

Our Query and Reply Department

What length of time will the Panama-Pacific exposition cover?
Feb. 20 to Dec. 4, 1915.

Please give some information on the Nobel prizes—i. e., why called Nobel and how are the prizes awarded, etc.?

They are sometimes erroneously termed noble prizes, but you have the correct name. A Swedish scientist, Alfred B. Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, died in 1896, bequeathing his fortune, estimated at \$9,000,000, to the founding of a fund, the interest of which should yearly be distributed to those who had contributed most to "the good of humanity." The interest is divided in equal shares, given away—"one to the person who in the domain of physics has made the most important discovery or invention, one to the person who has made the most important chemical discovery or invention, one to the person who has made the most important discovery in the domain of medicine or physiology, one to the person who in literature has provided the most excellent work of an idealistic tendency and one to the person who has worked most or best for the fraternization of nations and the abolition or reduction of standing armies and the calling in and propagating of peace congresses." The prizes for physics and chemistry are awarded by the Swedish Academy of Science, that for physiological or medical work by the Caroline Institute (the faculty of medicine in Stockholm), that for literature by the Swedish academy in Stockholm, and the peace prize is awarded by a committee of five persons elected by the Norwegian storting. The value of each prize is on an average of \$40,000, and they are awarded each year on Dec. 10, the anniversary of Mr. Nobel's death. They are open to the world.

What per cent of a dollar is silver, and how many dollars does it take to weigh a pound (sixteen ounces)?

A silver dollar weighs 412½ grains, and nine-tenths of this weight, or 371¼ grains, is pure silver. Eighteen and one-half silver dollars weigh slightly less than a pound.

Who was Lincoln's secretary of state?

William H. Seward.

When did the government begin to coin silver money? What were the first coins issued?

An act of congress passed in 1792 authorized the coinage of the silver dollar, half dollar, quarter dollar, dime and half dime. It took some time to get ready, and the coinage of silver dollars, half dollars and half dimes began in 1794. The dime was not coined till 1796, and the coinage of silver half dimes stopped in 1873. The silver quarter dollar began to be coined in 1796. A silver twenty cent piece was coined in 1875-8 and then stopped.

Will amber burn if brought in contact with a lighted match?

Amber will not burn when it is brought in contact with a lighted match, but it will crack and splinter.

Would it be constitutional or legal for the president or vice president to take the oath of office outside of the United States?

The constitution does not contemplate such a thing and is silent on the subject, but an oath properly administered is binding regardless of the place where taken. As a matter of fact, one vice president did take the oath of office outside of the country. In 1852 William R. King of Alabama was elected vice president on the ticket with Franklin Pierce, and when inauguration day came, March 4, 1853, he was in Cuba, where he had gone on account of ill health. Congress passed an act authorizing the United States consul at Havana to administer the oath of office to Mr. King, and the latter took it there on March 24. He did not live to reach Washington, but died in Alabama on April 18 following.

Is bichloride of mercury a drug or a poison? What is its use? Is it tasteless?

Bichloride of mercury is a poison. It is used as an antiseptic and as a poison for insects and animals. It has a burning metallic taste and rapidly destroys the soft tissues of the body with which it comes in contact. It is commonly known by the name of corrosive sublimate.

Will you please tell me the difference in time between Sydney, New South Wales, and Chicago and give an illustration?

Chicago is fourteen hours later than Sydney. When it is 2 o'clock Tuesday morning in Sydney it is noon of Monday in Chicago.

The Kitchen Cupboard

NATIONAL EGG DISHES.

EACH nationality has its favorite way of cooking eggs. Some appetizing methods of using them are the following:

Japanese Eggs.—Take two cupsful of rice, six eggs, one cupful of milk, one tablespoonful of butter, one tablespoonful of flour, one tablespoonful of chopped parsley, one-half teaspoonful of salt, a dash of pepper, one-half teaspoonful of curry powder. Boil the eggs hard. Cut in half lengthwise, spread the rice on a platter and lay the eggs in the rice; then pour over the cream sauce. Garnish with chopped parsley.

Arranged on Rice.

Spanish Eggs.—Put into a saucepan a breakfast cupful of washed rice with a quart of boiling milk, add half a tablespoonful of salt and boil till done. Strain the rice, drain on a colander and put into a bowl. Add two ounces of butter, mix well and spread evenly on a dish. Cut into slices six hard boiled eggs, arrange on the rice and serve.

Turkish Eggs.—Take about three tablespoonfuls of cooked rice and shape into a little mound. On top of this put two tablespoonfuls of tomatoes stewed with bread, celery and onions. On top of this place a poached egg. Add half a teaspoonful of Worcestershire sauce to the egg. Garnish with parsley.

Anchovy With These.

Italian Eggs.—Boil the eggs hard, cut them in halves, take out the yolks, weigh the latter and place them in a mortar and pound together with a little bread crumbs soaked in cream, chopped parsley, one anchovy, a little chopped onion, grated nutmeg, pepper and salt. Put the mixture into a saucepan and cook to a thick paste, adding a little cream or gravy. Fill the cavities of the whites with this and serve cold with a salad or hot in sauce or on a purée of vegetables.

Emerald Eggs.—Chop fresh parsley very fine, have some small molds ready, grease them with a brush dipped in melted butter; then scatter chopped parsley inside. Have some fresh eggs ready to drop in the cups. Stand the cups in a pan of boiling water—not enough to cover the cups—let simmer until the eggs are cooked; then turn out on toast.

Anna Thompson.

A Monster Polar Bear.

"The largest white polar bear I ever saw," said an old whaler and hunter, "was shot in November, 1885, about 150 miles northeast of Point Barrow, Alaska. It measured twelve feet two inches from tip of tail to nose, six feet three inches in girth, fifteen inches across from ear to ear and possessed a seven inch skull, while the track made by the huge beast covered eleven inches in length. An idea of the size of this monster can be gained when it is known their average length is only about eight or nine feet."

HOG TYING A LONGHORN.

Catching, Tripping and Roping a Steer in Twenty-seven Seconds.

To rope, "bust" and "hog tie" a wild Texas longhorn single handed in two minutes is a sport which represents the daily work of the range. Men of quick eye and steady nerve each start their fifty feet behind the longhorn, which may jump the arena fence like a deer and again and again dodge when it hears the first swish of the rope. The rope often breaks on the tautening, or the saddle may slip, as in the case of Bill Mahaffey, who landed on his head with foot caught in the stirrup and but for the splendidly trained cow pony might have been dragged and killed.

There goes Cuba Crutchfield! He overtakes his sister. Swish, swish! His lariat zips through the air—a beautiful throw over the horns. Then the cow pony braces, and the rope tightens like a harp string. Watching, anticipating every move of his horned adversary, the cowboy now circles the animal so that the rope is brought from the horns around the hind legs. A word, and the knowing pony makes a sudden start. Thud, and the steer is tripped or "busted." The rope tautens, and the rider is already running afoot with a short cord in hand toward the steer, depending for his own safety on his trained cow pony to hold that rope taut and the steer in position. With marvelous dexterity he "hog ties" with a number of half hitches looped about the hind feet and one forefoot of the steer. The man stands erect, raises both arms in the air, and Crutchfield has not only won the steer roping championship, but has ridden down, roped, thrown and hog tied a steer in twenty-seven seconds, within six seconds of the best record ever made.—World's Work.

ARE YOU A BUSINESS FARMER?

Farming is a business, and the successful farmer must first of all be a business man. He follows his vocation primarily for the money he can make and, like other business men, should aim to get the greatest possible returns for the money and labor involved. It is not enough to simply grow crops, but they must be so produced as to yield a profit on the capital invested. To succeed he must be thoroughly acquainted with every detail of occupation and must strive to stop all leaks and prevent needless waste. At the same time he must bear in mind that it is a good business principle to spend a dollar whenever he can see that it will come back to him with interest.

PORTABLE FEED RACK.

Roughage Should Always Be Fed in Racks and Mangers.

Here is a portable manger that one reader has found very beneficial in feeding roughage about the farm. Roughage should always be fed in racks and mangers. Waste results from feeding on the ground. Such a rack



FEEDING ROUGHAGE.

as shown by Better Farming will pay for itself in one season in feed that is saved or that would be wasted from feeding on the ground.

Any kind of boards may be used for making the rack, but it will last much longer if made from wood that resists the action of the weather. The runners are 2 by 8 inches, fourteen feet long, shaped at the ends like a sled runner. Six inches from each end is a 2 by 8, three feet long, set inside the runners. A third 2 by 8 is set inside the runners at the center. On the top of the end and center pieces are nailed 2 by 4's, flat side down. In each corner a 2 by 4 upright three and a half feet high is made stationary, also one at the center of each side. Three four-inch boards are nailed to the uprights.

Holes are bored in the ends of the runners and heavy wire inserted, to which a singletree is attached whenever it is desired to move the rack about the farm.

Every farm ought to be equipped with a crowbar and a ten foot iron tipped wooden spike for moving heavy objects. They save time and take the place of muscle.

Light Cart For Quick Work.

For this light running cart two discarded bicycle wheels can be used, with a steel rod for an axle. The axle is fastened to a piece of 2 by 4, which serves to fasten the floor of the cart and as a shoulder to keep the wheels in place. The frame is made entirely of strips of flooring.

This cart has been in use eight years and found good for moving anything about the place. It will carry quite a load. A cleat on both ends of the bed keeps articles from sliding off.

Removing Mulch.

When growth begins in the spring the mulch is removed. Part of it may be worked around the crowns of the plants to form a clean bed for the fruit to rest on, thus keeping it out of the dirt. The remainder is removed to allow irrigation and cultivation.

LIVE STOCK AND DAIRY.

More cows are needed on our farms. No animals are better for soil improvement and the conservation of human food than cows. More cows should be kept and more homes abundantly supplied with milk and butter. A few pounds of butter a week or a few hundred pounds of butter fat per month would mean more cash in the home.

Milk cows will need succulent food this spring and next winter. Plant crops for early grazing and build a silo and fill it for winter feeding. Succulent food is indispensable to economical milk production.

Grain is a very important crop to sustain and fatten animals. Corn is the staple in the humid belt and Kaffir, milo and feterita in the arid and semi-arid belt. Plant liberal acreage in grain.

Carrots, disregarding their cost, make the best succulent feed that may be given to a horse. They are very palatable to almost all horses and do much to tone up the system. This is particularly noticeable in the thrifty condition of the skin and hair of horses which are fed carrots regularly. Carrots are particularly prized by fitters of show horses, which are being fed heavily on grain. Ten pounds per day is generally accepted as the maximum feed for an idle horse of average size. Half as many pounds will suffice for the worker. Unless one has an unusual supply three or four carrots thrown in the feed box will suffice. If large they should be split lengthwise or pulped.

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