

PROBLEM THAT PERPLEXES

The Substitution of Work for Ration System Among Indians Does Not Solve It.

From time to time much has been said of the marvelous things done for the Indians as a result of the so-called work system instituted three or four years ago as a substitute for the ration system. The observations of M. K. Sniffen, secretary of the Indian Rights association, however, incline him to the belief that a complete and happy solution of the Indian problem has not yet been reached.

In the course of his recent trip through the Sioux reservation in South Dakota the high opinion he had formed of the new system was rudely dispelled. What he saw—nothing of the statements of disinterested observers—made evident to him the failure of the system and the importance of a radical change in policy, if the Indians are to be saved from further retrogression—at least so far as the Sioux are concerned. It was clear, even to a casual observer, that the "work system" as at present carried on, has been the means of regarding the progress of these Indians, and in many instances of actually undoing the good results of years of effort on the part of the government and the various missionary bodies.

Discussing the relative advantages of the principal commercial ports of the east, he says that Manila will not develop into a first-class trade port because, apart from the torrid climate, it has neither factories nor large inland trade of importance, while as an intermediate port for China, Japan or Korea, the distance is too great and fuel too dear.

He also believes that Dally will remain a second-class port. It is therefore only Hongkong, Shanghai and Osaka which will develop into important commercial emporiums in eastern Asia, and of these he believes Osaka gives the greatest promise.

Another consul reports that in order to get capital to enter her gates Japan has just broken with one of her oldest traditions by allowing foreigners to buy land and her own people to mortgage their real estate holdings. The latter will make it possible for the Japanese to put \$157,000,000 into their pockets. Mortgages can also be placed on mills, mines, railroads, etc., so that with the capital, mines may be opened, soil reclaimed and factories built and equipped.

THE CUSTOMARY IRISH WAY

Contest of Wits That Resulted in a Division of the Prize Money.

Patrick was always twitting Michael upon his lack of education. One day, in the presence of their squire, Patrick dared Michael to a contest of wits. Each was to compose a verse of two lines, and the squire was to judge between them. To add further zest to the contest the squire offered a pound to the winner, relates the Minneapolis Journal.

Patrick went home to his faithful Bridget and told her about it. Between them this literary gem was concocted:

"Her name was Dottie Dimple, On her nose she had a pimple, Michael also went home to his wife. She laughed at the ease with which he could overcome Patrick, winning glory and the pound at the same time. "Sure, and just say: "On yonder hill there stands a mill, If it hasn't fallen, it's there still."

On the great day, the contestants met in the presence of half the country-side, each backed by his friends.

Michael, terribly embarrassed, got up, made a schoolboy bow and stammered forth:

"On yonder hill there stands a mill, If it hasn't fallen, it's there yet. Amid a roar of laughter he sat down wondering what could be wrong.

Then Patrick with much dignity arose and said, proudly:

"Her name was Dottie Dimple, On her nose she had a war-t. There was a wild shout and Patrick retired crestfallen. But the squire in consideration of their manifest efforts divided the pound between them.

Justifiable Suspicion. Henrietta Whitewash—I suttinly am spicuous ob Ferdinand. Ebry lettab he writes me he swears ter be eternaly true an axes me ter hasten de wed-din', as he am pinin' away wif love.

Mrs. Whitewash—W-a-l, I don't see much spicuous 'bout dat.

"Ob, it ain't dat. But he always adds a postscripture: 'P. S.—Burn dis lettab.'"—Judge.

Turkey's Record "Lay." A turkey owned by Mr. Essam, a farmer of Pleckney, Leicestershire, has laid 49 eggs in 54 days during this winter. This is said to beat all records, as the "lay" of the turkey very rarely exceeds 20 eggs.

BUSY LITTLE FOLK.

JAPANESE ARE PREPARING TO BUILD UP OCEAN TRADE.

Pacific Coast Ports of America to Be the Points of Operations—Progress in Manufactures.

United States consular reports are filled with facts concerning the wonderful progress being made in Japan. Consul Sharp, writing from Kobe, quotes from a Japanese paper printed in English, which deals with the determination of the Japs to have a large harbor which will rival Shanghai, Hongkong, or even large western cities.

A leading citizen of Osaka, Mr. Takugara, points to the work of Europeans and Americans in building up trade on the Atlantic, and contends that the same thing is possible on the Pacific—America, China, Japan, India and Australia being the countries visibly interested in the era opening in the orient and on the Pacific. He says the countries favorably situated for trade are sure to be benefited by every step forward. Japan, he points out, is already doing business with the principal countries on the Pacific, and is eagerly looking forward to the time when it will be able to extend its trade into all parts of the world.

Mr. Nakahashi, another writer in the paper, thinks Panama will be the leading port on the eastern coast of the Pacific, followed in importance by San Francisco, Seattle, Vancouver and Portland.

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Japan, he says, is growing less and less dependent upon foreign factories, and is now manufacturing and exporting large quantities of goods similar to those that hitherto she has imported from others.

Consul General Bray, of Melbourne, who recently had an interview with Dr. F. Otake, a Japanese manufacturer, is led by it to look upon Japan as a future buyer and manufacturer of large quantities of Australian, South African wools, a commodity which Japan will probably not produce itself, because of the failure of previous experiments.

One of the newspapers quoted by consuls declares that Japan is bound to be on hand when the Panama canal is cut, and that it is bound to develop trade with Brazil, as it is already trying to do with Peru and other countries of South America.

One of Japan's steamship companies has contracted for two vessels of 12,000 tons each, to make monthly trips between Japanese ports and Callao and other South American ports. The steamers are to be ready early in 1906, and agencies have already been opened for them in Rio Janeiro and Santos.

Brazilians have sent many agents to Japan to study the sunrise kingdom people at home, and have offered such inducements for common and skilled laborers that a tide of immigration has set in which bids fair to go far toward solving the problem of the wealth of American tropics.

Crocodile Egg Thieves.

Jackals and hyenas are very fond of crocodile eggs. The former is the more successful poacher of the two. Natives of Central Africa say that the jackal has 16 eyes, with one of which he watches the eggs and with the 15 others he looks out for the crocodile. The hyena, on the other hand, being very greedy, has all his eyes on the eggs, and so often falls a victim to the watchful crocodile in motionless hiding. The natives say, too, that the crocodile sometimes knocks its prey off the bank or off the canoe with its tail, and then seizes it with its wide-open jaws.

Shades in the Dark.

One small variety of the shark family, when taken into a dark apartment, presents an extraordinary spectacle. The entire surface of the body gives forth a greenish light that is constant, and not, as in the case of most of these luminous inhabitants of the sea, increased by friction. The small size of the fins of this fish show that it is not an active swimmer, and the supposition is that its light is useful in attracting its prey.

"Four Hours' Sleep Club."

The latest American institution is the "Four Hours' Sleep Club." Its members bind themselves not to spend more than four hours out of the 24 in slumber.

BOYS FIND A BANDIT'S CAVE

Refuge of the Famous Murietta Discovered in California—Sought to Find Castle.

Stockton, Cal.—From Bear mountain, Calaveras county, comes news of the discovery of a strange cavern near that place by three boys. Recently the boys started out for a tramp over the hills in search of a big rock of peculiar formation known as Joaquin Murietta's castle.

The boys, Edward Seisfert, Edward Weisbach and Joe Marquering, found the place, and having mounted the rock, began to amuse themselves by rolling rocks from the top. The place is mentioned in several tales of the famous bandit, and is supposed to have been one of his hiding places. On moving one large boulder the boys noticed quite a hole under the rock. By their united exertions they rolled the rock away and uncovered a small passage leading downward. The boys at once decided to explore it.

Weisbach took the lead with a candle, and the other boys brought along ropes and hatchets. In some places the passage was so small that one of the boys could crawl through at a time. They kept up their courage, and after going less than 50 feet, they found a cavern of considerable size.

On the floor they picked up a knife about 18 inches long, which had evidently been made out of a sword. It was very rusty. Forty feet further and down an incline they reached a still larger room. Here they found an old deringer pistol and a very large pair of spurs. Some bones, either those of an animal or a man, were found in this same place.

The young explorers returned to town in high glee over their day's experiences and the mysterious cave is to be more fully explored.

PUTS BAN ON FREE SEEDS

Congress Votes Appropriation Which Permits Lawmakers to Send Out Packages.

Washington, D. C.—This is the last year of free garden and flower seeds so far as the committee on agriculture of the house is concerned.

By a vote of 8 to 7 the committee has decided to strike out the \$250,000 appropriation made annually for the free distribution of seeds by members of the house and senate.

Free seeds are one of the last of the petty perquisites of members. Each year they receive a vast quantity for distribution among their constituents. Many of the seeds sent out are never planted, while in some instances farmers and gardeners have come to depend upon the annual contribution from the government.

The subcommittee having charge of the agricultural appropriation bill for the next fiscal year reported the \$250,000 appropriation. When the matter was taken up in the full committee Representative Cocks, of Oyster Bay, moved to strike it from the bill. The committee roll was called and, much to the surprise of every one, it was found that the vote stood 8 to 7 in favor of striking out the appropriation.

Representative Tawney, chairman of the committee on appropriations, because of his demand for economy, is bound to aid the committee on agriculture in keeping the appropriation of the bill. The house will fight tooth and nail to have the appropriation put back, and even though it falls in the house, the greatest efforts will be made to have the senate incorporate the appropriation in the bill when it gets over there.

SMELL LEADS TO A CAPTURE

Deputy Finds Bag of Beaver Skins in the Possession of a Passenger on a Railroad Train.

Marquette, Mich.—The acute sense of smell possessed by Deputy Sheriff C. L. Spoley proved the undoing of Joseph Charboneau, an aged trapper, whose place of abode is in the wilds of Ely township.

The hunter and the deputy were passengers on the South Shore's morning train between Neganawasee and Marquette. Entering the smoking-car, the officer was attracted by what he thought was the odor of beaver skins. He at once proceeded to investigate, and in a two-bushel sack under the trapper's seat he found 17 prime beaver pelts tucked away in the bottom and covered by other furs. The trapper was placed under arrest and later was turned over to the deputy game warden.

Charboneau is 73 years of age, and has lived for a quarter of a century in a little cabin on the banks of a creek in Ely township. Besides the beaver skins he had in the sack the pelts of eight mink, five skunks, three muskrats, three weasels and two wildcats. Beaver are protected by law, and Charboneau is liable to a stiff fine in addition to the confiscation of his skins.

Deepest Cable in the World.

Consul Liefield, of Freiburg, reports on Germany's completion of the laying of the new Pacific cable from Shanghai to Yap in the Caroline island, which, he says, covers more than 2,000 miles and closes a gap that made it the first continuous non-English line to encircle the globe and is laid at the greatest ocean depth of any in the world, reaching 22,966 feet.

Insanity from Microbes.

Scientists claim that insanity is caused by microbes. If proof is wanted they can point to a large number of people who have grown crazy over microbes and others who are still going.

JAP IN YALE FACULTY

FAMED HISTORIAN BECOMES A PROFESSOR.

Although Kan-Ichi Asakawa Is Only 35, He Has Already Made Himself Known in College Circles—Is Unassuming.

New Haven, Conn.—Kan-Ichi Asakawa, the first Japanese to become a member of the Yale faculty, has already made a name for himself as a writer of history, although he is only 35. It has been predicted that he will become the first scientific historian of the Japanese empire.

He came to this city to take up post graduate work for his degree of doctor of philosophy in 1899. He had received his degree of bachelor of literature from Dartmouth college in the preceding June, having studied there three years. While at Yale he was one of the most indefatigable students ever enrolled in the graduate school.

He cared little for the society even of his own countrymen, and for three years was a solitary figure in the Japanese colony. The professors under whom he studied soon began to regard him as a prodigy. His thesis for his doctor's degree was pronounced a really scientific treatise on a period of early Japanese history about which very little except legendary stories was known. It was a volume of about 100,000 words and was published soon afterward under the title "The Early Institutional Life of Japan."

Dartmouth, as soon as he received his degree at Yale, called him to her faculty and for three years he was an instructor there on the history and civilization of eastern Asia. For several years Yale has been planning to make her department of Asiatic history the strongest in the country. As soon as it was possible to do so an offer was made to Mr. Asakawa to assist in the work.

The result was that he left for Japan a short time ago with funds from the university with which he is to collect a library of Japanese works that will strengthen his department so that when he takes up his line of teaching next fall Yale will have the finest library of Japanese historical works, in the world, one hardly equaled at the University of Tokio. With these books as a working basis Mr. Asakawa has decided to devote the rest of his life to study and teaching in America rather than in his own country.

Personally the new Oriental member of the Yale faculty is unassuming. He has the polished manners that have characterized the Japanese who have been students here.

LIVED IN AN INDIAN CAMP.

Wrecked Crew of British Sailing Ship Undergoes Hardships—Rescued by Steamer.

London.—The details of a little drama of the sea have reached Newport, Monmouth.

Leaving Newport in February, 1905, the sailing ship King David was wrecked on the west coast of Vancouver. All aboard got safely ashore and lived there for three weeks in an abandoned Indian fishing camp on the beach. Nightly they lighted big driftwood fires in a vain endeavor to attract attention and on December 21, ignorant that they were within three leagues of Nootka, where there was abundant succor, it was determined to send by boat to Cape Beale, 100 miles away, for assistance.

Volunteers were called for and A. W. Wollstein, Sprung Creek, N. H. G. Ray, John Rogers, Liverpool, H. G. Ray, Newport, Evan Jones, Carnarvon; Martin Pedersen, Norway; J. Poda, Denmark; and P. Sorenson, Denmark, were selected out of eight volunteers. Two days after the boat left a terrific gale arose and there is little doubt that the boat went down.

CABBIE POSES AS CLUBMAN

"Night Hawk" Lives Easy for Months in Guise of Swell—Dream is Shattered.

Philadelphia.—One month of high life under the name of John L. Conaway, the noted whip and club man, landed Frederick Bauer, an ambitious, romantic hackman in the county prison. That same month of browsing about seaside resorts, of receptions at country clubs, of trips to New York, will result, moreover, in a suit for \$10,000 damages against the Colonial Trust company at Twentieth and Chestnut streets.

Bauer declared upon the stand in the criminal court he had a very good time while using the name of the man whom society best knows as "Dashing Jack" Conaway. He was explaining how he had managed, with the simple tastes of a hackman, to spend \$350 in one month. The hackman was trying, incidentally, to convict August Derrickson, who formerly kept a large livery stable at 25 South Twentieth street, of the charge of forgery.

Organ Will Cost \$50,000.

An organ which is designed to be one of the most powerful in the world has been ordered by the authorities of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine at New York. It is to cost \$50,000, and is to be constructed with funds contributed by Mr. and Mrs. Levi P. Morton. The instrument will be built in Boston.

IN A HAUNTED CHAMBER.

Readable Tale of the Transformation of an English Butler's Fat Calves.

This, relates the New York Sun, is the tale she brought home of the haunted chamber of the English country house: "It was late in November," she said, "when I went to stop for a few days with Lady G—, in Kent. The place was a renowned old place both for hospitality and picturesque scenery.

"The house, a two-story rambling structure which stood in among the great pine trees and was almost covered with ivy, was haunted, so every one said. Two little girls had been brutally murdered some hundred years before; their cries could be heard at twilight, and sometimes the little figures were seen in the library, also hurrying through the corridors.

"The servants were afraid to pass the library at that hour. As I am not a nervous person, I had no fear, although Esther had told some thrilling tales as she combed my hair in the morning.

"It happened on this particular afternoon of which I am writing that Lady G— took her guests out riding. I pleaded headache—I do not ride—as I had some important letters to write and it seemed the only opportunity. The letters written, I sank into one of those great-grandfather chairs to doze.

"A splendid log fire burned on the hearth, and the crackling sparks chased each other up the wide old chimney. The weather was quite chilly, and the evenings closed in early at this time of year. I lost myself in slumberland.

"Presently, for it seemed only a moment since I sat down, I awoke with the terrible feeling of some unknown presence being near. The room was almost dark. A few embers still glowed on the hearth and shed a faint light.

"I pluckily peeped through my half closed lids, for, really, I was afraid to open my eyes, truly afraid—of what? I knew not. Esther's stories seemed to burn themselves into my brain in an instant.

"At this moment I discerned two little figures dressed in white flitting across the room. 'The spirits!' I thought. 'Unable to bear the agony any longer,' I screamed.

"'Pardon, mum,' said Simmonds, the butler, 'I am just going to light the lamps. I have brought the afternoon tea.'

"Now I understood the situation perfectly. Simmonds' white silk stockings and calves were the figures I had seen moving about as he put the tea things down, and thus ends my belief in the tales of haunted houses."

THOSE EXTENDED FINGERS

Popular Misconception of Long Standing at Last Cleared Up.

A social philosopher has discovered that an act very commonly regarded as an affection of gentility, as found in the manner of holding a drinking glass when drinking from it, is not an affection at all but really an unconscious automatic act, says the New York Sun.

This supposed affection consists in extending the third and fourth fingers of the hand clear of the glass when it is lifted and tipped forward with its brim to the lips and while the glass is held there in the act of drinking. No doubt it would commonly be considered that people do this for the sake of greater elegance, or at least from an instinctive desire to give to the hand such an appearance, which it would not possess if they closed the entire hand around the glass—if they clutched it, so to speak, a manner of holding that would seem to savor of vulgarity.

But this observer says that really people hold those two fingers clear of the glass in drinking because that is the way that is most convenient. If, he says, a person should grasp the glass with the whole hand stead snuggly around it he would find that the act of tipping the glass so held required more muscular effort, for the muscles extending from all the fingers would then be called into use. Whereas if the person drinking holds the glass between the thumb and the first two fingers he not only relieves entirely the tension on the muscles of the two other fingers, but also in a way he pivots the glass and makes it easier to tip on that account. Thus the separation of the two fingers from the glass is a perfectly natural act.

This philosopher concedes that the act may be exaggerated; that fingers thus extended might even be seen raised and extended more than was really comfortable for the better display of rings adorning them, and he concedes that sometimes when we see our fingers thus raised as we lift our glass, in clear view of all, we may seek to crook the fingers in attitudes or curves of greater grace, and so he concedes that in some cases the raising of the fingers in lifting the glass may show affectation in some measure; but his point is that in its original inception and in its practice by the many the elevation of these two fingers is not an affectation, but an act quite unconscious and automatic.

Adulterated Oil.

Hitherto cotton seed oil, both the summer and winter grades, has been regarded as the cheapest possible oil used for purposes of food, but unscrupulous manufacturers and dealers saw a way of doubling profits by the use of corn oil and eagerly grasped the opportunity. It was declared that practically all of the cheaper and medium grades of what is sold as salad oil or olive oil now on the market is composed of cotton seed oil as the base and adulterated with from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. of corn oil.

SOAP IN BURGLARY.

HELPS TO GET INTO SAFES AND OUT OF PRISONS.

Its Use Discovered by Wisconsin Post Office Inspector—Some Instances of Its Employment.

The importance of soap in the raids of yeggmen from the time the crime is committed to the day the prisoner escapes from jail has been demonstrated in a single case in Wisconsin. Soap not only made the robbery of a post office safe possible, but it was the principal factor in the escape of the leader of the band after he was arrested for the robbery.

The discovery of this use of soap was made by E. E. Fraser, of La Crosse, a post office inspector of the Chicago district.

The safe in the post office at Stoddard, Wis., was blown open and three crooks were arrested for the crime. They were held in the La Crosse county jail pending trial in the United States court. Two of the trio escaped.

An investigation was made of the circumstances in connection with the robbery. It was found that the safe had been blown open with nitroglycerin. The explosive had been poured into the safe lock through a funnel made by carving out a cake of common laundry soap.

Not long after the arrest the first prisoner, Homer Earl Trainor, escaped from the jail by sawing the bars of his cell. How he got the saws was a mystery until the turnkey of the jail, J. M. Childers, was convicted of assisting in the escape.

The noise of the sawing was not heard by the other attendants, and the incisions made in the bars by the prisoner were not discovered in the daily inspections of the jail. It was found afterward that soap had been used to deaden the sound of the sawing, and soap had been rubbed into the openings made, leaving the bars apparently intact during the operation.

The most remarkable use of soap was made in the escape of Andrew Cunningham, alias Patsy Flannigan, a bank sneak. He was killed January 22, 1906, in a running fight with a sheriff's posse after robbing a bank at Montague, Tex.

He got tools from his confederate, the turnkey, and cut a hole in the stone floor of his cell. The work was discovered, but in an effort to get evidence against the turnkey the authorities delayed interference. They intended to stop Cunningham before the hole in the floor was made large enough to permit the passage of his body.

Cunningham learned that he was being watched, and here the soap figured again. Though the hole in the floor was only about eight inches in diameter, Cunningham escaped. According to the story told by a fellow prisoner on the witness stand in Childers' trial, Cunningham covered the edges of the opening with soap, lathered his naked body and slipped through.

So besides the innocent uses of the toilet, soap has properties which sneak thieves and robbers appreciate. Since the affair of Trainor and Cunningham Inspector Fraser has found that soap has first place in the crook'sman's kit.

FISH IN OYSTER SHELL.

Singular Deep-Sea Animal That Had Routed the Regular Tenant.

An oyster opener at a local bar, made a discovery much out of the ordinary while prying open bivalves for customers seated at a counter in front of him, reports a Houston special to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. It is not altogether uncommon to locate a valuable pearl in an oyster shell, but the find he made was most remarkable.

In a well-rounded oyster shell, with nothing in outward appearance to indicate a phenomenal interior, a live fish was found. There was no oyster and the fish exactly fitted the space the oyster had evidently once occupied. As the oysters had been on ice, the fish was cold and seemingly lifeless, but after being examined for a few moments it fluttered its tail. Water was procured and after a short time it became lively enough and is still alive.

It is striking in appearance, and a number of old fishermen who have seen it are unable to classify it. It has an artistic form that runs from its nose along its backbone to the end of its tail. Other markings are also unusual. It is believed to be a deep sea species that lives entirely among the rocks or oyster shells on the bottom of the deep.

Many theories are advanced as to how the fish supplanted the oyster. Some believe it was taken by the oyster when the fish was much smaller than now, and that it grew, killed the oyster and fed upon it, and continued to increase in size until it filled the entire cavity. Its period of growing was so long, for there was no additional space for it to occupy. One manufacturer's theory that the oyster advanced a fat egg into its shell and that it hatched and produced the present fish.

Strictly Speaking.

Stubb—Yes, I thought I could get him to join our marching club by giving him some of the club's choice cigars.

Penn—Ah, trying to "rope" him in eh?—Chicago Daily News.