

SHEAR NONSENSE

"Is she good at pyrography?" "You bet, especially her apple pies."—Baltimore American.

"Have you read Dobbly's last poem?" "I hope so, but I am afraid not."—Harper's Weekly.

Binks (in 1910)—What kind of a funeral did Howard have? Jinks—A mile of aeroplanes.—Life.

Hired Man—Shooting at air ships? Farmer—Yep; trying to bring down sumpin' to trim Mirandy's hat.—Puck.

"Drop in on us, any time," says one aviator to another. "You'll always find the skylight open."—Cleveland Leader.

Crawford—Why does your wife want to move? Crabshaw—She happened to see a house with two more closets in it.—Puck.

Thompson—Suppose a man should call you a liar, what would you do? Jones (hesitatingly)—What sized man?—Jewish Ledger.

She—Did you tell that photographer you didn't want your picture taken? He—Yes. She—What did he say? He—He said he didn't blame me.

Cynicus—That girl never says much, does she? Sillicus—Why, she talks all the time. Cynicus—That doesn't alter my contention.—Philadelphia Record.

She—Some day I want to show you our family tree. He (looking at her admiringly)—I should like to see it. It must be a peach.—Somerville Journal.

"Agnes sat playing bridge all the afternoon with her back to a glorious mountain view." "Yes. She is president of our Back to Nature Club."—Life.

He—We'd have won the foot ball game if our captain hadn't lost his head. She—Mercy! Was it so bad as that? I heard it was only an ear.—Boston Transcript.

"The time to save is when you're young." "That's all right, but a fellow doesn't earn anything till he gets well along and then it costs more to live."—Boston Herald.

Olga (all excited over Nora's account of her elopement)—How romantic! But wasn't you afraid of the ladder slipping? Nora—Oh, no! Mother was holding it.—Judge.

"He is suffering terribly. His teeth are locked up tightly." "Heavens, is it lockjaw?" "No, they're in a safe and he can't eat anything until he gets them out."—St. Louis Star.

Caller—My uncle died yesterday, sir, and I want you to officiate at the funeral. Deacon Jones—But I didn't know him. Caller—Good! You're just the man I want.—Kansas City Journal.

Jack—I was in a box at the opera last night. Tom—Were you? Jack—I should say I was. I took two ladies there and then discovered that I had left the tickets at home.—Boston Transcript.

Katie—What a lovely ring! Mattie—Isn't it. This ring was given me on my twenty-first birthday. Katie—Really? Why, how well preserved it is!—It's hardly a bit worn!—Cleveland Leader.

"So Miss Oldgirl is married at last." "Yes, and you should have seen her as she came up the aisle, made up to look like a young bride." "Who gave her away?" "Her wrinkles."—Baltimore American.

"I'm glad you've dropped in, Mrs. Irons," said Mrs. Lapsling, cordially greeting the visitor. "This has been a dreary day for me, and a call from a friend is like an Osiris in the desert."—Chicago Tribune.

Count Hickoff—Ze weather is so queer over here. I must get my overcoat out. The Helress—How lucky. Count Hickoff—In what way? The Helress—That you haven't lost the ticket.—Chicago Daily News.

Lady Shopper—I am looking for a suitable present for a gentleman. Clerk—What is your friend's occupation? Lady Shopper—He is an undertaker. Clerk—An undertaker. Let me show you a nice berry set.—Boston Transcript.

"But money doesn't always lead to happiness," said the poor young man who had just been handed the frigid mitt. "True," rejoined the fair owner of the cold-storage heart; "but it often facilitates the search."—Chicago Daily News.

The two men talked for a time in the train. "Are you going to hear Barkins' lecture to-night?" said one. "Yes," returned the other. "Take my advice and don't. I hear he is an awful bore." "I must go," said the other. "I'm Barkins."—Life.

He had managed to accumulate a lot of money by more or less questionable methods. "I should like to do something for the benefit of the town," he said. "Well," suggested the poor but otherwise honest citizen, "you might move out of it."—Chicago News.

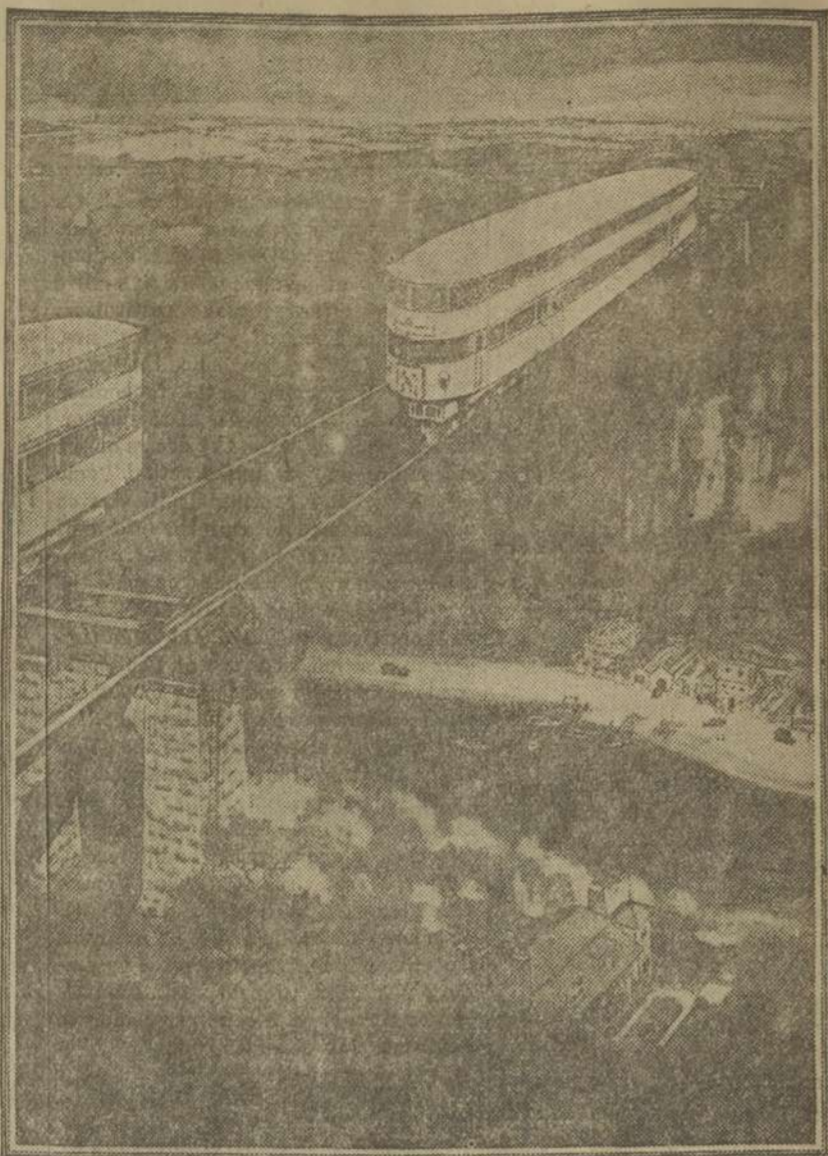
Canny Lass.

Woe Miss—Mamma, mayn't I take the part of a milkmaid at the fancy ball?

Mamma—You are too little.

Woe Miss—Well, I can be a condensed milk-maid.—Comic Cuts.

AN EXCITING PHASE OF MONO-RAIL TRAFFIC.



CROSSING A GORGE ON A SINGLE CABLE.

One of the most curious features of mono-rail gyroscopic traffic will be the novel types of bridge over which the new cars will pass. Mr. Brennan, the inventor, has already demonstrated that a large model car can pass across a wide gulf on a single strand. This fact opens up vistas of new modes of travel, and in the drawing above some idea is given of how a large mono-rail car such as the inventor has sketched out will pass across a river gorge. The double flanges would keep the wheels on the cable and the car would, of course, keep itself erect just as easily while resting on a cable as on a single land rail.—London Sphere.

Topics of Times

Holland has over 10,000 acres devoted to the cultivation of bulbs.

The thickness of a razor edge has been reckoned at about one-millionth of an inch.

The 12 principal crops of the United States alone show a value of over \$5,000,000,000 at last reports.

"Why not teach young men in the public schools," says the Wichita (Kas.) Beacon, "how to button pve or six small buttons in a minute?"

Children of the public schools in the province of Ontario are to have much cheaper school books, to be supplied by the provisional government under a five-year contract, from August 1, 1909.

A Boston firm of building wreckers has brought out a circular saw that will cut through nails and bolts as well as through wood, enabling them to cut into regular sizes of second-hand lumber that otherwise would be valueless.

The natural resources of Formosa include exceedingly valuable forests, gold, coal and sulphur mines. The most highly developed industries are sugar, rice, tea, camphor, opium and salt, the last three being government monopolies.

To allow moving pictures to be seen without darkening the room in which they are shown, a French inventor frames the screen with dark curtains, hung a short distance in front of it, to cut off all light except that from the projecting machine.

A negro hallboy in a big Brooklyn apartment house had been called in by the mistress to assist in unrolling a new rug in the parlor of the flat. When it was finally laid he looked at it a moment admiringly and remarked: "Dat do sut'nly look fine, ma'am. But it strikes me dat it ain't exactly compatible wid de paper."—New York Tribune.

Elinor Glyn and Yvette Guilbert are announced as recent members of anti-suffrage associations. Mrs. Glyn has joined an English society and Mme. Guilbert has been proposed for membership in an association in this country. Both women are said to have declared their inability to understand why any woman should wish to vote when she has health and a good husband.

Some fine fat jobs still exist under the fee system in Chicago's scheme of municipal government. For instance, there is the oil inspectorship, which pays the incumbent about \$20,000 a year. The Record-Herald cannot see where the work and compensation agree, and asks: "Has Chicago ever had an oil inspector whose services were nearly as valuable as those of the secretary of state and the chief justice of the United States combined?"

Dr. Ponza, director of the lunatic asylum at Alessandria, Italy, has cured many of his insane patients by confining them in rooms of some uniform color. Patients suffering from acute melancholia have become cheerful after confinement in a red room. But some forms of life are adversely

affected by certain colors. It has been observed, for instance, that flies and other insects do not flourish or are killed outright by the light which comes through blue glass or blue gauze.

Cyrus Townsend Brady, naval academy graduate, author and Episcopal priest, has had a new experience. His parish, St. George's, Kansas City, being without a church, the Jewish congregation of B'nai Jehudah offered its edifice as a place of worship for his parishioners. Dr. Brady, accepting the courtesy, now finds himself conducting Christian services in a Jewish synagogue. "The action of the Jews seems to me a significant example of modern church comity," said Dr. Brady. "Their generous offer is the first of the kind I have heard of."

Atlantic Ports Losing.

For the year 1908 the exports from the ports on the Gulf of Mexico increased 112 per cent as compared with 1899, while the gain from the ports on the Atlantic coast was only 12 per cent, Leslie's Weekly says. In imports the ocean gateways on the gulf do not figure so prominently as they do in exports, but their expansion in the decade was proportionately many times as great as that which the Atlantic seaboard scored. Nearness to the grain, meat and cotton producing regions and improved terminal facilities are the chief reasons why the ports on the gulf are making such large gains in shipments as compared with those of the Atlantic coast. Several north-and-south lines of railway have been built in the Mississippi valley in the last ten years. From the wheat and corn fields of the upper tier of States between the Alleghanies and the Rocky Mountains to New Orleans and Galveston there are easy grades, while for the east and west lines reaching New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore there is a mountain range to cross, except in the case of the New York Central, which skirts the northern end of that range. Galveston, which has made the largest growth of any of the gulf ports in the decade, is the world's most important shipping point for cotton.

As Others See Us.

"The man who can pick out the best picture of himself is a rare bird," said a photographer. "Even an author, who is reputedly a poor judge of his own work, exercises vast wisdom in selecting his best book compared with the person who tries to choose his best photograph. Every famous man or woman who has been photographed repeatedly has his or her favorite picture. Usually it is the worst in the collection. It shows him or her with an unnatural expression, sitting or standing in an unnatural attitude. The inability to judge of his best picture must be due to the average man's ignorance of how he really looks, or perhaps it can be partly attributed to a desire to look other than he does. A stout man will swear that the photograph most nearly like him is the one that makes him look thin, a thin man the one that makes him look stout, the solemn man selects the jolliest picture, the jovial man the most cadaverous."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Found to Be Better than Glue.

A composition of wax and pitch is now being used instead of glue in the making of organs for tropical countries where the damp climate causes glue to peel off.

POSSIBLY YOU ARE NOT LAZY.

Famous Physician Says Weariness Is Result of Physical Conditions.

Sir Lauder Brunton, the famous English physician, says that weariness is the result of physical conditions and the chronically tired are not always lazy.

One constantly hears the complaint from patients," writes Sir Lauder "that they are 'always tired.' Other people term them simply lazy, but it is quite possible that in many of these cases there is some physical condition in the person which renders exertion specially distasteful to them, although other people cannot observe it."

Sir Lauder illustrates his point by a story of an eminent medical professor who, while acknowledged to possess brilliant abilities, was accused by his friends of being lazy. He died at an early age of heart disease, and his friends were then willing to admit that there was some excuse for his laziness.

In discussing the relation between mental and physical fatigue Sir Lauder Brunton makes the striking declaration that "it is a mistake to regard muscular fatigue as a stimulus to the brain, or mental fatigue as a stimulus to the muscles. Long-continued muscular exertion renders the brain anaemic." This fact he illustrated by the following story:

"Many years ago I used to write for a medical periodical. On returning home one night after a very heavy day's work at the hospital and feeling completely exhausted I found a note from the editor, 'Please let me have an article on such-and-such a subject; to-night.' I sat down with pen and paper, but not a word could I write. Then I lay back lazily and began to speculate as to the cause of my want of ideas. I thought: 'The brain is the same as it was yesterday, but yesterday I was not tired; perhaps it is the feebler circulation that prevents the brain from acting. If the blood does not go up to the brain, I may bring the brain down to the blood.' I, therefore, placed my head flat on the table, looking sideways at the paper, and began to write easily. On raising my head again every idea fled, so I placed my head again down on the table, and finished the article in that position.

"A similar instance was afforded by the practice of the late W. G. Lecky, the historian. He had a large magnificent head, mounted upon a long neck and a willowy body. He found out that his circulation was not sufficiently strong to raise the blood to his brain in sufficient quantity for its fundamental activity in the upright position. For this reason he wrote his history while kneeling on a sofa which had a large broad head. This served him for a writing table, and in this kneeling position he wrote all his works, the blood having thus to travel to his brain in a horizontal line, instead of upward against the force of gravity, as it would have had to do in the sitting position."

The secret of being tired apparently lies in the fact that the muscles when in work give off poisons which bring on fatigue. Worry and sorrow are also given as causes of weariness.

"OLD PETE" IS DEAD.

Honest Negro Paid Notes Securing Freedom 20 Years After War.

Peter Morton, or "Old Pete," a colored man and a quaint character of antebellum days, died at his home in Geneva court recently, the Cincinnati Enquirer says. He did not know his exact age, which was about 80 years, and there is probably no one now living who does. When asked about it he would say that he was "a right smart sized boy the year the stars fell and when Jenny Lind came down the Ohio River."

"Old Pete," since the close of the Civil War, has at different times been a family servant and man-of-all-work in many prominent families on the hills, and in Avondale, and varied his employment occasionally by doing porter work in downtown stores. It is related of him, and the story was confirmed by himself, that before the Civil War he was the property of a Kentucky gambler, who went broke, and "Pete" with all other chattels possessed by the gambler, had to be sold to satisfy his creditors.

The officers of a bank in Maysville, Ky., who had taken a liking to the colored man on account of his genial good nature and strict honesty, offered to buy his freedom for him if he would execute his personal note in their favor and make his payments upon it, according as he was able, until they were repaid. This he agreed to, but with the close of the Civil War and the scattering of his friends far and wide, Pete fell into hard lines from lack of a permanent home and steady employment, but he never forgot his financial obligations to his banker benefactors and he continued making his payments to them for twenty years after the close of the war until the debt was finally paid. Often he was told that the claim was outlawed and he could not be legally forced to pay it, but he invariably replied that his benefactors had trusted him and no matter how long it took he would pay them back to the last cent.

A Trying Time.

"Colonel," asked the beautiful girl, "when was the most trying moment of your life?"

"It was when I went to my wife's father for the purpose of asking him to let me have her. He was very deaf, and I had to explain the matter before twenty clerks."—Chicago Record-Herald.



Diversified Farming.

It is always refreshing and inspiring to see others doing good things and producing superior results, says the Chicago Weekly Inter Ocean. The man who is doing things a little better than the average man is a benefactor to the race. If he demonstrates through his work and results that a better living can be made from certain conditions he is doing a work in the world of the highest economic order.

In recounting the work and deeds of man we are prone to select almost impossible ideal types, often so high that they are little understood, almost impossible to copy by the masses. We often pass by the good man who is doing valuable things in a small way and which in the end are worth more to the masses than many of the so-called great things that have popular airing. Many small good things are worth more to humanity than a few large things. The small every-day deeds are what feed, clothe, shelter and educate the world. Every seed counts for something.

Farming is more becoming a business and science of the highest order.

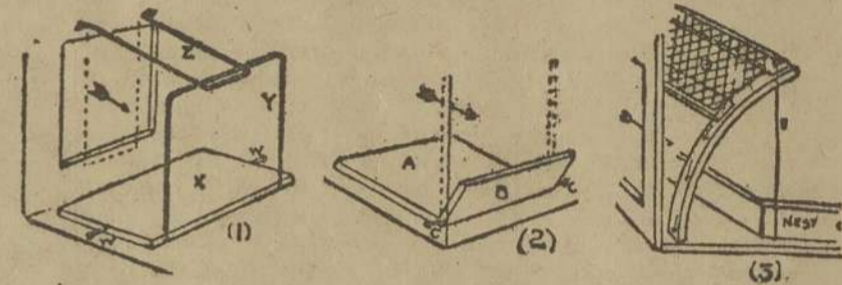
Chronic Heaves.

There is no sure cure for a chronic case of heaves. The best plan is to sell the horse for what he is worth; or, if that does not agree with your conscience, give him the following treatment: Five grains of arsenic once every 24 hours for two weeks, then omit a week and go on as before. For a small horse give four grains instead of five; for a very large horse, six. Heaves are caused by a weak condition of a nerve, and anything you can do to relieve this will help the horse. Feed well and get him in good condition, but give very little rough feed, and even that is best cut fine and made moist.—B. Apple Creek, Ohio.

Raising Cattle.

The surest money that one can make in handling cattle is to start with a drove of steer calves and grow them to feed lot age and size, and if market conditions are then right to finish before selling. Whether or not the finishing is done, the gain made in growing is a sure gain, and the maker of it can not lose. He who stands to lose or make is he who buys near-

TRAP NESTS.



Three forms of trap nests used by English poultrymen are shown in the illustration. In No. 1 a bolting wire arrangement is used; X is a pivoting board, with stout wire (Y) supporting Z, the trap-wire, which falls across the hen's entry, and is usually held there by an iron rod, which drops after it into a slot. The hen's weight on the nest side of the board (X) tilts the wire (Y) and releases the trap-wire (Z), which falls into the dotted position. Illustration 2 shows another method, whilst 3 shows a shallow tray hung on pivots or hooks at the side for the nest. At one front corner an upright wire (E) rises through a hole in one of the curved bearers which carry the curved shutter, consisting of two wood rails, carrying fine wire netting (D). The hen, entering, steps on front of the nest, which, dropping, carries the wire down and releases the trap; the latter, sliding down the curved bearers, imprisons the hen, who can, however, see out.

Land is becoming scarce or rather the population is increasing to such an extent that there are more people to occupy the land, resulting in each land holder having less average. This being the case, and since present-day living demands more than in days gone by, it remains for those who hold and cultivate land to make more out of it than did the farmers of a generation ago. Each farm unit must become the scene of greater activity and greater production. Not only must two bushels of corn grow where only one bushel grew before, but the farmer must keep enough live stock of the highest order to profitably consume not only the two bushels of corn, but the entire corn, plants, ears, blades, stalks, and all, returning a profit in animal growth and production and an equivalent profit in manure as a by-product for increasing and maintaining the fertility of the land he cultivates. Unless some unknown future means of fertilizer supply is discovered or developed it will become an absolute necessity for every farmer to practice diversified farming in order to secure needed supplies for fertilizers.

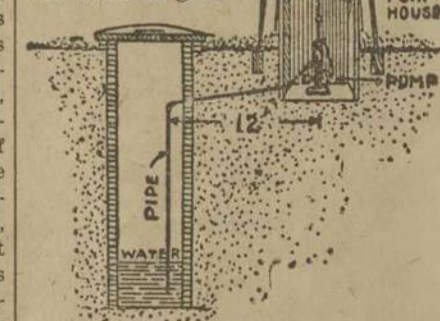
On the average farm we hold that diversified farming is by far the best method of securing the greatest permanent returns from the land. The growing of the plant crops and the breeding and keeping of live stock of some kind, or several kinds, are means of producing highly marketable goods and at the same time of manufacturing high grade fertilizers at home, saving the cost of double transportation and making more efficient use of commercial fertilizers that may be purchased. Live stock and their products now command very high prices, and all indications point to the fact that they will be at very good prices from now on indefinitely. The diversified farmer is able to make a living with the failure of a crop, or even with the failure of several crops, if he does not raise enough grain to feed his animals he can buy grain to feed them and at least not lose money on them; if the animal crop fails he can sell his grain. There is seldom an all-around failure of both plant and animal crops. Also, making the breeding and growing of high bred live stock on the farm a strong side line allows the farmer to turn to good account much roughage and waste feeds that could not be sold on the market or utilized to advantage in any other way.

We Have Much to Learn.

In Europe, where land values compel intensive farming, 300 bushels of potatoes to the acre is the average. In the United States the average is less than 90. Our farmers have much to learn. The trouble with us is that our farms are too big. As many dollars can be taken from 20 acres properly cultivated as from 100 poorly cropped.

How to Pump Water.

A correspondent asks how he can pump water from a well 20 feet deep which is 12 feet away from the windmill. The cut shows just how to do it. Set the pump directly beneath the mill, and if possible in a pit in the ground, and protect it with a small house. Run the pipe below frost line to the well, as illustrated. An ordinary pump will do the work. The lower the pump is set, that is, the closer to the level of the water, the better it will do the work. A good suction pump will have no difficulty in drawing water to a height of 20 feet, but if you can gain four feet by setting the pump in a pit, so much the better.—Farm and Home.



Dairy Notes.

When cows are allowed a reasonable amount of exercise healthier and stronger calves are usually obtained.

Success in dairying demands that a man breed and develop his own cows as far as possible, and buy, if he must, wisely.

No man can develop a cow into a high producer unless that cow had an inherited quality of development to start with.

There is a certain class of dairy farmers who refuse to sit down and figure, through fear that it will upset a few of their pet theories.

Common sense is better than the best dairy instruction of the day, but it clearly shows a lack of common sense when a dairyman discards all recent investigations.