

BAIRD'S

SPECIALS

Specials for Men

Silk half hose, all colors, special 50c
 Silk mercerized hose, colors, reg. 35c value at 25c
 Men's Negligee shirts with soft detachable collars, nice assortment of patterns at \$1.25 each
 Soft collar negligee shirts, special at \$1.00 each
 Men's Balbriggan Underwear, special value 50c a garment
 Men's Union suits, eyelet or Balbriggan at \$1.00 a suit

Some Dry Goods

A table full of gingham, neat patterns at 10 and 12 1-2c yd
 Percales, 30 and 36 inches wide; the old fashioned heavy kind 10 and 12 1-2c yd
 Table Linens. We can show you some real values 25c to \$1.75 yd
 Galatea cloth, just the material for your outing suits at 18c yd
 It pays to buy your Dry Goods here

Underwear in all styles for women and children. Ask to see them

Try a pound of Magnola steel cut coffee, the best that money can buy 35c a pound

Try a sack of Pure White Flour, every sack guaranteed the very best at 1.60 per sack

Groceries! Vegetables!!

A complete stock of clean fresh groceries and vegetables. It will pay you to get the habit of buying your groceries of Baird

Our Best Offer this year: Victoria Review—2 years—75c

CASH PAID FOR EGGS

E. C. BAIRD

FOREIGN SPY SYSTEMS.

Russia and Japan Have the Most Perfect Secret Services.

The German imperial parliament continues to vote every year a minimum sum of £600,000 as "spy money," and the British parliament votes for her secret service every year anything from £20,000 to £50,000. The same thing applies to other nations. The vote for the military secret service averages in France £180,000 a year, but a large portion of the money placed under the heading of "depenses secretes" is spent under the guise of "missions." Large sums are also spent by Austria in this way.

As for Russia, it is impossible to give any estimate. What the empire of the czar spends on its secret service is unknown, for no accounts of any kind whatever are open to the public. But as the system is the most perfect of all the secret services in the world, excepting that of Japan, the cost must be very large indeed. The Japanese devote to their secret service all the patience for which the oriental is famous, but their "skill and cunning" in finding out the secrets of other nations means a heavy drain on their public exchequer.

Taking the European powers by themselves, it is roughly computed that for "spying purposes" they spend between them each year no less a sum than £2,000,000.

Among the European powers the Russian secret service is probably the finest, but it embraces many thousands of people who are merely volunteers in the art of giving away official secrets. In France and Germany the secret service is supported by systematic investigation that cannot be said to rely in any material way upon casual assistance. In England the service is controlled to a great extent by the intelligence divisions of the admiralty and the war office, but such a system of private inquiry has not been elevated in Great Britain to the exact science that it has reached, say, in Russia or Japan.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Burke and His Associates.

The free and easy manners of the political and literary friends with whom Burke associated are exhibited by a personal anecdote. He often asked his friends to sup on beefsteak or a leg of mutton. One night the house sat late, and Burke brought home to supper Fox and two or three more of the Whiz poli-

ticians. Mrs. Burke's face told of the ill provided larder.

"Surely," said the host, answering his wife's look of annoyance, "there's beef enough!"

Fox and another gentleman, seeing the state of affairs, hurried off to a tavern, where they obtained such dishes as could be purchased. Amid much laughter, they returned and set the table with the food they had foraged. Burke called them the most skillful of waiters, and there was an amusing, satisfactory supper.

A Remarkable Spring.

One of the most remarkable springs in the world exists in New Mexico. It is saturated with sodium sulphate. Distilled water weighs eight and one-third pounds per gallon; the water of this spring weighs ten and two-thirds pounds. The temperature of the spring is a little over 110 degrees F. As the saturated liquid overflows and cools it forms a crystalline mass like ice, which, in the course of ages, has spread into a snow white bed of solid sodium salts, miles in extent and as level as a lake. The warm brine, it is reported, is inhabited by a shrimplike organism, and a species of plant is found growing in the dry expanse of sodium sulphate.—Harper's.

About Time to Move.

The small town boy had been sent to a farmer uncle's to remain for two or three months, but at the end of the second week he showed up at home, much to the disapproval of his father.

"Why, Willie, what have you come back here for?" the parent inquired in no pleasant tone. "I sent you to your uncle's for a long stay."

"I know you did," Willie replied; "but you see, it was this way. The first week they killed a sheep and we eat that; the next week they killed a hog, and we eat that, and yesterday the hired man died, and I thought it was about time to come home."—Judge.

A Hard Critic.

Dr. Hedge and Dr. Bartol spent a summer together down east. One Sunday Dr. Bartol preached to a congregation largely composed of fishermen. Dr. Hedge was curious to know the effect upon them and asked one old salt what he thought about the preaching and the sermon. The reply was, "Well, his ideas was absurd, and his language was pre-posterous."

WONDERS OF ETHER.

This Mysterious Agent Permeates All Material Bodies.

Even more wonderful than light itself is the medium by which its waves are carried. And what is this medium? It is not air, it is not gas, it is not liquid. Is it matter? In order to be matter, as we understand it, a thing must possess two characteristic properties. One of these is inertia; the other is weight. Inertia means the active resistance shown by all matter to a change in its condition of rest or motion. Weight is the measure of the attraction one body has for another, whether they be atoms or suns. The medium that bears light from star to star, or from a candle to the eye, so far as we know, has only one of the properties of matter—inertia.

Are we not justified, therefore, in saying, with our present knowledge of the subject, that the light bearing medium, called by scientists the luminiferous ether, is probably not a material thing? The various properties it must possess and without which it could not do all the wonderful things that are claimed for it, are more or less contradictory in their nature. Nevertheless, the luminiferous ether is believed in by a majority of scientists even though they do not pretend to understand its nature.

It is supposed to be everywhere, not only filling the interplanetary spaces and the vast abysses between the stars, but also entering into the very heart and between the very molecules and atoms of what is known as matter. As Young said of it, "It pervades the substance of all material bodies with little or no resistance, as freely, perhaps, as the wind passes through a grove of trees." The stars and planets and all other matter are riddled through and through by this wonderful, mysterious thing. It has been likened to a jelly in which are imbedded a few grains of sand, which correspond to the matter in the universe.

Gold, for example, one of the densest substances known to man, is permeated completely by this strange, space filling ether, and platinum, another extremely dense substance, is as the lightest, flimsiest mist when compared with the vast density of the ether itself. It has been estimated that the density of the light bearing ether is 50,000,000,000 times greater than that of platinum, and yet a rareness so extreme is claimed for this ether that

none of the heavenly bodies is impeded in the slightest degree—that the earth's orbital velocity of nearly nineteen miles a second, hundreds of times the cannon ball's velocity, is not slackened by a second in a million years through any resistance it might meet with from this almost incredible substance, if it really is a substance at all. It could not serve as a medium by which light may be transmitted with the enormous velocity of over 186,000 miles per second, unless it is absolutely rigid and elastic, far more so than if it were composed of solid steel!—J. Gordon Ogden in Popular Mechanics Magazine.

A Many Fingered Family.

In the village of Koshilovo (Grodno government), Russia, there are over fifty peasants who have more than the usual number of fingers. According to particulars published in the Novoe Vremya, they are all descendants of a peasant who married in the first half of the last century and who had extra fingers on one of his hands. In the present generation this abnormality is reproduced to the extent of two, three, four or even five additional fingers. Some cases simply show a thumb duplicated from the first joint. As a result of intermarriage the deformity is spreading to neighboring villages. It dispenses the young men from military service, however sound they may be constitutionally.

Killing the Goose.

The young lawyer had succeeded to his father's practice. Many of his methods had marked his lack of sophistication in the ways of the lawyer. One evening he called on his father, highly elated.

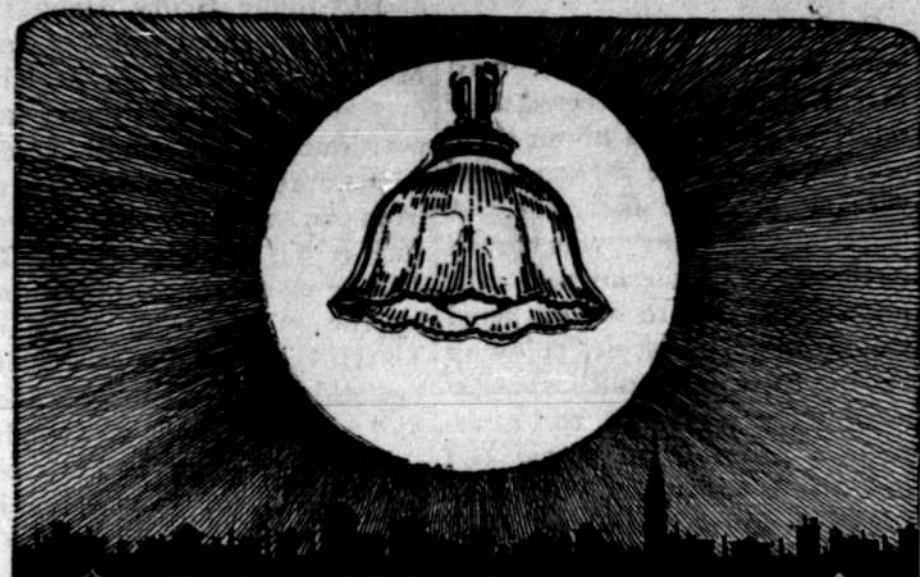
"Hurrah, hurrah!" he shouted, as he bounded into the library. "I've settled that old chancery suit at last!"

"Settled it!" cried his father in blank astonishment. "Why, you young ingrate, I gave you that as an annuity for life!"—New York Tribune.

Eccentric People.

"I understand," said Mrs. Smith, "that young Mr. and Mrs. Adair have not got on very well together since their marriage. Some people take her part and others side with him."

"And I suppose," said Mr. Smith, "there are a few eccentric people who mind their own business?"—London Express.



THE SUN'S ONLY RIVAL

The new Edison Mazda Lamp is rightly called the Sun's Only Rival. It gives a bright white light like sunshine—twice as much as the ordinary electric incandescent lamp that uses the same amount of current.

New Edison Mazda Lamps, in all sizes, are strong enough for all practical uses when given ordinary care in handling. Let us tell you how these lamps make it possible for everyone to afford electric lighting.

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