

# New York News Letter

NEW YORK, Oct. 5—The wealth of the United States is increasing at the rate of over \$3,000,000 a day from its agricultural products alone is the statement made on the authority of no less an expert than Secretary of Agriculture Wilson in the October number of Appleton's magazine. As a large part of the \$4,000,000,000 worth of cereal, cotton and other crops which it is estimated that the country is producing this year will go to market within the next few months, it is believed by authorities here that this great outpouring of national wealth will mark a vigorous revival of prosperous conditions in lines of general industry. Now that it is definitely assured that the principal crops will be large and will command good prices, it is predicted that the beginning of 1909 will mark the termination of the period of depression that has existed for the past year. The Appleton article graphically describes the various processes of handling the crops which it describes as "our biggest job." It shows that the world-wide mechanism centering in the Chicago Board of Trade by which the grain-grower in this country is able to take advantage of every favorable price factor in every part of the world, and to sell his crop at cash figures for future delivery, is of vast financial benefit to the American farmer in bringing to his door a world-market for every bushel of grain that he grows. The system not only of handling crops but also of collecting and distributing crop information has been perfected to a greater extent in the United States than anywhere else in the world, and this fact is pointed out as accounting in no small degree for the unquestioned supremacy of America among the food-producing countries of the world. Without this machinery to register the relation of supply and demand, the chief agricultural products would be subject to sudden and violent price fluctuations that would make farming one of the most hazardous of occupations instead of as now one of the most secure. A fact indicated by the statistics quoted which is likely to come as a surprise to many persons is that the hay crop now ranks second in money value among all the varieties of agricultural output, being exceeded only by corn.

While New York's position as the largest city in America is unquestioned, it is no longer the largest city of Americans. The latter place, as nearly as can be determined, belongs either to Philadelphia or Boston. Father Knickerbocker, however, has other titles to compensate for the loss of this one for his domain ranks not only as the largest city in America, but as the largest Irish, Jewish and various other kinds of cities. According to latest statistics New York, while falling behind so far as Americans are concerned, has many times the Hebraic population of any other city. It is also the largest Irish city in the world so far as population is concerned. There are more Germans in New York than in any city in Germany, except Berlin and possibly Hamburg, and if the present rate of increase keeps up the greatest city in America within two decades will be also the greatest German city in the world. In addition to all this New York is the second largest Greek city in the world, on the basis of population, and has a larger Italian population than any city in Italy, except Naples, Milan and Rome. The great majority of these buildings being more than the combined population of four of the six New England states. This enormous foreign element may be accounted for by the fact that during the past year the increase in population has been greater than in all states west of the Mississippi river. About 3900 factories in this city employ 130,000 women, the great majority of whom are foreign. Sixty-six languages are spoken in this modern Babel. Among these English ranks only seventh. More than fifty five percent of the voting population is foreign by birth. Altogether, while New York may claim to be the largest cosmopolitan center in the world and to contain the largest single aggregation of several nationalities, it can no longer claim to be the largest American city as far as native-born or English-speaking persons alone are considered.

Although there are over a thousand publications regularly issued in New York, ranging from dailies of many editions to scientific quarterlies, and printed in every language from baseball to Chinese, the enterprising man is still able to find new fields for specialized organs. This is proved by the establishment of a new period-

ical called "The Janitor," the first number of which has just appeared. As its name indicates the new magazine is devoted to the interests of janitors of whom the editor asserts that there are 400,000 in the Greater City. If this figure is correct it will be seen at once that there are opportunities to build up a tremendous circulation among the lords of the furnace and the garbage-can who rule over the destinies of a majority of New York's population. Special departments in the new publication probably will be devoted to telling how to extract tips from reluctant householders and how to quell rebellious tenants. One of the announced objects is to form the janitors into a union, a result that would be viewed with more or less apprehension as such an organization would have the residents of the city at its mercy and could bring them to terms in short order by turning off the heat and refusing to let the useful dumbwaiter to travel up and down with its load of groceries and other supplies. Aside from these possibilities of tyrannous power the new periodical is an interesting illustration of the extent to which specialized journalism is being developed.

Office boys may come and office boys may go, but New York has an office boy who apparently goes on forever. He is a promising youngster of 89 years, who in spite of handicaps has held his job for sixty-nine years. He began his work in 1839 and by constant application expects to be able to end his career exactly where he began it. He was office boy two decades before the Civil War, during that conflict, and ever since, serving three generations of employers. Naturally this youth who claims the record for office boy service, after a term longer than the allotted life of man, is unique among office boys of the younger generation. Perhaps the most remarkable thing about him is that during all his working life this paragon of office boys whose name is Samuel Brackett, has never had a vacation. Claiming to be the oldest boy in the world he has laid down after sixty-nine years service in the same position certain laws which make for success. "Strict attention to business is the way to get ahead in the world," says Brackett, the 89-year-old world's champion office boy, in spite of the fact that he has never gotten ahead at all. But in spite of his age and service "Sammy" as he is still called by the grandchildren of his employer, is one of the most efficient office boys in the city. Curiously enough his present employer is that Mrs. Fisher, who is popularly known as the "Anvil Queen" and who was denominated by Wu-Ting-Fang, Chinese minister to the United States, "the most wonderful woman in the world."

Pat Shoedy, the veteran gambler, is credited with paraphrasing the saying that a sucker is born every minute by the assertion that in Manhattan a new scheme for catching suckers is hatched every day. It is safe to say however, that the latest bunco game, which has just come to light here, is one that has seldom been equalled in originality and ingenuity. That it justifies its discoverer's description as a "smooth scheme" is shown by the fact that the eminent sporting celebrity and Tammany politician, "Big Tim" Sullivan, is reported to have been one of its victims. The new game, which can be worked only in connection with cards, was discovered entirely by accident. A notorious gambler of this city recently lost an eye in a spirited altercation. Upon his recovery it was replaced by a glass substitute and it was entirely by chance that he discovered that the artificial eye was much better than a real one. While engaged in a game of cards the owner of the glass eye suddenly observed that the faces of the cards held by his adversary were reflected in the gold ring which he was wearing, the glass eye acting as a reflector. Improving on this discovery he perfected an arrangement by which an adversary's cards are reflected from a glass eye to a specially constructed seal ring containing a mirror. So successful have the results of this new game proven that it is proposed in some of the circles where games of chance are not exactly frowned upon to make all strangers prove that they are not equipped with "phony blinkers" before permitting them to play.

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### HE ATE THE SOAP.

Garland Would Have Swallowed It If It Had Killed Him. Augustus H. Garland, who was attorney general under President Cleveland, was very fond of practical jokes and during his term of service in the senate frequently turned the laugh on his colleagues. Senators Voorhees and Vest, with whom he was very friendly, finally determined to turn the tables. Mr. Garland had a habit, like Voorhees, of munching candy, and Vest and Voorhees made it up between them to take advantage of his fondness for sweets to play their trick. They had some tempting looking chocolate caramels prepared, with the interior filled with brown soap. These they took to the senate chamber, and Voorhees placed them on his desk. The lid being off, when Mr. Garland sauntered down the aisle he noticed them at once.

"What have you there, Dan?" he inquired. Voorhees looked up carelessly from his writing and responded: "Caramels. Help yourself." Garland needed no second invitation and, picking up two or three, placed one in his mouth. Steadily he chewed away, his face betraying no sign of the conflict within him. This alarmed Voorhees, who went to Vest's desk and said: "He's eating them, Vest! What shall we do? The stuff will kill him sure!" Senator Vest replied that it could do no more than make him sick. Garland swallowed the stuff, although he was foaming at the mouth from the soap-suds. He related the incident afterward with great gusto and said he would have swallowed it if it had killed him.

### FLY FOGS IN INDIA.

A Plague That at Times Makes Life Unbearable in Calcutta. One of the evils of Calcutta is the plague of green flies, from which the whole city suffers at certain times in the year. The happy hunting time of these minute insects is during the late autumn and early winter. They are a serious nuisance both in and out of doors. They wing their way through all the open doors into the houses and into every room, making life unbearable. Like most insects, the little green flies have a great affection for the flame. On occasion the inhabitants have found it necessary to put out all the gaslights, even at a public dinner, and to take their meals practically in deep gloom, illuminated only by flickering candles.

Naturally it is not at all pleasant to go on eating with dense clouds of insects swarming overhead or, roasted to death, falling about one in pattering showers. They seem to spring into existence from nowhere. Perhaps it is almost dusk when the lights of the street lamps are becoming visible. Then suddenly the air, which a moment before was quite clear, is full of myriads of green flies, drifting in misty patches and obscuring the street lamps. Often the number of insects which have been scorched to death is so great that little heaps of them collect inside the lamps, while bucket loads have to be swept up from the roads next morning.—London Answers.

### Saved His Boy's Life

"My three year old boy was badly constipated, had a high fever and was in an awful condition. I gave him two dozens of Foley's Orino Laxative and the next morning the fever was gone and he was entirely well. Foley's Orino Laxative saved his life." A. Wolkush, Casimer, Wis. T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

### Oysters.

Bay Center Oyster House, 420 Bond street. Oysters wholesale and retail. George Saunders, Prop. 9-27-tf

### Chinook and Ilwaco.

The launch Hulda I. will leave on the tide, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, two round trips, for Chinook. Landing at Lurline dock for freight and passengers. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, for Ilwaco, with freight and passengers.

CAPT. JOHN HAAGBLOM. 10-4-tf

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