

TOPICS OF THE TIMES

A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

It is almost too good to be true, but the Irish really seem now in a fair way to get home rule.

Dr. Wiley says fudge makes girls fat. The doctor's opinion ought to be interesting to the slim girls.

It would be a grand sight to see King Edward stand up and tell some of his advisers where to get off.

The treasurer of a Pittsburg church recently embezzled \$28,000. Nobody seems to be immune in Pittsburg.

Boston has not joined in the meat boycott with any enthusiasm, for it must have pork to go with the beans.

China is advancing toward constitutional government. But when China advances she does not break any speed laws.

A New York man is busy trying to breed a tailless cat. We suppose he is busy at it because he has nothing else to do.

It has just been discovered that the earth has existed only 60,000,000 years. And this country is just beginning to realize its full possibilities.

President Taft's aunt says he doesn't eat enough. She has a right to her opinion, though aunts are inclined to be prejudiced in such matters.

A Los Angeles woman lost \$1,160 through a hole in the stocking. She probably realizes now that a stitch in time sometimes saves more than nine.

Speaker Cannon says his dearest wish is to be of use to mankind. He reserves the right, however, to put his own interpretation upon the word "use."

Mr. Roosevelt came out of the African jungle with such a long, heavy beard that it is doubtful if a malefactor of great wealth would have recognized him.

One of Billy Sunday's new converts stole the revivalist's overcoat the other night. Probably the revivalist believes that this blackslider will need asbestos boots later on.

President Underwood of the Erie says that American athletes had losers. He must have attended a ball game where the home team was defeated because of a questionable decision by the umpire.

A man who married three women and was arrested for trigonometry pleads that he could not help it. He will soon learn that inability to help it, like ignorance of the wording of the statute, does not go with those high-brows on the bench.

Recent calculations at the United States Naval Observatory have demonstrated that for half the year the distinction can be claimed for the American flag which was formerly the undisputed possession of the British flag. From March 22 to September 22 the sun sets on Balabac Island, the most western point of the Philippines, at exactly the same time that it rises in Porto Rico, the most eastern of the United States' possessions.

In this practical age there is no other land which takes art so seriously as Italy does. The cities of Rome and Milan have recently been contending in the courts for the possession of an ancient statue of Niobe, which was exhumed a short time ago; and so intense was the feeling aroused that the mayor of Rome was almost mobbed during a visit to Milan. On his return to Rome there was a great public demonstration in recognition of his zeal in pressing the claims of Rome for the statue.

A very interesting statement showing the growth of deposits in Missouri banks during recent years, has been made by State Bank Commissioner John E. Swanger. According to the figures furnished by Commissioner Swanger, there is now enough money on deposit in Missouri banking institutions to give to each man, woman and child in the state a New Year gift of \$140 in cash. This is the highest per capita deposit ever made in the state. Of the \$429,862,000 now on deposit in the entire state, \$177,740,000 is deposited in the banks and trust companies of St. Louis, Kansas City and St. Joseph, the three largest cities in Missouri. The remainder, or \$252,122,000, is deposited in the rural communities or smaller towns of the state, showing that a large majority of our ready cash is owned by farmers and those who deal directly with them. The greatest source of income in Missouri is from agricultural pursuits.

Prof. Zueblin characterizes thrift as a vice, and he seriously advises all his auditors to spend freely in order that the standard of living may be raised. As if in this era of high living in America there were necessity to raise still higher the standard of living! To treat thrift as a vice is to reverse all previous ethics, also all notions of political economy, and likewise every common sense conclusion of practical life. But Zueblin usually prefers to be preposterous, and in this age, in which every known standard is questioned, mere impertinence is often considered originality. But such originality is unsocial and unethical, and Zueblin, being both, should be classed as a moral anarchist and enemy of society. Ferrero, the historian, has shown how Rome became exhausted by spending more than she had, and he warns us that despite modern multiplication of resources we may easily come to withdraw more than is supplied. Zueblin may vaporize as much as he pleases; but Zueblin is no match for mathematics. Arithmetic is inviolable, and never has successfully been controverted. Thrift remains the cardinal economic virtue. What is capital but the savings of society? Thrift has lifted men from savagery. The

savage spends all he has, and the beginning of civilization was when the savage commenced to save. Nowadays the "tightwad" is taboo, and the unloveliness of the saving man is celebrated in novel and play. But is the spender so beautiful to look upon? Are his virtues conspicuous, or is not his degeneration apparent? By which way does the individual develop—by curbing his appetites or indulging them, by self-denial, or self-coddling?

Piscator, that gentle "brother of the Angle," through whose conversation old Isaac Walton expounded his unpretentious philosophy, speaks somewhere with pity of "men condemned to be rich." The quaint phrase sounds strangely in the ears of a generation ambitious of wealth, which finds its heroes often among its multimillionaires. Under such condemnation, which of us would not cheerfully fall? Yet it is a shameful conception of wealth which regards it only as a means to ease and luxurious living. The ease it brings is, or should be, only the reward for the heavy responsibilities it imposes. The man who is rich by reason of the great business interests he has built up is accountable to the community for the honesty and usefulness of his service, to his hundreds or thousands of employees for such a conduct of the business as will assure them of their means of livelihood, to his own conscience for laborious and unremitting attention to the wearisome details of business management. Too often the loss of leisure, health and happiness are the penalty he pays for the luxuries he enjoys. The man who inherits wealth may, indeed, escape these burdens, but he must battle with subtle temptations to selfish and ignoble living, and learn with anxious care how to spend his money wisely and helpfully. If he is able to acquire himself honorably, he must often have the pain of seeing his wealth the means of the degeneration and ruin of his children. If rich by idly and indolently employed, what condemnation can be more bitter? Commodore Vanderbilt once replied to one who envied him his wealth, "I get my board and lodging as you do, and that is all."

A plentiful board and luxurious lodging, no doubt, but accompanied by annoyances, cares and anxieties from which poorer men were free. Not that actual indigence is ever a desirable thing. The wisdom of the ages is in the words of Agur, "Give me neither poverty nor riches." We speak of being "condemned to poverty," and the words are apt. Why not also, "condemned to be rich?"

MURDERERS GO SCOT FREE.

Startling Showing of Crime in the United States.

An indictment against the police inefficiency of general America, so sweeping and stinging as to be almost breathtaking, is made by Hugh C. Weir in the World To-Day. His summary of statistics of American crime is a revelation. While the sources of his information are not given, they are evidently reliable, and the inference at least is that they are official. It will startle the casual reader, familiarized as he may be with criminal reports, to learn that ten thousand people are murdered in the United States every year, and that of the murderers but two in every hundred are punished, the other ninety-eight escape scot free. Compare this showing with other "civilized countries" and note our position:

Country	Percentage of Convictions
United States	2
England	50
France	61
Italy	77
Spain	85
Germany	95

Though backed by so eminent an authority, this statement seems incredible, but Mr. Weir declares it is proved by criminal statistics, and adds that in Georgia only one murderer in one hundred is punished, though the records show that that State has produced forty-five annual homicides, or more than the whole British Empire. This is appalling to contemplate. But to bring it still nearer home to our sensibilities, Mr. Weir submits statistics of cost and a comparison which is as new as it is effective. He says we pay annually for crime—that is, in property stolen and destroyed, and in the cost of police, courts, jails and penal institutions—the enormous total of \$1,275,000,000. This is made more appreciable by the comparison:

Cost of crime	\$1,275,000,000
National debt	984,000,000
Wheat crop, 1908	755,000,000
Coal mined, 1908	350,000,000
Wool crop, 1908	298,000,000

That crime and wickedness are on the increase is shown by the fact that "there are four and a half times as many murders for every million of our population to-day as there were twenty years ago." We undoubtedly lead the world in crime as in other things. Without suggesting an efficient remedy, otherwise than inferentially, Mr. Weir attributes the startling condition of general police inefficiency. More than half of his striking paper is devoted to a scathing denunciation of police methods, including the more or less mysterious and mythical "third degree." He holds political influence to a measure of responsibility and asserts that "75 per cent of the criminals arrested" in the red-light districts of New York are freed by the ward politicians.

And at least inferentially he lays much of the blame at the doors of Intemperance. Out of 786,000 arrests in this country last year, more than 350,000 were for drunkenness, and his conclusion is natural that if the police could have been devoted to the prevention of crime and the protection of property, rather than to the arresting of inebriates, we would have saved correspondingly in crime and its cost. This conclusion, however, does not fit perfectly into his theory of general police incompetency and inefficiency.

Machne Honor.

"What are you doing there?" "Tinkering up some old automobile jokes," explained the press humorist, "trying to make 'em look like 1910 models."

If there are party guests at a house, the man of the house isn't the host; he is only the husband of the hostess.

Editorials

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

CHINA SHOWING HER TEETH.

THE military awakening in China is already having its effect in a stiffening of the Chinese national vertebrae. China has in the railroad matter a disposition to defy both Japan and Russia, and Russian diplomats are expressing more concern for future possibilities of war with China than with Japan. One of the latest and most significant indications of this awakening is the recent invasion of Tibet by a fully equipped modern army of 25,000 men, sent by the Chinese government to assert the absolute sovereignty of China over the land ruled by the Lamas. The army has taken possession of Lhasa, and the Dalai Lama has fled to India for refuge, and has been given an official residence by the British, where he is being treated with great outward respect as the head of the Buddhist religion.

Only a few years ago, had China made such a move, following such an expedition as the British sent into Tibet, she would have been quickly called to account, but times have changed. The day for jumping upon China for every little thing has passed. In time China will do a little jumping herself, if civilized nations do not busy themselves to see that she awakes without dreams of conquest stimulated by religious hostility.—St. Louis Star.

A CONDITION AND NOT A THEORY.

THE boycott of meats and other high-priced foods which started with such a blare of trumpets early in the year, seems to have completely collapsed. Meats are higher, in some localities, than ever. Butter and eggs, which fell temporarily in price with the turning loose of the cold storage accumulations, are soaring again. Grains have undergone some fluctuations, but the tendency seems to be toward a higher range. Many standard articles of food are really no higher than they have been for years, but the boycott or talk of boycott, seems not to have had the slightest effect upon their selling price. It is to be presumed that thousands of people did stop eating meat for a while, and that many other thousands reduced their daily consumption. Indeed, many are compelled to do so, regardless of sentiment, because their incomes do not fit the meat prices. But the trouble seems to be that the available supplies are inadequate to meet the demand, much as the demand may have fallen off.

The outcome of the so-called food boycott shows how inadequate all such demonstrations are to meet the situation when it is a condition and not a theory that confronts us. It is a case that requires not talk so much as hard work and careful planning. People will eat, and eat what they like, when they can get it. The only way to make food cheaper is to raise more of it. As a rule, competition will serve to keep down the cost of production and distribution within reasonable limits.

QUEER STORIES

Tea is more beneficial if made with hard water.

Electric cables with hemp cores to take up the strain more evenly are a Swedish invention.

Electric power is used on 3,286 miles of street railways in Great Britain to 148 operated by other means.

According to official estimates, the value of the diamonds yet in the ground in German South Africa is \$250,000,000.

Mrs. Amanda W. Reed, of Portland, Ore., bequeathed \$2,000,000 to establish a college in Portland, to be known as the Reed Institute.

A shovel with high sharp sides and with a hinged blade that lifts away from the front, has been patented by a New Jersey resident to cut and lift sods.

Apples are greater luxuries in New York than oranges. While single oranges of the finest variety can be bought for 5 cents, the best apples are being sold for 12 cents each.

The proposal is once more made that the Bank of England shall issue £1 notes, and among financiers there is likely to arise keen controversy as to the probable effects of such an issue.

The catch of fish in Canadian waters by Canadian fishermen, including seals and all fish products, in 1908, was valued at \$25,451,085. The industry required a fishing fleet of 14,114 vessels.

Though the accidents in the streets of New York are increasing in number, the proportion of fatalities is growing less. Out of the last seven thousand accidents, 1,200 were classified as serious.

There are only half as many opium dens in China as there were eighteen months ago. It is now difficult to buy opium, except by license, which permits a smoker to buy at one time five drams. Each license costs 10 cents and is good for three months.

Historic pageantry in England has not yet outworn its novelty and Mr. Lascelles, master of the pageants at Oxford and Bath and the tercentenary celebrations at Quebec, is now organizing a London pageant to take place from May to July, of this year, at the Crystal Palace, in which 15,000 amateurs will take part. This army of amateurs is divided into groups. At the first rehearsal he trains one to be the leader of each group, crowd or body of soldiers, and then at the final full rehearsal on the pageant ground the "multitude" just follows those leaders, the pageant master directing everything from the top of the grand stand by means of telephone and megaphone.

A Disappointed Man.

Mr. Halloran surveyed the insurance agent with a dark and hostile countenance. The fact that one eye was concealed by a somewhat grimy bandage added to the attractiveness of his expression.

"Haven't you made up your mind yet to insure with us?" inquired the agent. "You told me I might call again in a few days."

"There was two of you at me to get

It is of little use to preach economy to those who can afford the cost of high living. It is noticeable that the millionaires who condemn extravagance do not give up their trips to Europe, or their automobiles, or their clubs, or their elegant mansions. If they would devote their capital to promoting agriculture and cattle breeding and to aiding willing workers to start gardening and small farming, they would do more in a year to reduce the cost of food than they could do in a lifetime of talk.—Farmers' Tribune.

THE PRIZE CORN GROWER.

HO was it said, "Shoemaker, stick to your last!" Well, anyhow, this is along that line. John R. Overstreet of Franklin county, Indiana, has stuck to growing corn all his life. Some years ago he realized that he was growing the best corn in his State. That was merely a spark to the fuel of his ambition. Why not grow the best corn in the country, in the world? Three or four years ago the National Corn Association was organized. They held the first national corn exposition in Chicago. An Indiana farmer got first prize. Mr. Overstreet waxed wroth. So he studied and worked, improved his seed and planted the best kernels. This year he grew the best ten ears of corn ever raised in the world. The Indiana Corn Growers' Association gave him a \$1,000 silver cup. "Shoemaker, stick to your last!" Mr. Overstreet is a farmer. He says so. He lives a quiet life on his farm, is a man of considerable culture and will never, he says, exchange his rustic life for the cliff-dwelling, money-grubbing of urban residence.—Leslie's Weekly.

THE LONG HATPIN NO JOKE.

SOME of the women who wear projecting hatpins doubtless still consider the agitation against them a joke. Albert Putnam, a street railway conductor in Springfield, Mass., doesn't think it a joke. While he was collecting fares a woman passenger turned her head quickly and drove the point of her eighteen-inch pin clean through his ear. One woman at least in Chicago has had an eye put out by such a pin under just such circumstances. A sudden movement of the wearer of the pin, a sudden jerk of the street car or elevator and the damage is done. People take greater risks every day of their lives from other things than hatpins. But that isn't the point. The hatpin risk is stupid, needless and reckless. It imperils eyes, and one single human eye is worth more than all the dagger hatpins in the world. No woman with any regard for other people's rights would wear one. No woman who does wear one is entitled to any complaint if the city finds a good legal means of stopping her.—Chicago Record-Herald.

WORLD IS CHANGEFUL.

Even the Stately Colon Is Jostled Out of His Rightful Place.

In the days when the masters of staidness and noble style were still respected, the colon was a power in the land. To-day we know him not, save rarely, says the New York Evening Post, and then not in his rightful service. True, he may be found in conjunction with the dash; but the dash is a supine rascal, indeterminate, hesitating, and not fit company for one who was wont to be a very pillar for strength in the temple of letters. There is something deeply pathetic in the silent passing of this grand old fellow, after all his noble record. But the world has changed; and the colon has passed with the minute. It is the age of the scrawling comma or hurried dash; or, if we do rise to the height of the semicolon, that is but half a colon, after all, and not to be compared with the fine old figure which served to buttress the great phrases of the masters. In the average book of the present one will not find a single colon used for its original and chief purpose. Either the curt period breaks in, or the limp comma makes its ineffectual protest against amplex peritoly. One can fancy our gallant old colon fleeing from the tumult of linotype and multiple press. He must have gazed regretfully at the coming of all these strange, awkward creatures to the composing room. His was the day of small clothes, lace and snuffbox. He lingered, indeed, in company with the splendid makers of English in the middle of the nineteenth century; but having done that, he could do no more. And now he is almost forgotten by his erstwhile associates in the printer's case.

Some Booming Towns.

If we are to take the growth of cities and towns in the Dominion of Canada represented by the provinces of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan there is a wonderful future for some of them. Winnipeg, the largest city, in eight years has increased from 42,000 to 140,000.

Other places for the past eight years show this expansion: Calgary, from 4,900 to 29,300; Edmonton, from 2,600 to 25,000; Regina, from 2,200 to 13,500; Brandon, from 5,600 to 13,000; Saskatoon, from 113 to 12,200; Moose Jaw, from 1,600 to 12,000; Lethbridge, from 2,100 to 10,000; Prince Albert, from 1,800 to 7,000; Portage la Prairie, from 4,000 to 7,000; Fernie, from 1,900 to 5,300; Medicine Hat, from 1,600 to 5,000.

In these places \$47,000,000 has been invested in new buildings in the last three years, and in five years their taxable values have been increased from an aggregate of nearly \$57,000,000 to about \$229,000,000.

A Subtle Force.

"What do you understand by 'magnetism' as so often applied to an actor's personality?" "Magnetism," replied the manager, "is the force that draws dollars to the box office."—Washington Star.

Individually Insignificant.

Mrs. Newlywed—Notice how small all my bills are, dear? Mr. Newlywed—Indeed I do, darling! How do you manage? Mrs. Newlywed—I buy our things at a lot of different stores.—Yonkers Statesman.

FARMERS' CORNER.

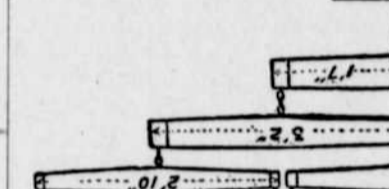
The Experimental Plot.

Every farmer should have, and easily can have, a small experimental plot of ground for testing the soil and different crops. No farmer can ever know the highest capacity of his soil till he has fertilized a small portion of his land with a mixture of fertilizers, planted the very best of seed, and given the crop, or crops, extra good cultivation. Many farmers hear or read of 100 bushels of corn to the acre, or several hundred dollars an acre made in growing special crops, and do not believe that it is possible. They do not believe it because they have never done half so well on their own land, but they never put half the amount of fertilizers, nor half as good seed, nor half as good cultivation, to the crops they grew. Try an acre, or even a half acre, of ground on your own farm this coming season and see what results can be had from it. Beget and let it stand three or four till the piece of land is as fertile as it can well be made with at least three different kinds of fertilizing matter. Prepare the land in the very best manner, use the best seed, and give a dozen cultivations. You will surprise yourself with results.—Journal of Agriculture.

Bran Mash.

Can you make a bran mash? Like coffee, mashed potatoes and a few of the everyday things, the average furnished is not of good quality. To make a bran mash, take a clean bucket, well scalded out, and put in the measure of bran. Then pour into the center, stirring all the time, scalding water enough to make it moist. Cover it closely with hot with a blanket, and let it stand three or four hours, until cold. There are many times when a cow or horse is sick and weak, and needs a bran mash. The

THREE-HORSE HITCH.

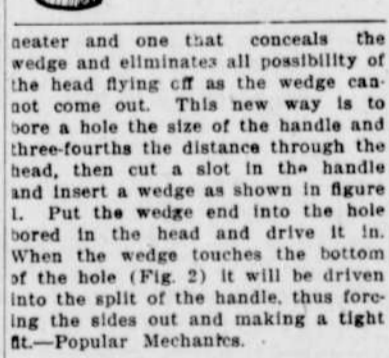


This arrangement enables one horse to walk in the furrow when ploughing and two on the unploughed land. The length is marked on each of the parts. The draught chain must be set well toward the left of the head of the plough.

usual proceeding is to use any old bucket and some hot water. A handful of bran is stirred into a slop, and scalding hot, is put under the sick animal's nose, only to be rejected. It should be cool, and only moist enough to hold together when pressed in the hand. Then add a little salt, and it is relished by the sufferer.—California Cultivator.

How to Fasten Mallet Handles.

The old method of fastening mallets to handles by boring a hole through the head and inserting a wedge from the outside may be superseded by a new way that makes the tool much



neater and one that conceals the wedge and eliminates all possibility of the head flying off as the wedge cannot come out. This new way is to bore a hole the size of the handle and three-fourths the distance through the head, then cut a slot in the handle and insert a wedge as shown in figure 1. Put the wedge end into the hole bored in the head and drive it in. When the wedge touches the bottom of the hole (Fig. 2) it will be driven into the split of the handle, thus forcing the sides out and making a tight fit.—Popular Mechanics.

Farmers and Autos.

The number of automobiles owned by farmers is growing rapidly. Out of 10,000 autos in Iowa, 5,000 are owned by farmers. Kansas farmers spent \$2,200,000 for automobiles during 1908, and \$2,750,000 in 1909. In one Nebraska town of 800 population, forty autos were sold last year, for farmers near the town. Careful estimate of the number of automobiles owned by farmers in the entire United States is 76,000.

Deep Plowing.

Results of experiments at the Kansas station show that deep plowing (8 to 10 inches) tends to increase the number of soil bacteria in both sandy and silt soils. Deep plowing tends to increase bacterial activity. More ammonia is produced. Deep plowing tends to decrease denitrification of the reduction of nitrate and the liberation of free nitrogen.

Where Poultry Pays.

The poultry raisers of Petaluma, Cal., received over \$2,000,000 for the products of their hens last year. The cash receipts averaged more than \$5,000 per day for the entire year.

Preserving Flour.

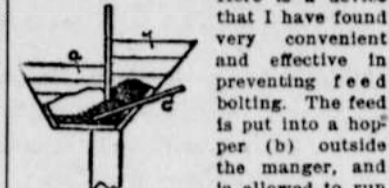
A new method of preserving flour has recently been adopted with success in England. It is done by means of compression. With hydraulic apparatus the flour is squeezed into the forms of bricks, and the pressure destroys all forms of larval life, thus preserving the flour from the ravages of insects, while it is equally secure from mold. Three hundred pounds of compressed flour occupy the same space as 100 pounds in the ordinary state.

The Alaska Wheat Fake.

The "Alaska wheat" fake, which has been pretty thoroughly exposed in the west, in now attracting attention in the east. Commenting on the result of some experiments made by a New Jersey farmer with this cereal "gold brick," the Boston Transcript remarks: "If the wheat of Alaska can reclothe our old but still responsive acres with harvests of the golden grain, it will be an obligation of no mean magnitude to be added to what we already owe her for past and potential yields of gold and copper, lumber and coal." Unfortunately for the responsive acres which are awaiting the coming of Alaska wheat, that famous cereal has been repeatedly exposed as a fraud. Its latest previous appearance in the limelight was in Idaho, and the Saturday Evening Post, by giving it a page of praise, brought it to the attention of scientists and agricultural experts, with the result that the government issued a fraud order which prohibited the Idaho promoters circulating any literature regarding it.

To Prevent Feed Bolting.

So many horses, especially nerry drivers, get in the habit of gulping their feed down in great mouthfuls.



Here is a device very convenient and effective in preventing feed bolting. The feed is put into a hopper (b) outside the manger, and is allowed to run into the manger box (a) in a thin stream. The size of this stream is regulated by the slide (c), and it is impossible for the horse to get more feed in his mouth at one time than he can easily masticate.—Farm and Home.

The Wheat Situation.

The high prices which our farmers have run up for wheat have stimulated the cultivation of the grain wherever it is possible to raise it. Last year Chile produced 19,000,000 bushels, and was encouraged by the results to sow many more acres this year. Experimental stations of the Chilean government are distributing the best varieties of seeds among the

Making Good Butter.

The best butter is made from cream collected about the same time. Mixing cream from three or four days' skimmings is what makes the texture of butter uneven and the flavor poor. Keep the different skimmings separate, and churn them separately, as far as possible. This requires some more work, but it makes better butter. If several skimmings are mixed, stir the mixture well when cream is added.

Straw in Manure.

Owing to its abundance, straw is added to barnyard manure, but it can be made more serviceable if made fine with the feed cutter before being used. While straw may soon rot after being mixed with manure, yet in a fine condition it is a much better absorbent and can be forked into the manure with advantage. When loading and spreading manure there is a saving of labor when handling that which is fine, and the manure will be more valuable because the loss of ammonia will be arrested by the use of suitable absorbent materials.

All cream should be frequently stirred when ripening in order to make the ripening progress evenly through the mass. Always skim milk before it becomes coagulated.

Timothy and Blue Grass.

While the meadow fescue or English blue grass is largely a Kansas product, where the seed often goes twenty bushels to the acre, a great deal of timothy is grown in Idaho and some of the middle western states, like Illinois, Missouri, Indiana and Iowa, the southeast corner of the latter state being especially productive. It is harvested about the middle of July and thrashed with a common separator.

Diversified Farming Spreading.

Diversified farming is fast redeeming agriculture. Even the Western people are finding out that crop rotation is more remunerative than the one-crop method of farming. Diversified farming and stock raising will redeem the West as it has the prosperous part of the East.

Object of Soil Culture.

Cultivation of the soil is not merely done to kill weeds, but it is a moisture conservator; makes the soil more porous, so that the plant roots more easily penetrate in search of plant food. In time of protracted drought the cultivator should be kept going whether there are weeds or not.

An Egg-Laying Record.

Eleven white Wyandotte pullets and one hen, owned by C. F. Gelbach, Dun-cannon, Pa., laid 615 eggs between October 1 and January 31. The best month was in December, when they laid 190 eggs.

Increase in Farm Horses.

Government reports show that farm horses have increased in number from 13,000,000 to 20,000,000 since 1900, and in value from \$44.61 to \$95.64 each. Illinois has more farm horses than any other State in the Union.