

KANSAS BABY CROP IS RUNNING SHORT

HARD BLOW STRUCK AT SUNFLOWER STATE

Census Report Shows Yield of Infants Not in Proportion to Grain Crops—Stork is Flying Over State—Babies Shipped to Texas.

Topeka, Kan.—The baby crop in Kansas is falling off. Despite the fact that in corn, wheat and oats Kansas this year astounded the world with a message that out of those three crops alone it made \$15,000,000 more than any year before in its history, the sad admission must be made that the stork came to Kansas more than 2,000 less times in the last fiscal year than in the same months of 1907 and 1908.

The whole baby crop for the Sunflower state for the last fiscal year, concerning which all statistics are now collected, numbers 23,550. The fiscal year of 1907-1908 returned a total of 25,986 babies born in Kansas. At that time the antagonists of race suicide were worried; now they are scared. The births for the 1906-1907 fiscal year totaled 25,990.

State Gains 50,692 Persons. But the real tragedy begins in answer to this question, asked by a man who thought he might explain the cause of the falling off in "little things." He asked: "But maybe, sir, (adjusting his spectacles), there has been something peculiar about the population, increase or decrease, and we can account for it in that way?"

That is just where the backbone of any excuse for the baby shortage was broken. In 1907 Kansas gained 35,000 people over 1906. In 1908 the state gained but 6,539 people over 1907, a tremendous slump, due to a falling off of activity in the gas and oil regions. But this year the light shines forth with the joyful news that Kansas gained 50,692 people over 1908. Just match those two figures, and then offer an excuse for 2,000 less babies in Kansas this year than last. If you dare!

Report of Census Bureau. Dr. S. J. Crombie, secretary of the State Board of Health, just finished sending these figures of the baby crop along with a lot of others, to the United States Census Bureau, when he was asked if he could make any apologies on behalf of the state.

"None sir," he replied. "There are two reasons, to be plain and frank. One is that in a good many homes babies are becoming unpopular. They won't have them and they don't have them. The other reason is that a great many women are engaged in commercial life, and do not marry. Those two things tell the whole thing in a nutshell."

Babies Sent to Texas. In one of the doctor's bulletins was an article written by some Texan scoring Texas people because a carload of babies were shipped into the Lone Star state for adoption. It was the Texan's idea that "Home Production of Babies" should be the issue of the hour in that state.

"He is right," said Dr. Crombie, "and the idea is right anywhere. Babies are brought into Kansas and adopted—a good many of them, I have no doubt. There is no reason why Kansas should not have a first-class home production. There is nothing to hinder a good baby crop in Kansas. Nothing wrong with this state. A family without a baby has missed the one best bet of life."

High Priced Manager. Man Who Will Take Charge of New Gotham Hotel Commands Big Salary. New York.—Fifty thousand dollars a year for managing a cafe! That is the salary to be given Henri Prager, for many years the manager of the Hotel Savoy in London, for his services at the new food house to be opened next week in Broadway, between Fortieth and Fiftieth. The management announces that this new place will be by far the swellest in New York, and it is expected to become favorite among the "swagger set."

This hunger hat will introduce a brand new wrinkle for diners, by means of which they will be put in direct communication with the chef. It involves an endless chain of conveyors or dumb waiters, planned to connect diner, waiter and chef, that the first may get what he wants in the shortest possible time. Henri Prager thinks the device will be especially welcomed in America.

There will be displayed over each table a number that corresponds to the particular check to which the waiter is attending. As the diner signifies his readiness for each course, the waiter will touch a button at the table, which will signal the kitchen below. The next course will be put on the conveyor at once, the waiter will start toward the dumb waiter shaft, and they should arrive together.

For men in evening dress two rooms will be set aside for supper and one for dinner. These will be the main and balcony rooms. For men not in evening dress two other rooms will be provided. The most formal rooms are expected to be popular with women who have fine gowns to display.

The waiters, it was announced yesterday are to be Americans having a command of at least two foreign languages. They will be provided with baths, dressing rooms, clothes pressing and manicure facilities, and will undergo inspection before going on duty.

Mysticism Having a Revival in London. London.—Portents suggest that the winter craze of London society will be a revival of mysticism. Spirituistic mediums are filling the pa-

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I had the most debilitating cough a mortal was ever afflicted with, and my friends expected that when I left my bed it would surely be for my grave. Our doctor pronounced my case incurable, but thanks be to God, four bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery cured me so completely that I am all sound and well.—MRS. EVA UNCAPHER, Grovertown, Ind.

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pers with their advertisements; in Bond street the palmists and astrologers are doing a rushing trade, and one enterprising woman has hit upon the profitable idea of combining clairvoyance with cookery and has opened a cafe where her waiting customers curb their impatience with tea at 6 pence a cup.

There is also such an increased trade in crystals that a number of Bond street shops are bringing out their old stock and relegating jig saw and banjo to the top shelves. Superstition is rampant. Charms and mascots are popping up everywhere—in the jewelers', in the fancy shops and even in the windows of the chemists. Germs of good luck, horrible microbe looking creations in silver and gold are being sold for the watch chain and necklace, together with miniature "billikins," "smilaxops" and "chase glooms," while a Hebrew charm called a "komeir," made from silver 6 pence perforated, with a Hebrew symbol, are commanding a ready sale.

SOLDIER DIES AT AGE OF 104 YEARS

Capetown.—The death has just occurred at Queenstown, Cape Colony, of a centurion named Desirez Cornelius Meedom. He was a Belgian, having been born at Belet, in the province of Zperin, on August 2, 1805.

As a boy of 19 he was a drummer in Napoleon's army at the battle of Waterloo, his father, Josephus Meedom, being also present as a soldier in the ranks.

Desirez fought for the cause of France in the Crimea, during the course of which his nine brothers were killed and he was wounded 10 times.

After wanderings in various parts of the world he arrived with the German legion in South Africa in 1857. Finding his way to Queenstown he became a member of the Dutch Reformed church, of which shortly afterwards he became caretaker, a post he held for nearly 40 years before he retired, still in full possession of his faculties, to make place for a younger man.

WOMAN ACCEPTS CHALLENGE TO TYPEWRITING CONTEST

Spokane, Wash.—Lottie L. Smith of Spokane, has accepted the challenge of H. B. Press of Seattle, graphophone transcriber in the Alaska coal inquiry here, to a contest of typewriting for speed and accuracy. She would limit the competition to 125 pages of copy from direct dictation at an average speed of 75 words a minute, accuracy to be the main

point. The match will take place in Spokane or Chicago early in January if Press accepts the new conditions. His original challenge was a Marathon contest at a speed of not less than 50 words a minute, to continue until one of the typists gives up. One of Miss Smith's feats was to make the entire transcript of the deliberations of the seventeenth National Irrigation congress in Spokane August 9 to 14, delivering the copy 10 hours after the final session.

EASTERN OREGON CAPITAL INVESTED IN PORTLAND

Thomas Callahan, an eastern Oregon capitalist, has purchased the Jacob Bourne home property, located near Milwaukie. The property comprises 12 acres, highly improved, with a modern residence and a finely selected orchard, in full bearing. The consideration involved in the transaction was \$13,000. Mr. Bourne netted a profit of \$4,000 in the deal, having purchased the tract just one year ago for \$9,000.

R. L. Turner and S. S. Rees have purchased a 51 acre tract of fruit land on the Willamette river near New Era, paying about \$6000 for the property. C. L. Rodgers, a practical fruit grower from Hood River, has purchased 42 acres adjoining the above property, for \$125 an acre. He will develop the place by planting it in the best varieties of apples grown in this state.—Portland Journal.

Hexamethylenetetramine.

The above is the name of a German chemical, which is one of the many valuable ingredients of Foley's Kidney Remedy. Hexamethylenetetramine is recognized by medical test books and authorities as a uric acid solvent and antiseptic for the urine. Take Foley's Kidney Remedy as soon as you notice any irregularities and avoid a serious malady. Koepfen Bros.

GIRL IS SOLD FOR \$1.16.

Parents of Hindu Child Being Prosecuted for Action. Lucknow.—The parents of a Hindu child in Madras are being prosecuted for selling their child for \$1.16.

The mother of the child stated that she sold the child because it was born at an inauspicious hour and it was certain to bring ill luck.

In support of this it is stated by the child's father that he had been continuously ill since the child's birth and he therefore consented to the sale.

Fresh oysters at Hohbach's bakery.

AUSTRIA HAS A NEW COIN.

Gold Piece With Emperor's Portrait May Be Little Used.

Vienna.—A new gold coin, worth about \$20, is to be put in circulation in Austria-Hungary. It is stamped with the half-length portrait of the emperor, while the reverse bears the imperial eagle. The edge of the coin is not milled.

Whether the new coin is likely to make its way into general use is an open question. The Viennese absolutely refuse to adopt the gold coins already in use. If a gold piece is presented in payment the recipient always regards it with distrust. The coins in circulation show no sign of wear. If obliged to accept the coins the ordinary Viennese repairs to the nearest shop in which it is known, and willingly changes the glittering coins for the very dirtiest and most ragged notes that can still be considered legal tender.

Mrs. S. Joyce, Claremont, N. H., writes: "About a year ago I bought two bottles of Foley's Kidney Remedy. It cured me of a severe case of kidney trouble of several years standing. It certainly is a grand, good medicine, and I heartily recommend it." Koepfen Bros.

Honor Inventor of Reaper.

Urbana, Ill., Dec. 16.—Formal exercises marking the enrollment of the first name in the farmers' hall of fame took place today at the Illinois College of Agriculture, when the students and faculty gathered to honor the memory of Cyrus Hall McCormick, inventor of the reaper. Many distinguished educators, state officials and agricultural experts were present at the exercises in Memorial Hall. Miss Muriel McCormick, granddaughter of the inventor, took an important part in the ceremony. The selection of Mr. McCormick's name as one first to be honored was made by a commission appointed for the purpose.

"I have here an opera," announced the robust composer, "which will be the greatest production of the century. It is called 'Paradise.'"

"Paradise!" roared the impresario. "Man, do you realize what it would cost for scenery?"

"Yes," answered the composer, calmly, "but do you realize what would be saved on costumes?"

Foley's Ointment is best for women and children. Its mild action and pleasant taste make it preferable to violent purgatives, such as pills, tablets, etc. Cures constipation. Koepfen Bros.

LAST CALL

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Christmas

that will be more appreciated by them than a good portrait of yourself. Why Worry? One dozen pictures will take care of one dozen friends and relatives. That much off your mind. This notice will remain in the case only as long as we are able to complete your order in time. It may be taken out tomorrow. Come in today.

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