Vladimir Feldmier was present. He was 20 years old—a month older than Miss Burmister—and good to look upon. The little bride-to-be compared him to Litvin, who already had grown gray around the temples. Feldmier gazed long at the little Russian girl and they were together much. A week later Feldmier and little Miss Burmister went to Litvin.

"I cannot marry you," she told him. "I love Valdmir." Litvin was very angry at first, but when he saw the bride was determined he offered to release her if Feldmier paid him back the \$140. The young Russian gladly did so, and their wedding was set.

Feldmier happily began preparations for the wedding. He bought 40 chickens and other meats and laid in a big supply of vodka for his wedding guests. Little Miss Burmister prepared her trousseau.

As they were standing at the altar of the church ready for the ceremony, several immigration agents entered the church. Straight down the aisle they went and tore the bride from the wedding party. The young bridegroom, excited and maddened, and the wedding guests attacked them. They finally took her outside. It was explained that she was under arrest for violating the immigration law.

Then the secret came out. Litvin, in a rage because of the success of his youthful rival, had gone to the government officials and declared she was a bad woman. He swore that his intended should not marry Feldmier.

At the hearing before Ward Thompson, immigration commissioner, 35 fellow countrymen solemnly swore to the good character of the young girl. During the hearing she sat crying, clinging to the arm of the man of her choice.

"Litvin is a bad man," one Russian witness said. "He left Russia because he stole horses. That is why his family are in Siberia."

HUCKLEBERRIES AS FAT CURE

Crazee Has Arrived in New York From Fashion and Fad Resort and Is Spreading Rapidly.

New York.—Is your double chin tragically developing into a triple one? Are the dimples becoming too numerous to be attractive? Are you ashamed to stand on the scales and watch the indicator whirl about as if it would break?

If so, in part or as an entirety, get a crate of huckleberries and begin launching with avidity.

And, furthermore, is your complexion anything but a summer one of tan through which radiates heavy colors of carmine sunsets? Is it pasty, pale ochre or alabaster shade?

If so, hike off to the huckleberry patch instantly.

The "huckleberry" craze arrived in New York the other day fresh and enthusiastic from America's fashion and fad resort, Newport. Indications are that it will reach Chicago next and speed across the continent. As a result of Newport's dictum that the huckleberry is the panacea for poor complexion and obesity, the demand on the berry market is terrific. Huckleberries that sold formerly from 10 to 14 cents a quart have jumped to 18 and 20 cents a quart.

Miss Constance Warren, whose athletic prowess has made her the censor of all health recipes in Newport, is the original advocate of the huckleberry cure.

There is one warning in taking the fruit recipe and that is: If you are feebly at your berries without cream. This injunction was given by Miss Warren when she told of her anti-flesh and good-complexion discovery.

Killing Savage Rooster Justified.

London.—The killing of a rooster by a father whose child it attacked was held to be justified by Judge Smith at Atherston county court. Sued by the bird's owner, the father pleaded that he killed the cockerel, which was notoriously savage, as it was attacking his child.