

A STATEMENT ON POTATOES.

Government Bureau Shows Imports and Exports For Decade.

SIZE OF THE WORLD'S CROP.

It is Between Five and Six Billion Bushels—New York the Largest Producing State, With Michigan Next and Maine Third.

The recent announcement that large quantities of potatoes are being imported into the United States leads interest to a statement prepared by the bureau of statistics, department of commerce and labor, showing the imports and exports of potatoes during a term of years. While the production of potatoes in the United States is usually sufficient to meet the requirements of its population, there have been a number of occasions following short crops in the United States on which considerable quantities were imported. On other occasions when there were shortages abroad and large crops in the United States considerable quantities were exported.

The total imports of potatoes into the United States in the last ten years aggregated 22,845,634 bushels, valued at \$10,985,770, or about 48 cents per bushel, this valuation being based upon the wholesale market price in the countries from which imported, and does not, therefore, include the cost of transportation or duties paid, the rate of duty being 25 cents per bushel of sixty pounds both under the present law and its immediate predecessor. The exports of potatoes from the United States during the same decade amounted to 10,900,596 bushels, valued at \$8,413,675, an average of 77 cents per bushel.

Potatoes imported into the United States come chiefly from Canada, Mexico and Bermuda, in America, and Scotland, England, Ireland, Germany and France, in Europe, while in recent years small quantities have also been brought from China, Australia and the Canary Islands. The potatoes exported go chiefly to the West Indies, Central America and Canada, the largest quantities usually to Cuba, Canada and Panama and lesser quantities to other Central American states and the West Indies Islands. Small quantities have also been sent in recent years to China, Hongkong, British Guiana, the Philippine Islands, French Oceania and certain of the South American countries, but practically none to Europe, which, although a large consumer of potatoes, is also a large producer.

The world's potato crop, so far as it can be measured statistically, runs between five and six billion bushels per annum, but these figures do not include the production of China, north Africa and most of South America, the original home of the potato, which was found under cultivation in South America by the Spanish discoverers and transplanted to Spain and thence to other parts of Europe. Germany is by far the largest single producer of potatoes, her total crop for 1909, the latest available figures, being 1,716,000,000 bushels against 1,173,000,000 in European Russia, 613,000,000 in France, 480,000,000 in Austria, 184,000,000 in Hungary, 137,000,000 in Great Britain, 120,000,000 in Ireland, 99,000,000 in Canada and 377,000,000 in the United States.

New York is the largest potato producing state in the United States, her product in 1910 being 44,500,000 bushels against 35,000,000 in Michigan, 28,000,000 in Maine, 28,000,000 in Pennsylvania, 25,000,000 in Wisconsin, 15,000,000 in Ohio, 12,695,000 in Illinois, 12,225,000 in Iowa and about 10,000,000 bushels each in Minnesota and New Jersey, while practically all the remaining states are represented with totals ranging from one to eight million bushels each.

The largest importation of potatoes during the past decade was in 1909, being 8,333,000 bushels; the largest exports of the decade were in 1911, being 2,333,000 bushels.

SENDS MONSTER PACKAGE.

Had Area of Twenty-five Square Feet and Cost \$40.82 Postage.

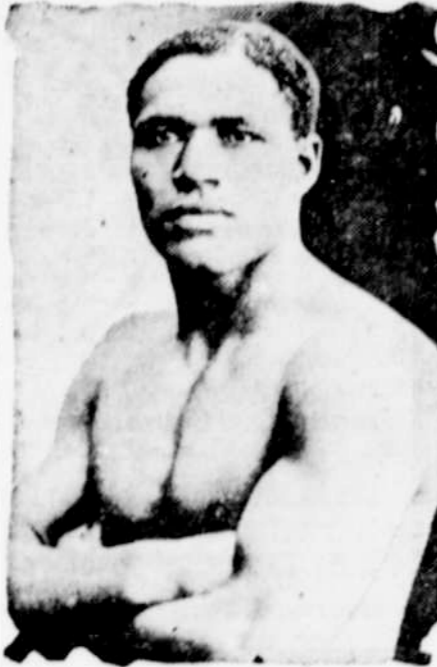
What is pronounced by C. L. Lynch, superintendent of mails of the Seattle (Wash.) postoffice, probably to be the largest single piece of mail ever handled at the local office was forwarded to Melbourne, Australia, in the shape of a package having an area of twenty-five square feet. The bundle is incased in a wooden frame 5 feet long by 5 feet wide and several inches thick. A large painting is believed to be the contents, although the exact nature has not been disclosed by the sender to the postal authorities.

Forty stamps, each of the \$1 denomination, and several minor stamps, representing a cost of \$40.82, were required to pay postage on the package, going as first class mail. The total weight is eighty-two pounds.

To Grow Silk in Philippines. The Philippine bureau of science is making a determined effort to introduce the growing of silk in the Philippines, not only for the purpose of increasing the productive possibilities of the islands generally, but also as a means of furnishing silk for use in connection with industries already established.

IN THE WORLD OF SPORT

Jeannette, Who May Be Jack Johnson's Next Opponent.



According to the pugilistic experts, Jack Johnson's next opponent in the ring will be Joe Jeannette, the colored heavyweight of New York. The latter thinks he is the only man who has any chance of defeating the champion. Jeannette has fought Johnson several times and has lost but one battle. He claims that he has improved since then and points to his defeats of Sam McVey and Sam Langford as proof. It is more than likely that he will be matched to meet Johnson before one of the clubs in New York in the near future.

Turkey to Have Olympic Team. Despite the war with Italy word has come from Constantinople that Turkey will be represented in the next Olympic games. The Ottoman empire is to send a team of wrestlers that is expected to clean up everything in the grappling line at Stockholm. There may be men in other departments, such as the javelin and the shot putting. With the Turks, Japanese, Chinese and south sea islanders on the list all the "barbarians" will be seen in line at the Swedish capital. In the olden times the Greeks regarded all outsiders as "barbarians," so the original idea will prevail next year. Perhaps the most prominent of the south sea tribe will be the swimmer Chaplin, who went to England this year and cleaned up the best of the swimming championships. He is good for every distance from 100 yards to five miles, and he is expected to make a clean sweep of the Olympic events.

Best Sixty Scores to Count. When the open golf championship tournament of Great Britain is held next spring the qualifying round, at thirty-six holes, will not count in the aggregate for the championship proper. Those returning the sixty best scores and all who may tie for sixtieth place will qualify for the actual championship.

The tournament proper will consist of seventy-two holes. Only on four previous occasions—1907 to—have the players had to take part in a qualifying competition over thirty-six holes, when the scores did not count in the final aggregate.

Chicago to Put Up Stadium. A stadium which will seat more than 100,000 people is to be a feature of the general scheme of beautifying the Chicago lake front, according to announcement made recently by the south park commission. Plans have been drawn by architects and are in the hands of the commission.

The stadium will be located so that spectators will have a view of athletic games, army tournaments or other outdoor gatherings in Grant park and also water events on Lake Michigan.

Soccer Football Popular on Coast. The popularity of English style Rugby football on the Pacific coast is shown by the receipts for the annual battle between Leland Stanford and California universities, which footed up \$39,396.50, more than \$10,000 increase over the previous game on Stanford field. Each college's share amounted to \$19,127.45.

Polo Teams For the Army. Major General Leonard Wood has ordered four polo teams to be organized for the United States cavalry. This may result in popularizing this great English army game among our mounted soldiers and may in time lead to international matches between the cavalrymen of the United States and those of Great Britain.

Skating Grows in Popularity. Stoughton, Wis., will spend \$2,000 in improvements to its ski slide upon which it is hoped new records will be made this winter. The Minneapolis Ski club is talking of replacing its wooden slide with a modern steel slide. Skiing is a Norwegian sport on snowshoes.

Chinese in Olympics. China's awakening to the benefits of organized athletic sport may result in three or four men being entered in the Olympic games at Stockholm next year, with a representative of the celestial kingdom to study national athletic questions.

FOR THE CHILDREN

Rhyme of Dorothy Rose. Dorothy Rose had a turned up nose. Did she worry about it, do you suppose? Oh, no! But a plan she began to hatch To make the rest of her features match.

First of all, she trained her eyes. Turning them up to the sunny skies. Look at the mud and the dust? Not she! Nothing but sunshine would Dorothy see.

A flower that droops has begun to wilt. So up went her chin with a saucy tilt. An ounce of pluck's worth a pound of sigh. And courage comes with a head held high.

Lastly, her lips turned their corners up. Brimming with smiles like a rosy cup. Oh, a charming child is Dorothy Rose! And it all began with a turned up nose! —St. Nicholas.

Game of Jumbled Questions. Provide each player with a pencil and a slip of paper (a half sheet of commercial note is a good size), then request each one to write at the top of the paper the first W, the name of some well known historical character; fold the paper over to conceal the name and pass it to his right hand neighbor. Then each player writes on the folded sheet the second W, when he lived, and, folding it again, passes it on as before. The third W, written in the same way, tells where he lived and died, the fourth what he did, the fifth why he did it, and the sixth and last folding gives the results or consequences of his life.

The paper must be folded at each writing, and no player must know what the others have written till the results are given, when each player in turn unfolds his paper and reads it aloud. Of course there are all sorts of incongruities and lots of fun over them, besides a grand chance to furnish up forgotten history. In straightening out the tangles and setting matters right. Should the sheet of paper at first supplied prove insufficient another may be easily attached with a convenient pin without unfolding. Of course the more items of interest brought in the better. A prize may be given to the one who corrects the most mistakes, a tally being kept for the purpose.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Conundrums. Why is the United States government not going to have bayonets any longer in the army? Because they are long enough.

Why do the cyclones way out west blow away so few houses? The houses are held down by heavy mortgages.

Why is a mischievous boy like a bottle of patent medicine? When taken must be well shaken.

A man went to the top of his barn to catch a stork. While he was on the roof the ladder fell to the ground. What was the easiest way for the man to get down? He could pick down from the stork.

Why is a room full of married people an empty room? There is not a single person in it.

Why is falling in love like catching the measles? The older you are when it happens, the harder it goes with you.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Swing Day in Siam. Swing day is one of the boys' most popular holidays in Siam. It is a festival that takes place once a year. The great fun is on that day, but the boys find pleasure in practicing and getting ready for it through the whole year.

Swings are set up on high poles, and a short distance from each swing stands another pole marked with a waving banner. Just below this banner hangs a purse filled with gold, which is the prize.

A boy seats himself in the swing and moves back and forth until he gets well started, and then he brings himself near the precious prize. He has one chance given him to reach out and seize it in his mouth. If he succeeds he keeps it. If he fails he is obliged to jump from the swing and slide down the pole while the crowds jeer at him. If he catches the purse a rope ladder is put out, and he walks down it in a dignified manner, while everybody cheers heartily.

Throwing the Pillow. Playing advertising pictures is a lot of fun. All the players save one stand in a ring. The last child stands in the center of the ring, holding a sofa pillow. He counts ten slowly, throwing a pillow at a child, who must catch it and call out the name of some well known advertising picture before ten is reached in the counting. The advertisements must not be repeated, so the game is difficult as well as jolly. You may change the game by calling for the names of patent medicines or flowers or quotations, with the name of the author, or modern inventions.

For Fast Reading. Bill Brown's babyish brothers, both being bad boys, bamboozled Bartholomew Brahams by breaking Bernice Brahams's beautiful bamboo bonbon basket. Bernice, being Bartholomew's brother, became belligerent, because before Bill's bad brothers broke Bernice's beautiful bamboo bonbon basket both began behaving badly by besmearing Bartholomew's best book binding. Therefore Bartholomew beat both Browns badly, and both Browns, being big babies, began boo-hooing.

DR. BLUE, NEW HEAD OF THE MARINE HOSPITAL SERVICE.

Has Fought Yellow Fever and Bubonic Plague—His Distinguished Career.

Dr. Rupert Blue, a surgeon of the Marine hospital and public health service, has been appointed surgeon general of that service, succeeding the late Dr. Walter Wyman, who died several weeks ago. Dr. Blue was formerly on duty at Honolulu investigating the yellow fever situation.

President Taft has also amended the regulations governing the service to limit the term of the surgeon general to four years. Formerly the surgeon general had an unlimited tenure of office. Mr. Taft thought it more advisable to limit the term to four years, so as to place the service upon the same basis in this respect as the other departmental bureaus.

Dr. Blue was born in Scotland county, N. C., on May 30, 1867. He was brought as a boy to Marlon, S. C., where his home now is. He was graduated with the class of 1892 from the University of Maryland, at Baltimore. Entering the marine hospital service in 1892, he has passed through all the grades and has had the rank of surgeon since 1909. His most recent duty was in Honolulu investigating the yellow fever mosquito with a view to its extermination. He is now in Washington on leave of absence.

He was on special duty at Genoa and Naples in 1899 and 1900 in co-operation with the officers of the immigration service. In 1905 he was on duty at New Orleans in connection with the yellow fever epidemic there.

Dr. Blue's most important service in recent years was his work in charge of the government's crusade against the bubonic plague on the Pacific coast in 1907 and 1908.

He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine of England. He has represented the United States government at several important medical conferences, among them the international congress of physicians and medicine held at Buenos Ayres last summer. He afterward traveled through Chile, Peru and other South American countries investigating plague conditions. He was the first to discover that ground squirrels were carriers of plague, and before going to Honolulu he was engaged in the extermination of infected ground squirrels in California.

Dr. Blue is a brother of Commander Victor Blue of the navy, who is now on duty with the general board.

CELEBRATION AT KEY WEST.

Foreign Nations Will Join in Marking Completion of Railroad. Many of the foreign embassies and legations in Washington will send representatives to the special international celebration at Key West, Fla., on Jan. 22, to mark the completion of the Florida East Coast Railway company's line connecting the mainland of the United States with the island city of Key West.

President Taft, in behalf of the city of Key West, invited all foreign nations to send representatives and naval vessels to participate in the celebration. Formal acceptances have been received from Italy, Mexico, Portugal, Costa Rica, the Dominican republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Salvador and Uruguay. Each of these nations will be represented by official delegates, selected in most instances from the embassies and legations.

Portugal is the only foreign country to be represented by a vessel of its navy. The Portuguese cruiser Aranda is now at Key West. The United States navy will be represented by the fifth division of the Atlantic fleet, consisting of the armored cruisers Washington and North Carolina, and the scout cruisers Salem and Birmingham, which will reach Key West about Jan. 21, to remain there a week.

DIRECTOR OF POSTAL SAVINGS

Theodore L. Weed Appointed to New Office by Postmaster General. Theodore L. Weed, chief clerk of the postoffice department, who is Postmaster General Hitchcock's principal executive assistant in the management of the department, has been appointed director of the postal savings system at \$5,000 a year. He will assume his duties immediately.

Because of the extraordinary development of the postal savings system, which now is receiving deposits aggregating a million dollars a week, Mr. Hitchcock, who thus far has directed the system personally, found it necessary to organize a special bureau to take up the work. As an initial step he made Mr. Weed director. The latter, who was appointed to the government service from Connecticut in 1898, has been Mr. Hitchcock's chief aid in extending the postal bank operations.

CHURCH 225 YEARS OLD.

Structure Built in the Time of Lord Baltimore is Destroyed. The St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic church at Warwick, Md., near the Delaware state line, a historic landmark of the Maryland-Delaware peninsula, was destroyed by fire recently. It was built 225 years ago in the time of Lord Baltimore.

The church was of brick, two stories in height. Some of the altar vestments and chalices were saved.

New Zealand's Railways. New Zealand now has over 2,700 miles of railway. Electrification of certain sections is now under contemplation.

HUMOROUS QUIPS

The Trifler. Oh, I am so sick of the Big Things—The Big with a Big, Big B—The Important Things That Are Strictly Such.

The Great Big Things That Matter So Much—They never can leave you free—For I love to live in the little things—If little they really be. The mere little things, the near little things, The dear little things, the queer little things. That make up the world for me!

And so sick I am of the Strenuous That never will let you rest. No quarter given or space allowed For dreams that shift as a sunlit cloud—Adrift in the golden west. No use for the shimmering gossamer. As it cannot be spun or tied, Or the glorious globe of the Soap Bubble, The golden blue of the Soap Bubble, The rosette green of the Soap Bubble, Just because it has naught inside.

And, oh, I am sick of the Practical, The serious, sober sense, That never has walked in the Moony Ways. By the Mossy Dell of the Starry Fays To the Castle of Indolence! And, oh, and, oh, your Sensible Man! With what disgust and scorn Will he banish and ban the aerial clan, Peaseblossom, Puck and Peter Pan And pack in a Carter Patterson Van, With Scheherazade and Khubla Khan, To their fairy lands forlorn!

A trio of excellence, wisdom, worth, And I'm weary of all the three. And it is not good to feel like that; It's exceedingly wicked to feel like that; I'm sure you never could feel like that; It's only the case with me. But, then, I was born a little bit cracked. So hardly count, you see, And it wouldn't be fair to omit the fact They are wearier far of me. —London Spectator.

Attended to it. A certain librarian was very absent-minded and also very much absorbed in his profession. As the telephone was out of order his wife asked him to attend to a few errands for her on his way to the library. On his consenting she ran to his desk and, hastily taking the nearest card—one from a list of sample library cards—made out a list, which she handed to him. He put it in his pocket and promised not to forget it.

At dinner that night she reminded him of his promise. "I was going to give you your favorite dessert, hot gingerbread with raisins in it and whipped cream," she assured him reproachfully. "but I had no ginger and not enough raisins, so I couldn't. The grocer didn't bring them or anything else I ordered. You must have forgotten, after all."

"Indeed, I didn't forget," he assured her earnestly. "I am perfectly sure I attended to it."

"That's odd," was the answer. "They are not usually careless about orders. What clerk did you see?" "Clerk?" he repeated vaguely. "I don't seem to remember seeing any clerk." Then in a flash of enlightenment he added, with a gasp: "Why, I didn't see any! I—I did attend to the list, but I am afraid I filed it in the card catalogue under 'Groceries'." And there, indeed, he found it the next day.—Youth's Companion.

A Simple Question. "What is the difference," asks the man with the dispirited whiskers and the keen eye, "between a girl with a clothespin on her nose and one whose little brother is quarantined because of a disease incident to childhood which is characterized by an eruption of the skin?"

"To avoid argument," sighs the man with the rectangular Adam's apple. "What is the difference?" "One's brother is measles; the other's breather is muzzled."

And afar down the glen arose the mournful cry of a loon lamenting its lost love.—Chicago Post.

The Scapegoat.

"You say the boy's maternal grandfather was a highwayman?" "Yes."

"And his paternal grandfather was charged with arson?" "Yes."

"And his aunt is a shoplifter and his uncle a counterfeiter?" "Yes."

"Then to what do you ascribe his waywardness?" "Why, to moving pictures, of course." —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Fashionable Maid.

"I had to let that new maid go. I discovered that she was neglecting the children when I was attending my club meetings."

"That so?" "Yes. Positively, she couldn't think less of them if they were her own." —Detroit Free Press.

Recognized It.

"The Malays have a queer marriage custom," remarked the traveler. "The groom holds his nose against a small cylindrical object. I couldn't quite make out what it was"— "A grindstone, probably," interposed Mr. Grouch.—Kansas City Star.

Antihypnotic.

"That typewriter of yours is very noisy." "Yes," replied the stenographer. "I prefer it that way. The racket helps to keep me awake while I am transcribing some of these speeches."

For Both.

"I want to get something for a young married couple, something for both of them, as it were." "Yes, ma'am. Here, boy, show the lady to the embroidery department." —Detroit Free Press.

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COFFEE FOR TWO.



As yet it's a table just for two, A plate for me and a plate for Sue— My bride and I. White as her heart is the cloth between, Bright as her eyes the silver's sheen; And I gaze and try To understand and to calculate Why I have won so much from Fate, As she who gazes with eyes of blue Across the table set for two. Fragrance of flow'ret in her breast, Whiff from the urn; now, which is best? I scarcely know! Sweet is the scent of the double rose, But oh, that sniff from the urn's bright nose Is surely so. And smiles seem dearer and lips more sweet When seen through the shimmer of fragrant heat From CHASE & SANBORN'S perfect brew Above our table set for two.

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