

FURNITURE IS FINE

Workmen Interested in Factory Run on Novel Lines.

Employees of Profit Sharing Concern Design and Make Articles For Proud as Well as the Humblest Homes.

The Hague.—In every town of any importance in Holland movements for the better housing of the work people are on foot, and this year has seen the initiation of a plan for providing their homes with good, solid and graceful furniture—"furniture with a soul," as it has been expressed.

In a beautiful part of the province of Utrecht, overlooking undulating forest and heathland, a furniture factory has been opened. The capital for the enterprise—about 200,000 florins (\$80,000)—has been subscribed in shares of 50 florins (\$20), and in smaller shares of only ten florins (four dollars) each, so that no one need be debarred from joining. Skilled designers, carpenters and furniture makers have been engaged and have all taken shares in the business. The net profits are to be divided as follows: five per cent to the shareholders and 40 per cent to each workman. A certain percentage is also reserved for a sickness and accident fund, while a pension fund is also to be formed. Each workman who is a shareholder has the right to supervise the business books.

All the employees, from the director to the laborer, live on the grounds owned by the company, each individual family having a house of its own, standing free in its own garden and overlooking a panorama of an undulating, well-wooded country as can be found in Holland. "So that the beauty of nature may surround our workers on every side," say the directors.

The houses have large, bright windows on all sides, so that air and sunshine can penetrate everywhere. Every room has been designed for the utmost comfort and practicality, and the furniture designed and made by the possessors of the homes themselves, under the capable guidance of the management, has made of their humble dwellings things of beauty that are the joy of the inmates. It is pleasant to see what pride every one takes in his home, in its embellishment and in the cultivation of his little garden after business hours.

At present the ten-hour work day obtains, but it is the aim of the company to reduce these hours as much as shall be proved practicable by experience. It can be inferred from the system of profit sharing that in the course of time the whole business may become the property of the men employed therein.

Several useful rules regarding personal cleanliness and the cleanliness of houses and workshops have been laid down. The fines imposed for noncompliance go to swell the sick benefit fund. Although a goodly proportion of the furniture is hand made, there is plenty of machine work as well, for large quantities of pieces are already being turned out and there is an increasing demand for these articles. A large house on the road to Utrecht has been fitted up for show rooms, where every apartment is filled with complete sets of furniture for all sorts of houses and for "all sorts and conditions of men."

The factory does not confine itself exclusively to the less expensive grades of furniture. Other exquisite articles are also turned out, for, as the management remarks: "It would not do to be too one-sided, for then the men would lose that ambition in their work which plenty of variety brings." So every employee may now and then design and make as fine a piece of furniture as he can imagine.

NEW GERMAN-AMERICAN CLUB

Institute in Berlin to Benefit Students of Both Countries—Opened With Reception.

Berlin.—The newly organized American institute, which is to act as a clearing house of German-American culture for institutions of learning in both countries, was opened the other night with a reception under the auspices of the Harvard club of Berlin. Fifty resident American students listened to addresses by Ambassador Hill and Prof. Munsterberg, the director of the new enterprise.

The permanent quarters of the institute are in the Royal library, in close proximity to the University of Berlin. They consist of a suite of six rooms attractively furnished in dark wood, affording a comfortable place for reading and study. The library will be composed largely of books bearing on German-American interests. It already contains 8,000 volumes and it is expected that the collection will increase rapidly.

One of the first undertakings of the institute, it is announced, will be an exhaustive inquiry among the American students in Germany as to the reasons prompting them to study here and any criticisms they have to make on German university methods.

Sport for Sharks.

Havana.—Sharks are taking great interest in the torpedo practice of United States vessels off Media Luna Cay, Cuba, and seem to think the ships are doing it for their benefit. The big fish take off in a bunch after every torpedo that is discharged, but none of them has yet been able to overtake one of the shells.

WAR IS WAGED ON COYOTES

Oregon People Blame Destructive Animals for Hydrophobia and Vow Extirmination.

Wallowa, Ore.—New cases of hydrophobia are being reported almost daily and citizens of this county are awakening to the necessity of prompt action.

L. McWilliams, a sheepman and trapper living in the Joseph Creek section, near Flora, this county, reports finding on the range several dead coyotes which apparently died of hydrophobia. L. Falconer of Pittsburg, on Snake river, this county, reports that rabies has been prevalent among the coyotes on the Idaho side of Snake river, opposite Pittsburg, for the past two years.

State Veterinarian Lytle came into the county the other day and will take personal charge of the 12 hunters who are in the employ of the forest service and also of a number of volunteer hunters. Approved methods of hunting, trapping and poisoning will be used to exterminate the coyotes and the surplus of worthless dogs and cats. After a conference with the county commissioners, it was decided to police the entire county and enforce the quarantine rigidly.

Since the assurance given Supervisor Harris by the state health officers that there was no danger of a quarantine on Wallowa county stock, the citizens are making every effort to arouse all to the necessity of destroying the coyotes. When there was danger of a quarantine, the stockmen knew that the publicity attending the destruction of the coyotes would prove injurious to their interests, and the work was conducted silently but effectively.

Since that danger is averted, they are more outspoken for rigid measures, and it is probable that an increased bounty will be placed on coyotes. The bounty is now \$3 and the pelts are worth an average of \$2.50, for they are in prime condition. With the added bounty it is proposed to give, the value of a coyote to the hunter will be approximately \$7.50.

As there are a goodly number of coyotes and the season is right for bagging them, the hunters and trappers will reap a profitable harvest and the community be freed from the pest.

NOVEL PARTY FOR EX-LOVERS

New York Man Plans Farewell "Spread" for Eight Young Women, Once His Sweethearts.

New York.—If the plans of the man who bought nine box seats at the New theater and made arrangements with the tea room for a "spread" afterward are what he mentioned in a burst of confidence to Jed Shaw, treasurer of the theater, an extremely odd box party will be held there. He said the party would be given for eight young women with whom at various times he had been on the verge of matrimony, and it would mark the finish of his philandering, for he expects to marry within the month.

Box No. 6 was sold to him. Two extra chairs will be put in it. He then asked about the tea room. He ordered a luncheon and insisted that the tea be in the shape of Cupids and hearts. He said he would supply souvenirs himself, and asked for auspiciously decorated table. The center piece is to be a small wedding cake. Candy boxes in the shape of small white satin slippers will be placed on the plates.

The orders were given before the exact nature of the feast was revealed. Shaw asked if the theater party had any special significance.

"Does look like a wedding breakfast, doesn't it?" laughed the stranger. "But it isn't, though I'm to give one a little later on. The fact is, the guests at this party are all young women to whom I was once engaged. We are still friends, though, and they are friendly with one another—that is, those who are acquainted. I'm really and truly engaged this time. I thought it would be a nice little stunt to give a farewell bachelor theater party, but instead of asking men I knew I thought it would be a better idea to give it to the girls who were loved and lost. What?"

Shaw refused to divulge the man's name, though it was well enough known for the treasurer to accept a check in payment for the box.

Hens Pay Farm's Expense.

Walla Walla, Wash.—All the expenses of a 400 acre wheat farm in the Walla Walla valley are being paid by 209 hens, according to the statement of Frank Breed, one of the best known poultry raisers of the valley, at the luncheon given the poultry show exhibitors. After paying for all the groceries, fuel, meat and even for the thrashing of 200 acres of wheat last year, the chickens had a balance of \$82.60 to their credit at a grocery store January 1. They are pure bred poultry, and are the property of C. C. Parker, who farms the Davies ranch on Dry creek.

Seek Coons, Bag Wildcat.

New York.—William and Walter O'Brien of Newton, N. J., have a wildcat skin which they are exhibiting as proof of a night adventure they had near Muckshaw pond. They were out with a dog gunning for coons. A wildcat dropped out of a tree on their dog, tearing his skin severely before he could get out of the way. The cat leaping for a tree trunk, and as he went up the men fired, killing the beast. The body weighed forty-two pounds.

RABBITS THE CAUSE

Means of Adding to Acreage of British Empire.

Becomes Terrible Pest and Building of Fence As Protection Against It Results in Opening Up of New Land.

London.—How the rabbit was the means of adding half a million square miles to the British Empire is told by A. W. Canning, a famous West Australian explorer, who is now in London. The processes were in this sequence:

The rabbit imported from England into that vast territory whose interior seemed absolutely sterile, bred so prolifically that it became a pest that threatened to overwhelm the settlers in the cultivated strip of country along the coast.

So it became necessary to exterminate the rabbit in the cultivated area and to build a rabbit-proof fence to protect the settled areas from the ravages of the swarm of rabbits in the desert interior.

Mr. Canning, an Australian surveyor, explorer and prospector, was engaged by the West Australian government on the survey for the construction of 1,175 miles of this rabbit-proof fence from Starvation Harbor on the south coast of Mount Blaze in the northern territory. This fence ran along the edge of the great Sandy Desert at the back of all cultivation.

But in the course of his survey Mr. Canning, from his own scientific observations and his inquiries among the black aborigines, formed a theory that there was water to be found in the supposed waterless area of sandhills "outback" of the rabbit fence and through the heart of the supposed lifeless desert.

He started out on an exploring expedition across the barren country stretching from Willuna, nearly 800 miles northeastward from Perth, to Sturt's creek, the furthest outpost of civilization. That meant a stretch of desert to be traversed 1,000 miles in length. During 1906 and 1907 Mr. Canning strove with this preliminary survey.

In April, 1908, Mr. Canning set out from Willuna with an expedition of twenty-six men, sixty-two camels and 400 goats to open up the new trade route. It took him two years to complete the work. Now, at fourteen miles average distance there is a chain of wells across the stretch of country that had been thought waterless.

Not only does the chain of wells make a practicable north and south route for cattle and general trade, but each individual well is a depot and a starting point from which prospectors and explorers can set out to discover and develop the wealth of the country east and west. Half a million square miles are thus rendered available for the enterprise of the white man.

No white man had trod the country which Mr. Canning has now opened up, and earlier parties of explorers who had come nearest to it lost members from thirst and reported it hopeless. It is full of auriferous indications, he declares.

His most stirring adventure on the second trip—on the first he went once ten days without water and three weeks without a wash—was when, surrounded by a party of savages, armed with spears, which they were hesitating whether or not to use against him, he fired his shotgun at three parrots and brought the three down at the one shot. That brought the natives to a proper condition of respect.

HIGH VALUE OF BEE KEEPING

More Profitable Than Poultry Keeping—Thirty Thousand Keepers in State of New York.

Utica, N. Y.—That bee keeping is more profitable than poultry keeping was the conclusion announced at a bee keepers' institute held here. The institute was one of a number held by the state department of agriculture in various localities. An idea of the magnitude of the industry may be gained from the statement that the honey crop in the United States each year is worth \$20,000,000. There are said to be 30,000 bee keepers in this state, and New York stands second among the states in the production of honey. Even when eggs sell at 50 cents a dozen the bee is said to stand below the busy bee as a payer of dividends.

A great advantage that bee keeping possesses is that the bees require very little care and no feeding, while hens demand expensive feeding. One 20 years. The virtue of the bee sting as a remedy for rheumatism was mentioned by one speaker in a jocular manner. It is said, however, that this is no joke, that the bee poison relieves rheumatism and that some bee keepers catch their bees, remove the stings and sell the poison to druggists for medicinal purposes.

Egg Wags Its Tail.

York, Pa.—An egg with a tail that wags is a freak in possession of Mrs. Minnie Schrist, wife of John H. Schrist, tenant on the farm of A. B. Farquhar, near York.

The egg was laid by a Plymouth Rock hen. It is of usual size and normal except for the tail, about two inches long, and an outer soft shell covering the whole.

Looking through this outer shell, which is extremely thin, the tail may be seen to wag slightly.

FARM PAYS IN PHILIPPINES

American Who Started on Small Scale in Islands is Rapidly Growing Wealthy.

Manila.—Three years ago an American landed in Manila with a capital of \$75 and a theory. The American was J. H. Christen, the capital was cash and the theory was that any able-bodied man with the right stuff in him could make more than a bare living out of God's green earth, coupled with steady, hard work, irrespective of country, people or climate. There were plenty of people here to tell him, both in an official and unofficial capacity, that farming on a small scale and without capital was impossible for a foreigner in the Philippine Islands, but Christen stuck to his theory, and as a result has a property valued at more than \$5,000, which is now beginning to yield "velvet," as the saying is. The story of Mr. Christen's success is interesting in that it shows some of the difficulties that the American pioneer in the agricultural field over here has to contend with.

Mr. Christen first took up a homestead of forty acres, the limit allowed by law, on the Polillo river, in Rizal Province. He built a house with his own hands and planted out crops of garden truck. The crops were coming along nicely when a flood of October 25, 1907, devastated the surrounding country and ruined every plant on his place. Instead of giving up, then and there, as many others would have done, Mr. Christen made an application to the bureau of lands to have his homestead rights transferred to another tract of land, and the application being granted, he moved to a tract on Talm Island, in Rizal Province, situated in Cuso Canyon. He chose this locality because the hills surrounding it seemed to offer good protection from the elements.

During the first year he worked on an average sixteen hours each day and lived on the products of his land only. When he began his enterprise he weighed 219 pounds. At the end of a year he weighed only 150. But he had at least something to show for his labors. His rooster and hen had increased to a flock of more than a hundred chickens, and he had several acres under cultivation which promised to yield good results. The second year's work was not so hard, and the yield of his first crops was just right back into the farm, was the shape of additional live stock, imported seeds and plants and general improvements.

Now, at the end of three years, Mr. Christen has 700 chickens, a number of ducks, guinea fowls, turkeys, hogs, rabbits and goats, and more than 5,000 producing plants. Among these plants are 1,500 clusters of banana trees, yielding some choice market varieties, 50 orange and lemon trees, 1,500 kapoc trees, 1,000 Hawaiian papaya trees and 75 para rubber trees, besides beds of almost every variety of garden truck.

FLOWER SALADS ARE LOVELY

French Chef Declares Those Who Don't Try Roses Know Not What They Are Missing.

London.—Why do not English people eat chrysanthemum petals, rose leaves, snowdrop roots, nasturtium flowers and acorns?

London misses many remarkable flavors owing to its conservative taste, in the opinion of a famous French chef.

"In France," he said, "people eat frogs' legs and snails, and these English people know about, but will not touch."

"They might, however, try nasturtium flowers in their salads. They are very wholesome, and they taste very well and look very nice, too."

"Then there are snowdrop roots, which are said to be highly nutritious and to make a better 'salerp' than orchis root (a salep, you know, is a sort of salad made from orchis root)."

"In Turkey the women eat rose leaves made into a confection with sugar, and very nice it is. Rose jam is also good. You can, I believe, get it in England, but not easily."

"Then, why not try the petals of chrysanthemums? They make most excellent salad and they can be made to look very well, for they are of all colors."

"How many English people have heard of the acorns which grow on the small oak of southern Europe and Asia?"

"It grows, for instance, in Greece, where it is called ezinas. The acorn of it are very good to eat if boiled or roasted, and a delicious 'coffee' can be made of them. But the English people say, 'Are we swine to eat acorns?'"

"Then for the poor people there is a very large round gourd largely used in France. It is called 'potiron,' and it makes splendid soup, or it can be cooked in a pie with rice. It is cheap and most nourishing."

Rose leaf or orange blossom jam, and Jasmine jelly were also mentioned by this chef as being distinctly worth eating.

Heats Square Mile Orchard.

Kansas City, Mo.—To heat a square mile of orchard with oil stoves sounds improbable, but that is what W. H. Underwood of Hutchinson, Kan., will do this spring. Mr. Underwood, who is a fruit grower, is in Kansas City directing the manufacture of 19,500 stoves. These stoves, each of which has a reservoir which holds ten gallons of oil, will be placed in his apple orchard near Hutchinson to prevent damage to the trees by frost.

PARROT A DIPLOMATIC BIRD

Feathered Pet of Belgian Crown Prince With American Minister in Three Capitals.

Brussels.—There is in the Laeken palace a Brazilian parrot which enjoys the rare distinction of having been a diplomatic bird in the American legation at Rio Janeiro, Lisbon and Brussels before finally becoming the royal pet of Crown Prince Leopold of Belgium.

It is a fine specimen of the Amazon bird, with rich yellow and blue colorings, and was acquired by Charles Page Bryan during his stay as American minister in Brazil. The bird was Mr. Bryan's favorite pet and accompanied him to Lisbon when he was promoted to that post, where it occupied the place of honor in the marble hallway of the Palais Foz, the sumptuous quarters of the American legation in that city.

It had hardly been installed in Brussels when Colonel Roosevelt paid this city a flying visit last April. A regimental band hired by the burgo-master to welcome the African hunter was playing in front of the legation, and the parrot, whose musical instincts were suddenly awakened, insisted upon competing with the band, to the delight of the waiting crowd in the street.

The competition soon grew so fierce that the bird was relegated to a secluded spot in the attic before Colonel Roosevelt's arrival, but it figured prominently in all the papers the next day as among the nobilities present at the reception.

The bird's fame spread rapidly and reached Prince Leopold's ears. When Minister Bryan heard of the young prince's interest in the bird he immediately gave it to him.

During the first few days it was treated as an honored guest in King Albert's study at Laeken, but it was so talkative and so frequently interrupted royal councils that it was removed to Prince Leopold's playroom.

BEEF SECURED FROM MEXICO

Shipments Are Now Coming Out of Chihuahua to the United States in Great Quantities.

Chihuahua, Mex.—The shipment of cattle from this country to different parts of the United States is constantly on the increase, and during the past week two herds were shipped to California, one of them occupying 40 cars and the other 20 cars. The former of these shipments went to Fresno, the other to San Diego, both herds being shipped from ranches in Sonora.

During the past season large numbers of cattle have been shipped from this district, the bulk of them going to the big cattle markets in Missouri. All cattle shipped from this country are thoroughly inspected, both on the ranches and again when they reach the border, and the inspections at the ranches, while it is not recognized by the government at the border, is so thorough that it is very seldom that a herd, when it has been once inspected on the ranch, fails to pass the government inspection on the border.

According to the rules of inspection, when a herd has once been turned back at the border, or has been condemned at the ranch, no more cattle will be accepted for export from that ranch for a period of six months, after this time another inspection may be had; if the cattle pass inspection the shipping may be renewed.

The constant decrease in the cattle ranges of Texas has given a great boom to that industry in this country, and there are numerous cattle ranches moving over the border and locating in Mexico, where sufficient range land may still be obtained.

BEAUTY IN LOCUSTS' WINGS

Rare Relic of Seventeen Year Pest Owned by Pennsylvania Man is Quite Artistic.

Bethlehem, Pa.—James O. Kichline, a veteran resident of North Bethlehem, has a unique relic of the invasion in 1885 of the seventeen-year locusts in this vicinity. When locusts by the million overran the country there he spent his spare time gathering the insects. Then, at his leisure, he constructed out of them a wreath and a star. He took a year to do this, and in the construction of the wreath used many thousands of locusts.

The wreath itself is composed entirely of locusts' wings, arranged in flower-and-leaf fashion. The star's center is also composed of locusts' wings, while the six points are made of whole locusts.

The background of the star is made of leaves of locust wings.

The wreath and star stand two feet high by three feet wide, and this piece is but one of the many novelties made during his lifetime by Mr. Kichline, who is seventy-four years old.

New Hair Twist a Wonder.

New York.—There is a new cologne in town. The Pike's Peak twist made its entree along the Great White Way the other night. If it floats into some theater the man behind had better either go to sleep or equip himself with a pair of stilts.

The Pike's Peak twist rises straight up from the dome of the head in a sort of leaning tower of puffs. If made by hand it looks like a day's job. The hair is built up in a mass about 14 inches high, with the split bandeau girding it up and then a bunch of feathers about the bow to give it some chicness.

GOATS MAKE MONEY

How to Select Right Kind of Breed of Animals.

Angoras Not Good as Milk Producers and Animals From Pyrenees Are Considered Best—Milkman Is Leader.

Los Angeles, Cal.—Mrs. M. Z. Watrous writes as follows concerning the goat industry:

The following facts relative to the keeping of goats for profit were obtained directly from owners: "Persons not merely supporting pets, but gaining either an abundance of rich milk and cream for their own use or else an entire living from the sale of these greatly desired commodities.

Of course, there are different kinds of goats, at various prices, and the first thing a beginner should determine is exactly or approximately how much he is willing to pay for an animal and how much he expects to make on his investment.

In this country milk is the foremost—in most cases the exclusive—consideration in the keeping of goats, and this will be the only profit estimated in this article. Therefore, the intending purchaser who wants to make money should not waste it on a large number of inferior animals, each of which gives only two or three quarts of milk a day, yet consumes, as a herd, more than one-third of one-fourth what the same number of first-class milkers would. Buy, if possible, from some one who imports goats. There are three such persons in California; one in Pasadena, another in Santa Monica, and a third in San Jose. Remember one thing; no matter what may be said in praise of Angoras, they are not the goats for milk.

As importation is a tedious process—because the goats are held in quarantine for six months at New York—those who furnish the money for that purpose order only the best breeds, and they are the persons whose advice should be heeded. It will be economical to pay for instruction by letter from such an interview be out of the question, as there is nothing like starting right in a business.

The Milanais from the Pyrenees are the best goats of all. They can be bought in Switzerland for five to ten dollars apiece, but by the time New York is done with them we have to pay \$145 for each one; but none furnish less than a gallon of milk a day, while some give six quarts or even two gallons. Then, too, this beauty presents its owner with four kids at a time instead of only one or two, as an ordinary goat does. Another thing, the common variety, and even most of the Angoras, have an unpleasant odor; the very milk of the Mexican animal smells rather strong; but the high-breeds of foreign extraction are never offensive. They are cleanly in every respect.

Prices run down from the high mark mentioned to as low as \$10 or less per goat; but a new-born kid of the high class kind will bring \$10; \$40 for the quartet of one birth, as against one or two dollars apiece for the twins of Angora babies.

The Toggenburg is a good goat, too; it supplies from six to eight quarts of milk a day. So is the Schwarzthal a desirable breed, but still the Milanais is considered the leader.

One man who keeps 20 Swiss, 75 of the better Mexican and a few (five or ten) of the ordinary goats, averages 60 gallons of milk daily, which he readily sells for medicinal purposes at one dollar a gallon to an un-falling market.

The idea that these beasts eat any trash they may happen to find is not only false, but foolish. It is hardly likely that the rich fluid so prized as a life-sustainer is, after all, but a roundabout product from the ears of a new production from old papers or even a refinement of briars and thistles. As with chickens, so with goats. If we expect them to feed us wholesomely we must first feed them decently. Their proper food is, of course, nature's fresh grasses, but as these are not always available, other things must be substituted.

Here is what one woman feeds her two goats that have each given two quarts of milk a day for a year—when nine months' regular milking is thought good: Alfalfa during the morning, a pint of rolled barley at noon for each, a bran mash in the evening and a little oat hay to pick at during the night. Also salt occasionally.

Though they do not eat rubbish, goats are not sticklers for scenery, and a pile of stones, bits of rock, or broken pieces of flag-paving delight them, as they are naturally destructive, and can work off some of their activity on these hard things. It is said that the creatures live longer if allowed the free range of stony places.

As goat's milk sells for 25 cents a quart, and as no goat gives less than two quarts daily, it is not difficult to calculate how much may be counted as profit from a given number of animals after the cost of their feed is deducted.

Sixty Wolves Killed in France. Paris.—According to a report just issued by the ministry of agriculture, sixty wolves were killed in France during 1909. The majority of these animals were killed in the departments of the Vienne, Charente and Haute-Vienne. The French government pays a reward varying from \$600 to \$25 for each wolf.