SHOWING VALUE OF THE HEN

If It Could Be Capitalized Its Product Would Pay Bigger Dividends Than Railroads.

It is claimed that the average production of a hen is 200 eggs per annum, but it is safe to assume that the actual is much below this figure, the Wall Street Journal says. Adopting the very conservative figure of 120 eggs per hen per annum, we find on the above basis of production there are 150,000,000 laying hens in the United States responsible for the production of 18,000,000,000 eggs.

At the farm price of 20 cents per dozen the total income derived from each hen annually would amount to two dollars. Allowing 40 cents for maintenance and ten cents for depreciation, which latter would wipe out the market value of the hen in four years, irrespective of salvage when the period of production is over, the net profit per hen per annum amounts to \$1.50.

This profit, according to Wall street standards, capitalized on a five per cent, income basis, would place a nominal value of \$30 on each hen. For the 150,000,000 hens this would amount to the enormous total of \$4,500,000,000.

That the American hen can return a yield of five per cent. per annum on a capitalization of \$4,500,000,000 appears nothing short of remarkable, but such is the case. The entire outstanding capital obligations of the railroads of the United States in 1907 were less than four times this amount, or \$16,082,146,683, while the total paid out in interest and dividends represented but 4.05, per cent, of this

SLOW TO ACCEPT INVENTIONS

As a People, Americans Have Put Themselves on Record Against Notable Advancements.

We of this big republic complacently affirm the glory of our national achievements, and are not without temptation to acclaim them as proof of superior craft and judgment.

But herein do we forget that we are on record as having cast our vote against every move that has contributed to the present century's development.

We raised our voices in contemptuous protest, against the first projected railways. Had the locomotive waited its signal from the people, it would not yet have started.

When the electric telegraph was shown to us we brushed it aside as a toy, and laughed its inventor to scorn when he offered to sell us his rights for a few thousand dollars.

We put into jail as an impostor the arst man that brought anthracite coal to market. We broke to pieces Howe's sewing machine as an invention calculated to ruin the working classes; and we did the same thing to the harvester and the binder. We scorned the typewriter as a plaything.

. We gathered together in mass meetlings of indignation at the first proposal to install electric trolley lines, and when Dr. Bell told us he had invented an instrument by means of which we might talk to one another across the town we responded with accustomed ridicule, and only the reckless among us contributed to its being.—Atlantic.

Human Hibernation.

The human hibernation that goes on in the Russian province of Pakoy. has a good deal of interest for scientists," a scientist said. "In fact, several committees will visit Pskoy to study the human hibernators there. "These poor peasants have very lit-

tle to do in the winter and very little to eat. So they lie down in their beds with a bottle of water and a few loaves, and sleep and nibble, sleep and nibble, till the coming of spring.

"A man of 180 pounds will sleep 48 hours, awake and take a sip of water and a mouthful of bread, then fall asleep again for 48 hours more. A loaf and a bottle of water will last him a fortnight. When, four months later, he rises, pale and weak, and begins to plow the melted soil, his 180 pounds has fallen to 110, but otherwise he is well enough. Indeed, these Pskoy hibernators are noted for their

Lure of the Club.

It is not at all true, as some people aver, that the lure of the club is the spirituous refreshment to be found there or its aloofness from the re straining eye of critical womankind. But it is true that it represents the highest development along lines of physical comfort as this is known and sought for by the animal man, and if the ladies, on the few days of the year when they are admitted within the doors of these sanctuaries of masculine luxury, would study what they see there they would speedily be made aware, by the objects visible before them, of the sort of indoor environment that most appeals to the soul of the average man.-John Kendrick Bangs, in Suburban Life.

History Not His Strong Point. A well-known society young man of

Buffalo recently shocked one of his lady friends by his ignorance of history. It was after a dinner party at his bouse, and she was telling him what she had learned in her private history class. One thing led to another, and all the time he was getsting into deeper water. At last she surprised him by inquiring: "Now. tell me, Mr. - what are the Knights of the Bath?" He stammered for a while, and finally blurted out: "Why, Saturday nights. I suppose."

PRESENT OF SACK OF COFFEE

In Brazil This is Set Aside for Child at its Birth-Opened on Wed-Ading Day.

"We have a custom in the coffee raising countries," said Ricardo G. Muller of Rio de Janeiro Brazil, who is interested in coffee plantations in that country, "which is unknown in other parts of the world. When a child is born in the coffee country a sack of the best grain is set aside as part of the inheritance to be received on attaining its majority.

"Usually the sack is the gift from some close friend or relative, and it is guarded as sacredly as if it were a gift of gold or bonds. No stress would induce a Brazilian parent to use coffee which was made the birth gift of a child.

"As a rule, it is sealed with the private seal of the owner and bears a card giving all particulars about the variety of grain, its age on being sacked, and the birth of the child to whom it is given, and other details, which are very interesting when the gift is due.

"Generally, the coffee is opened for the first time when the child marries. The coffee for the reception or marriage feast is made from the legacy. and according to precedent, this must be the first time the sack is opened. After the coffee is made for the wedding feast the sack is carefully closed and sent to the new home of the young couple, and should keep them in the staple for a year at least."

HISTORY OF THE PANTOMIME

Was First Introduced to the English Stage in 1702-Has Always Been-Popular.

The first pantomime introduced to the English stage was "Tavern Bilkers," and was by John Weaver. This was in the year 1702. It was produced at Drury Lane. The great institutor of pantomime in England was, however. John Rich, who devised this form of entertainment in 1717. His first emphatic success was in 1724, when he produced "The Necromancer; or, History of Dr. Faustus." So successful was Rich with his pantomime that Garrick. Quinn and others became exasperated. Rich lived to see pantomime firmly established at Drury Lane and Covent Garden. He died in 1761.

Regarding the subjects of pantomimes the most popular theme this year is, we are informed, "Cinderella," with "Babes in the Wood" second and "Dick Whittington" third. If the London and suburban pantomimes are taken alone Cinderella" will again be first, while "Babes in the Wood" and "Aladdin" tie for second place. In London and the provinces "Cinderella" has been chosen 14 times. "Babes in the Wood" 12 times and "Dick Whittington" ten times.

Looking back over the last 18 years we find that the most popular subjects have been "Cinderella," "Aladdin." "Dick Whittington." "Robinson Crusoe," and "Babes in the Wood," in the order given.

Sport.

ol, Libr A man out Rockport way has a little tame fox that is led about by a chain. He proposes in the near future to have a "hunt." He will invite "sportsmen" from Cleveland to come out with their dogs, then he will turn loose the little tame fox and send the dogs after him. It is expected that the dogs will catch the little tame fox and tear him to pieces.

The hunt was scheduled to come off some time ago. But the invited guests with their trained hunting dogs failed to arrive, and the dogs of the neighborhood-just ordinary dogs-were pressed into service. For some reason or other these uneducated canines failed to enter into the spirit of the occasion, and could not be induced to take the trail. The little tame fox was accordingly again cooped up in his cage to await a more propitious and sporty slaughtering.-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Nothing to Say. According to a delightful story of

Shelley, recounted in the International Journal of Ethics by Rev. Bradley Gilman, the splendid mental equipment of the poet did not include humor.

In his characteristically impassioned way, Shelley was deeply interested in the problem of immortality. One day he met a nursemaid wheeling a very young child in a perambulator.

"Here is a little soul." he reflected "recently come to earth, out of the great unknown preceding human life. Perhaps he can tell me something about the great unknown after human life. The two realms may be one and

the same." He accosted the infant twice, but of course gained no response, only & blank infantile stare.

"Alas! alas!" sighed Shelley. "How very reticent these little creatures

Their Paternal Desire. The tramp walked softly up to them as they were coming down street in

the dusk. "Would you kindly let me have a few pennies?" he asked, almost in a walkper. "I want to buy the baby a pair of

shoes." The man took a few pennies out of his pocket and handed them to him. Then they walked on

"If they'd only ask for something e'se," he mused. "This is the fifth time to-day I have given tramps money for baby's shoes. I'd give them a lot more willingly if they'd only tell the truth and say they want a glass of

CONVERTING THE OLD MAN

Cogent Reason Advanced That Had the Effect of Bringing "Paw" to the Penitent Bench.

They say that once down in a Kentucky county, which shall be anonymous, one of the young rough-necks was converted at a revival held in the little building which served a double purpose as schoolhouse and church. He had been a wild lad, but his conversion was sincere, and by the force of his example or possibly of his hard fist he succeeded in getting the rest of his following to join, too.

His father had never been to church, and said, further, that he never intended to go. His son, however, following his change of front, greatly desired that his sire should join him in that stand. He got the preacher, who was conducting the services, to go and wrestle with the old fellow. The two adjured him to attend church.

He was finally persuaded to do so, and once there the son and the evangelist directed their efforts to getting him on the mourners' bench. The old man wavered, but finally stood firm. He reckoned it was nowerful good, but he kinder believed he'd let things be as they were.

"Look, here, paw," said the recent proselyte, "you come on in. I'm in, and I can tell you it's so d-good you ought to take a little of it just for luck!

That was an unconventional way of putting it, but it had its effect, and the old man fined.-Louisville Courier-Journal.

ONE OF LIFE'S GREAT JOYS

Maintenance of Relative Asylum Sadder and More Common Than the Arrival of Twins.

The story of the man whose family is increased by a procession of twins and triplets will be harrowing, but it can never take the first prize in a hard luck story contest against the tale of the sorrows of a city man whose wife attracts country relatives. Betsy comes in from Pennsylvania Corners to visit her aunt and attend a city high school. Oliver decides that he ought to have the advantages of a more famous business college than Prof. Roebuck's seminary. Grace comes to the city to cultivate her voice-and take dancing lessons. Henry "puts up" at his aunt's house until he can find a job; then, after he finds one, he grows homesick in a hall bedroom, comes back to auntie for sympathy and is advised never to leave again. Whistler's caller, who came to stay over night and remained for two years, would not be thought to be doing anything out of the ordinary at one of these relative asylums.

"I notice you have another visitor." a friend remarked to the proprietor of one of the largest asylums of this sort

"Yes." the man answered in a lifeless, matter-of-fact tone. "He's here for 12 years-four in high school, four in college, four in medical school. My wife's second cousin, you know."

Boosting Town Life.

"After an experience I had this morning," remarked the suburbanite. "I'm feeling rather strong for this apartment thing as against life out of town. I wanted to stay in New York last night to go to a dinner, and one of the boys in the office asked me to put up with him for the night. While I was dressing this morning my collar button slipped out of my fingers and rolled under the bureau, of course. Now, at home, I should have had to go down on my knees and get myself into a rage reaching for the thing. In Jason's apartment all I had to do was to go out into the living room, take one of his crook-handled walking sticks out of the umbrella jar by the door and poke the collar button out into sight. To do that at home I should have had to go down two flights of

Sweet Influence.

stairs and got half frozen. See the

reason for my enthusiasm?".-N. Y.

Press.

Is it not entertaining how to make the best of one's powers, how to arrange one's stores, how to exert a sweet, quiet and fragrant influence throughout life, over all whom one meets? If an advanced education does this for one, then it is the education one should seek. Our difficulty is that we cannot allow time enough for seed time and harvest. Mothers are in despair if daughters occasionally drop. out of school for six months or a year. We are much too apt to insist on putting all our children, irrespective of their natural bent, through the same educational factory. We do not make sufficient allowance for temperament and tendency, and thus it comes to pass that some of us carry burdens. beneath the weight of which we are crushed.

Gladstone's Memory.

Gladstone's power of memory was always one of his greatest assets. In his last years he often lamented that it was not what it had been; but even so, it came triumphantly out of some remarkable tests. In his eighty-third year he set himself to recall Manzoni's ode on the death of Napoleon, which, as a young man, he had translated into English. He had entirely forgotten his own version, but by dint of hard "digging" or "fishing up," as he called it, he wrote down 104 of the 108 Italian lines. Two years later he essayed to write from memory a complete list of all the men who had been his cabinet colleagues, and enumerated 60 of the 70.

INCREASE IN LIFE'S DURATION

Sanitary Science Has Done Much to Prolong the Stay of Man Upon the Earth.

National efficiency depends partly on natural resources, partly on the integrity of social institutions, partly on human vitality, and is a reaction against the old fatalistic creed that deaths inevitably occur at a constant rate The new motto is Pasteur's, "It is within the power of man to rid himself of every parasitic disease." Longevity varies in different times and places. The average length of life in Denmark and Sweden exceeds 50 years; in India it falls short of 25. In Europe it has increased in 350 years from less than 20 to over 40 years. In Massachusetts, in less than half a century, it has increased five years. As longevity increases, mor-

The death rate in the "registration area" of the United States is 16.5 per thousand; in India it is about 42 per thousand. In European cities it varies from 16 to 40. The ceath rate has been decreasing during several centuries. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries it was 40 to 50, and during the pest periods rose as high as 80. It is now 15. In Havana the death rate after American occupation fell from over 50 to about 20. The greatest reductions have been effected among children. The mortality beyond the age of 50 years has remained stationary. Special diseases have decreased, such as tuberculosis, which is now one-third as prevalent as two generations ago: typhoid fever, which in Munich, after the elimination of cesspools, decreased 97 per cent., and in Lawrence, Mass., after the introduction of a public water filter, decreased over 80 per cent. Smallpox has practically disappeared since vaccination was employed and yellow fever since its mosquito origin has been known-American Health Magazine.

DR. HALE A FRIEND IN NEED

Proof That He Lived Up to the Principles of "Lend-a-Hand" Societies He Founded.

The late Dr. Edward Everett Hale, the founder of the "Lend-a-Hand" societies, practised what he preached. He lent his own hand time and time again. Once, says the Woman's Home Companion, his travels brought him to a town where a friend of his was editing a daily newspaper.

When he called on him, this friend unfolded a tale of woe. His wife was seriously ill. She had gone into the country, believing that a change of air would do her good. She was pining for her husband, and he was pining for her, but he had no assistant, so if he took a vacation the paper must stop. Dr. Hale listened and, returning to,

his hotel, sat down at his desk. Before he got up he had written with that ready pen of his enough articles on topics of contemporaneous interest to fill his friend's editorial columns for a week. Returning to the sanctum, he threw his copy on the editorial desk, with the remark:

"There, now you can go and visit your wife!"

.....King Granary.....

The Crimea and the whole Black sea region, owing to the sparse population to consume it, had a great surplus of wheat. For centuries it was coveted by all hungry nations-and exploited by the one with the strongest armies. For centuries after Athens had feasted upon the grain-raising lands beyond the Bosphorus, Mithridates, as a preparation for his life and death contest with Rome, fell upon the corn fields of the Crimea. Because Sicily was yellow with wheat from earliest memory, through ages and ages she was raided by all the powers of the world. It was because of Egypt's corn, more plentiful than anywhere else along the Mediterranean, that Caesar and Pompey wanted the land of the Ptolemies. It was when Rome held or controlled the granaries -her first and dearest conquests-of Sicily Sardinia, Spain and Egypt that she could become mistress of the

Dangers in Dancing.

Dancing has been extolled as a most healthful recreation; as a means of physical culture it favors the development of the muscular system and promotes health and cheerfulness. And dancing is carried on by women whose fashion of dress is of such a nature as to injuriously affect one or the other organ of the body.

Young girls appear to experience no fatigue after it. They will not miss a single waltz, polka or square dance, but if the pulse of one of these indefatigable devotees is felt after the dance is finished it will be found in the majority of cases that the number of pulsations is far in excess of the normal, and from this it may be inferred that the condition of the heart must react prejudicially upon the entire organism, and it justifies an apprehension of danger where girls are delicate.

Spider an Ague Cure. In some parts of England the spider was formerly believed to be an efficient cure for ague. Writing to an old number of "Notes and Queries," a Somersetshire vicar remarks: "One of my parishioners suffering from ague was advised to catch a large solder and shut him up in a box. As he pines away the disease is supposed to wear itself out." In the south of Ireland a large house spider enveloped in treacle or preserve was used for the same

MISS THE LIGHT AND NOISE

Reasons Why Some Townspeople Are Unable to Live Comfortably in the Country.

The necessity which some people feel for noisy surroundings was mentioned by a famous specialist in giving a medical explanation of the case of little Horace Collins, the heroic messenger boy, says the London Daily Mail. The lad, aithough able to gratify every wish as the guest of Lord Lansdowne at Bowood house, has a mastering longing for the bustle and light of the London streets.

"It is a very clear case of nostalgia." said the doctor. "A person suffering like that has lost two everyday friends, as it were-noise and light. It is entirely due to the nerves. Our nervous system gets into a pronounced groove in accordance with the everyday condition under which we live. A sudden change in living throws the nervous system out of gear. Both light and noise are pervous stimuli to people who live amid noise and light. Take away the comradeship of noise and light, and the nervous system loses two stimulants necessary to its well being and suffers in consequence "With the boy Collins the fact that he does not see policemen troubles

him, because policemen to him have become an important part of the natural scheme of things. "A very similar case occurred with a London housekeeper of mine. She was sent away to the country, and simply could not endure to live there. She missed the companionship of noise so much that she had to be

brought back to town again quickly,

for her health was beginning to suf-

THE POISONS IN COAL GAS

Many Are Known, But There Is One Constituent That is a Puzzle to Scientists.

The noisonous properties of coal gas are generally attributed to its content of carbonic oxide, especially as no other substance of known poisonous properties has been found in it, and patients suffering from coal gas poisoning show the symptoms associated with the inhalation of carbonic oxide, including the peculiar bright red color of the blood. From experiments made by Dr. von Vahlen, at Halle, it seems probable that we must revise this view, for on making experiments with frogs, animals particularly resistant to carbonic oxide, it was found that they were poisoned far more rapidly by coal gas than by the corresponding amount of the oxide. Other experiments with dogs showed that the poisonous effect of coal gas was twice or three times as great as that of the carbonic oxide it contained. Evidently there is some other constituent of coal gas which is poisonous, though what it is cannot yet be stated. Merely removing the carbonic oxide from coal gas will not suffice to render it non-poisonous.-The Ironmonger.

The Eggman in Philadelphia, A young farmer from Clementon, N. J. was selling eggs at the corner-of Fourth and South streets when a bartender walked up to him and asked him the price of a dozen eggs. The farmer answered: "Forty cents a dozen," and as there was an extra egg in the dozen he wanted three cents extra, but the bartender wanted it

"thrown in with the bargain." "Well," said the one who sells the liquor, "I will take the egg and treat you to a drink."

"All right," said the farmer. When they came to the tavern he was asked what he would drink, to which he re-"Well, I allus drink sherry with an

regg in it." And they say farmers buy gold bricks.-Philadelphia Times.

John Chinaman Prinking Up. "Men, women and, children of my own race have stopped to prink before that mirror," said the New York drug clerk, "but yesterday was the first time I ever saw a Chinaman try to make himself look pretty. He wasn't an Anglicized Chinaman, either. He wore a queue, a slouch hat, baggy blue blouse and trousers and turned up slippers, just as Chinesey as he could be, but if he had been dressed for a ball he couldn't have taken greater pains with himself. He smoothed his hair, picked at his blouse, hitched up his trousers, straightened his hat and studied the set of his shoes. Apparently he was well pleased with himself. Anyway, he went away grinning. I'd give a quarter to know what was

People Who Argue. There are some people who are never convinced. They will argue a subject out for hours at a stretch, and be no nearer a solution than they were at the start.

It is hopeless to try to convince such a person on any subject. The truth is, it gives them pleasure to argue, and the more you disagree with them the better they are pleased. If you find yourself dropping into the habit, try to drop out again as soon as possible.

On His Desk.

The ink called the blotter an old soak, then the fight started. The ruler got her foot in it, inch by inch, and, instead of helping her out, the stamps stuck to the envelopes and let the pen holder. 'The keys were in a buich, so the pencil lead them away and let the paper weight. At this stage of the battle the paper

knife stepped in, cut out the fight, and silence reigned supremer.-Judge.

LED BY THOROUGHBRED DOG

Blind Man and English Setter Leave for Another Sojourn in the Southern States.

Reading, Pa.-After sojourning in 34 states of the union, blind G. W. Saville and his setter dog, Joe Roderick, who recently returned here from a western trip, are off again on a tour of the southern states for the winter. If Reading ever had a noble dumb animal, accomplishing a noble work, it certainly is Joe Roderick. It takes even a man with unusual grit and determination to lead an unfortunate blind brother man around this world, to make his dubious way; but for a dog to do it, and do it as well as many a man could, has attracted and is attracting wide attention.

This noble beast formerly belonged to a Reading gunner, but when G. W. Saville begged the gunner to part with him he could not refuse a blindman's. request, knowing that the dog would; at least afford some amusement to him. He did more than that. Never have man and beast become more strongly attached to each other than have Joe and Mr. Saville. The latter is poor and depends upon the charitable folks of many states. His home is in this city, but he is a great traveler.

Joe can do almost anything but talk. He opens the doors of homes, makes signs to his master when they are about ready to ascend in an elevator, and has in hundreds of ways protected Mr. Saville from harm and led him away from trap doors and cellar open-

Joe is a member of the American Kennel club, where he is registered, and is a descendant of the Great Count Giadstone, the greatest English setter ever brought to the United States. Joe himself has scored 100 points, and is elegible to the kennel shows on both sides of the Atlantic.

CHANGES U. S. PLANT LIFE

Government Scientists Import Seeds and Raise Many New Kinds of Valuable Crops.

Washington.—During the last yes the department of agriculture he brought into this country more th 2,000 carefully selected plants fr various parts of the world with view to diversifying the product American soil. Especial regard been paid to the introduction of pla that will grow in sections in wh either the drought or severe cold made it nearly impossible to obt crops.

The plants have been placed in the hands of private experimenters and official plant breeders. The results obtained in domesticating them has been very encouraging

Some of the most important of the plants have been gathered from arid portions of China. It is believed they can be adapted to the dry states of the southwest. Among them is a Chinese date palm that is said to resist drought and to produce a val-

New seedless persimmons have been brought in. Pears, apricots and cherries of especial value were among other importations.

A new clover from the Himalaya. mountains can be grown in the hottest portions of the southwest. Bamboo from the orient has been planted in the gulf states, and it is believed its cultivation will prove successful. Tropical plants hitherto unknown to the soil of the United States.

are being domesticated in the south. Officials of the department declare that only the imagination can foresee what will be the result of this policy of the introduction of plants. .

PATIENT SAVES THE DOCTOR

Then Goes to the Hospital to Be Operated on-Team of Horses Ran Away.

Bloomsburg, Pa.-With the physician who was bringing him to the Joseph Ratti hospital at Bloomsburg, pinned fast under his sleigh, Matthew Lawton of Millville, himself in a serious condition with appendicitis, the other day saved Dr. Everett of Millville from terrible injury by jumping to the horses' heads and stopping them after they had demolished the sleigh and were dragging Dr. Everett along the road. Lawton's condition was so serious

that an urgent call had been sent to the hospital to have the operating room in readiness for them upon their arrival. They had reached a point about half way between Bloomsburg and Millville when the physician, who had suffered a fractured wrist about a week before when he slipped on an icy pavement, lost control of the team and it ran away.

The doctor and patient reached the hospital late at night. Lawton apparently suffered no ill effects from his experience.

Boy Saves Five Lives.

Biloxi, Miss.-Harry Hilden, 14 years old, comes near holding the record for one of his age as a life-saver. it is believed. When young Hilden. went to the rescue of Theodore Ryan, 12 years old, after the latter had twice sunk beneath the waters of Biloxi bay, it was the fifth time that he has saved a person from drowning.

Fault Finder by Profession. London.—Asked what his profession was, a witness at Salsford replied that he was a fault finder, and explained that he sought for and remedied faults

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

As sornaine im Louisians or dans tone less Etats du Sudi Elle unblishis aftre sommerce des avantages l'expositionneile. Let de l'absunement un fann il Reill'el Guellélores file. Gillier, Lackdon and Lackdon a