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AIDED ITS BLIND COMPANION

Australian Stockman Tells of Bullock That Took Care of Another Which Was Sightless.

Peter S. Mitchell, a stock raiser from Melbourne, Australia, says that the cattle business is at present the best in the history of Australia. He says that his people are hard at work restoring the country to normal and that they are very anxious to get the world trade back to pre-war conditions.

"My father was first to bring the Black Poll cattle into Australia 40 years ago," said Mr. Mitchell at New York, "and they have developed to be the best for our section. They are hardy, flourish on ferns, tree leaves and bark, where other cattle would starve, and they grow to great size, with weight evenly distributed, and the fat running in hair lines through the rump steaks even. There is a quick market for anything on the hoof that is fairly fat, and prices are very good."

"We discovered a blind bullock in one of the herds that came in, and another bullock had adopted it and fathered it all the time. It was found to be blind only when we noticed that its companion signaled to it constantly and led it to water, through gates and narrow runs. If at any time it got lost its friend would never rest until he had located it."

"None of the other bullocks paid any attention to the blind one and the protection the foster parent gave to the unfortunate bullock was a never ending source of comment and speculation. When both, fattened after 18 months on our place, were driven to the shipping station 60 miles distant the blind one was led through the difficult places by his friend and generally cared for day and night."

WANT LANGUAGE UP TO DATE

Common Sense Behind "Literary Revolution" That Is Now Prevailing in China.

What is termed the literary revolution in China aims at a reform of the language used in books, magazines, newspapers and public discussion. The outsider will jump to the conclusion that this means an attempt to encourage a phonetic substitute for ideographic characters. Not at all. There is a movement to supplement ideographs with phonetic signs to show their pronunciation, the aim being quite as much to standardize pronunciation as make it easier to learn to read. But this movement arouses no such interest and excitement as the literary revolution.

The latter is an attempt to make the spoken language the standard language for print. Literary Chinese is as far away from the vernacular as Latin is from English, perhaps further. It is a speech of 2,000 years ago, adorned and frozen. To learn it is to learn another language. The reformers were actuated by the practical impossibility of making education really universal when in addition to the difficulties of mastering the ideographs, children in the elementary schools are compelled to get their education in terms of a foreign language.

They are actuated even more by the belief that it was not possible to develop a literature which shall express the life of today unless the spoken language, the language of the people, is used. Apart from the employing and enriching of the vulgar tongue, it is not possible to develop general discussion of the issues of today, social, moral, economic.—New Republic.

To Develop Wild Pears.

The world's largest stock of pear seedlings of a wild, blight-resisting variety found in Manchuria, is located on the Loma Rica ranch near Grass Valley, Cal. The young trees are from seeds brought directly from China and number about 100,000.

Three pomological experts from the United States Department of Agriculture, Professors Allison, Wright and Kingsman, recently inspected the stock and approved the experimental work.

The original trees, known as the Pynus usuriensis, are found growing in the ancient burying ground of the kings of the Manchurian dynasty, and it is only since the overthrow of the dynasty that the seeds became available. The tract is said to be vast and to be grown to trees of immense size.

By grafting the commercial varieties of pears upon this stock good results are expected to be obtained.

Pyrenees Put to Work.

Efforts to harness the water power going to waste in the Pyrenees and transform it into electricity are being intensified.

Engineers have surveyed entire mountain ranges and have succeeded already in controlling many torrents and making them furnish power. Altogether 200,000 horsepower now is furnished and capital amounting to 300,000,000 pesetas have been invested.

Every day sees additions to the amount of power available, and engineers employed in the work estimate that in a few years Catalonia will be able to do without coal.

A Change of Calling.

"You are going to have some sad disillusionments," said the mysterious Egyptian.

"I've already had one," said the client.

"How is that?"

"When this carnival company came through here last year you were selling 'hot dogs' and pink lemonade."

Birmingham Age-Herald.

REGULAR EVERY-DAY AFFAIR

Most Mothers With Small Sons Will Recognize This as Strictly Accordin to Schedule.

Aw, mother, not yet! Just lemme stay out a little longer—just five minutes. Just one minute? Aw, gee! Get ready? Why, ain't I all right to go this way? Why not? Aw, gosh, not my shirt! Yes, I see those edges on the cuffs, but I can keep my coat sleeves down over them. Gee whiz, you're pertickler. Why do you have to see my shoes? I did black them, just yesterday.

Yes, I'm all done washing; no, didn't hurry too much. Lemme alone—my neck's all right! Well, I'm sure I don't know why those dark places are on my hands; why, I just washed them. Ouch! Don't brush my hair so hard! Well, the place that sticks up is right over the bump, so that's why I couldn't brush it there. No, I haven't done my nails yet; I was just getting ready to when you made me wash my hands again.

I don't need anything. Well, then, just a sweater, not my overcoat. Aw, gee! No, I don't know where my gloves are; I don't need them, anyhow. Gosh, not my rubbers! Aw, mother! The mud isn't very deep, and it takes about a year to put the darn things on. Gee whiz.

Well, g'by! Yes, I am hurrying. Well, I'm gonna start right off, soon as I speak to Bill a minute; he's right up at the corner, and he might be going my way. Aw, why not?

Well, a'long!

(Departs with the hug and smile that cancel all his sins, and a great peace settles upon the household.)—Life.

"RODEOS" FULL OF INTEREST

Exceedingly Interesting Annual Exhibitions That Are Held North of the Arctic Circle.

In the vicinity of the Kobuk river, Alaska, 50 miles north of the Arctic circle, there are held annual "rodeos," which for picturesqueness, skill of exhibitions, and in popularity are comparable to the "roundups" of the western part of the United States—yet there is not a single horse or steer or saddle or "six-gun" within hundreds of miles of the scene.

These rodeos are conducted under the auspices of the United States bureau of education for natives of Alaska, for the advancement of the reindeer industry. There are 150,000 reindeer in the territory, according to Popular Mechanics Magazine.

At the fair all matters pertaining to reindeer are discussed, and the herders come to an understanding regarding grazing ground rights and similar matters. Government representatives give talks on reindeer breeding and offer scientific guidance for the development of an improved stock. Recently serious consideration has been given to a means of exporting the growing thousands of surplus deer to the United States.

Within the next year or two, it is anticipated, a market for distributing the meat will be established in the United States. It costs less than \$3 per head to raise deer, which will dress 150 pounds of choicest meat.

Men Dodge Age Proposition.

Service of women citizens on the registration boards leads to interesting personal revelations about their neighbors.

A man who holds a position in the city government had always given his real age, now 48, before women sat on the boards. When his wife went in to register for the first time one of the women on the board said to her:

"Oh, Mrs. Blank, isn't your husband an old codger?"

"Why, no," said Mrs. Blank, "I don't think 41 is so very old."

"But he registered as 47."

Silence fell and Mrs. Blank entered the booth to fill out her enrollment ballot.

Next year, when the husband entered the registration place and was asked by a man on the board his age, he replied, "42."

The woman whose undue interest had evidently caused a family Bible meeting looked at him and her look said volumes. But he stared her down, and so the record stands.—New York Evening Post.

Fill Fountain Pen Without Dropper.

How can the fountain pen be filled without having a dropper handy? A man does not usually carry a dropper with him. But in the crowd at hand there is likely to be someone who has a self-filling fountain pen. If he can be induced to lend it for a moment the trick is done, says the Popular Science Monthly.

Take the self-filling pen and steep it in ink until it is full. Assure the owner that no damage will be done to the point of his valuable self-filler and permit him to watch the following performance: Press the lever of the borrowed pen, and through its point discharge its contents of ink into the barrel of your own pen. Then refill the borrowed pen and return it.

Retired to Private Life.

"What's become of Congressman Twobble, who used to pose as the man of the hour in this part of the country?"

"He met the usual fate of 'sixty-minute men,'" said Squire Witherbee.

"How was that?"

"A lot of his constituents got together and decided his hour was up."

—Birmingham Age-Herald.



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