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ATHENA, MARCH 9, 1906

The American farmer, not to be outdone by the crowned heads of Europe, was not behind in making wedding presents to Alice and Nick. The advance guard of these bucolic wedding gifts reached the White House about February 1st, and consisted of turnips, just plain every day turnips, but the biggest ever produced on an American farm. These mammoth affairs, regular "Colonel Sellers Fruit," were shipped directly to the blushing bride by a toiler on the sacred soil of Kansas, who declared with pathetic fervor that the proud farmers of this country should not be outdone by a lot of foreign jewelers. So whatever fate may befall, it seems certain that Mr. and Mrs. Longworth will have a cellar full of the homely but not to be despised turnip. But this was not all. Shortly after the momentous intelligence reached the president that there were on the way from South Dakota a sample of potatoes, each one of which was large enough to feed six persons. So if the bridal couple do not make their evening parties too large it will be possible to appease their hunger by the economical expenditure of only one or two of these huge tubers, such as only South Dakota knows how to raise. Another western state, not to be outdone in this generous rivalry, started toward the capital a shipment of pumpkins which are calculated to make the eyes of the pie-loving Roosevelt children glisten with delight. This invoice of pumpkins is enough to furnish pies to Alice and Nicholas and a large contingent of visitors until the next crop comes on in the summer. Old Virginia, too, whose boast is that she never tires, barreled up a lot of her choicest apples for the delectation of the newly established household.

The cold storage system if honestly managed, is a great advantage both to producers and consumers, but is often manipulated for dishonest purposes. In Chicago the state board of health discovered five million pounds of poultry which had been stored undressed and held so long that it became unfit for food. Nevertheless, it is placed on the market and sold extensively. Whenever you visit Chicago you are liable to run up against some of this diseased poultry even on the tables of the leading hotels. A damage suit, recently instituted at Pittsburg, has disclosed a great scandal of the same kind. It appears that great quantities of poultry put in cold storage last spring

and summer have been used all winter to furnish the principal hotels and restaurants. It is charged that some of this poultry has been kept in storage for fifty-one months and it goes without saying that such stuff would make very dry picking if not actually rotten. The impression one gets from the course of the pure food legislation in the senate is that the chief opposition to it is inspired by the adulterators of food, and those who print lies on the labels concerning the real character of the foods they place on the markets. The pure food bill would interfere, no doubt, with their rascally business. Instead of labeling a certain article of merchandise "olive oil," for example, they would be required to label it cottonseed oil. Much of the "honey" now offered for sale would have to be called glucose. Some of the "jams" and "jellies" now spread abroad would need to be called heaven knows what. Farmers have no objection to any dealer selling oleo, but they insist that he should label it oleo and not butter. There would be a terrible commotion among so-called food manufacturers and many other people if the law should insist that they describe on the labels all the ingredients which enter into their compounds.

In Missouri lecturers are being sent to the country school houses in various parts of the state to speak to the children and parents upon practical problems of farming. Usually two lectures are given at each place, one in the afternoon and one at night. In many places 75 to 100 farmers attend the meetings, often going miles over muddy country roads. This movement is meeting with much approval and exciting much enthusiasm in agricultural families, which would seem to indicate that it would be a good thing to try in other states. The twentieth century requires thoroughly trained farmers to meet its demands and these can only be obtained by commencing with the youth of the land and keeping up the instruction throughout their whole life.

They have found a new use for corn. When you lick your stamps now remember that it is not gum arabic that you are coming in contact with, but a new substance discovered by the Illinois experiment station and extracted from the kernels of corn. This should add, if possible, to the already supreme potestate who rules over the corn belt with such glory for himself and such benefits for his millions of subjects.

Evidently, some stringent legislation and the light of publicity are needed in connection with the cold storage business which directly or indirectly affects the health of millions of people.

You cannot swear in your vote on primary day. If you want to vote you must register.

STARTING OF A STATESMAN
American Farmer.
A glance at the books of biography will disclose the fact that many of our most eminent public men started life as farm boys. The list includes several presidents, many governors, countless congressmen, generals, captains of industry and all those usually described as men of action. Lincoln passed through this hopper, so did Garfield, so did Andrew Johnson, and so also General Jackson himself.

Everybody may not understand just what it means by being a farm boy, but it is safe to say that nobody who ever passed through the experience is likely to forget it. The typical boy of the pioneer period, from whom so many of our national celebrities evolved, was a character whose career embraced much both of comic and the tragic. He slept in a garret or on a trundlebed in a corner devoted to miscellaneous rubbish. He was always the earliest riser, no matter how ungodly the hour. His daily routine, beginning before daylight and terminating when he dropped half dead with weariness into his lowly cot at 8 in the evening, may be thus summarized: Beginning at daylight with milking the cows, before breakfast he had fed the stock and chopped an armful of wood; during the day when not at work in the field or the clearing, he kept up repairs on the barn and farming implements of the place. He patched the harness of the horses, half-soled the shoes of the family, did the hog killing at Christmas time, pickled the hams and smoked them, made the sausage and soups, watched the ash hopper and boiled the soap, and on Saturday nights helped Aunt Hanna darn stockings for the family. To the farm boy in the olden times fell most of the business of packing eggs, butter, feathers, beeswax, ginseng, mink and ocon skins—which constituted the legal tender of the neighborhood at that day—and getting all these things ready to be sent to market.

Hard as this life was and often accompanied by deprivation and cruelties, when the employer was of the stingy and hardhearted class, it seems to have constituted a discipline of the most valuable kind. It is a law of our being that we rise through struggle to efficiency. These boys, thus hardened to all kinds of work and to endurance equal to that of the ancient Spartan, constituted the embryo which had in it the making of heroes. Severe as it was, viewed from the boy's standpoint at the time, all men who went through it looked back with complacency upon the experience as invaluable to their future success in life. There are still thousands of farm boys, but just what extent modern improvements have contributed to the amelioration of their condition it would be difficult to say. It is probable that the march of progress has not touched the farm boy to any appreciable extent, and that he remains substantially much like his pioneer progenitor. At any rate, there can be little doubt that in the lot are the makings of many more successful men of affairs. The child of luxury, as is well known, seldom amounts to anything. He either dies in infancy or perishes in early manhood with a diseased liver. All the chances are against him, for the hardest of all fortunes to fight is that of being born with a silver spoon in your mouth. It seems to be the natural law that success in the world awaits those only who traveled the rocky road of trial and tribulation in their earlier years. Nothing that comes easily is worth having, and none enjoy the so-called good things in life except those who have reached them by the painful process of self denial and repeated sacrifice.

SCORING FOREIGNIZED AMERICANS

Walla Walla Bulletin.
Archbishop Ireland addressing 15,000 people in Convention hall, Kansas City, gave a sensational turn to his oration by the remarks: "While we seek to Americanize immigrants may it not be well to guard some Americans against being foreignized; they are not good Americans except, inasmuch as they draw their gold from America, who colonize the so-called American quarters in the capitols of Europe."
This being a novel idea the noted ecclesiastic deserves the credit due to originality. But we doubt that the remark is more than an oratorical effect. Who can stop Americans from choosing any place on the surface of the globe for their residence? The colonies referred to are generally made up of art students, whose aim is merely professional. Without being disloyal to the American flag one can admit that in matters of art Europe is still in the lead and if our young men wish to get their ideas from that source, all the better for American art!

There is, however, another class of Americans who crowd into Vienna, Paris and Berlin and we have no doubt that the archbishop had these in mind when he spoke of Americans foreignized. This class consists of millionaire's daughters married to titled fools, of supernannated or retired insurance presidents, of sports and spendthrifts not in touch with our democracy, of the aristocratic riff raff, so to speak, which has become a byword to every American community—these have aroused the archbishop's indignation. Of course, we like to keep the gold and ship the human appendix to Europe or Borneo, but since we can't keep the money without this ballast, we wave our handkerchiefs from the Hoboken pier and bid them "Bon Voyage!"

Public Notice.
Notice is hereby given that we will apply to the mayor and common council of the City of Athena, Oregon, at a meeting thereof to be held on the 20th day of March, 1906, for a license to sell spirituous, malt and vinous liquors in less quantities than one quart, said liquors to be sold only in a building situated on lot 7, in block No. 5, of said city.
Dated, Feb. 18, 1906.
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"Five years ago this last fall I was taken down with a fever and was very bad for several months," writes Mrs. Henrietta Bell, of Diamond, Ohio. She continues: "Finally recovered from the fever, then my lungs became very bad. The doctor said I had consumption, and that he had done all he could for me, and he did not think that I could get well. My case was a very dangerous one. Became very weak, had night-sweats, also a very bad cough, night and day. At times would spit blood. I felt as though my time on earth would be short. Requested my husband to get me a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and perhaps it would help me. Before I had taken one bottle my cough was almost gone. The next to disappear were the night-sweats. I am almost sure that if it had not been for your medicine I would not have been here to-day." If mothers will only write to Dr. Pierce concerning the ailments of their family he will send them sound and valuable advice in a plain sealed envelope, and without any charge whatever. His remarkably wide experience has qualified him to deal with diseases which baffle the local practitioner. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

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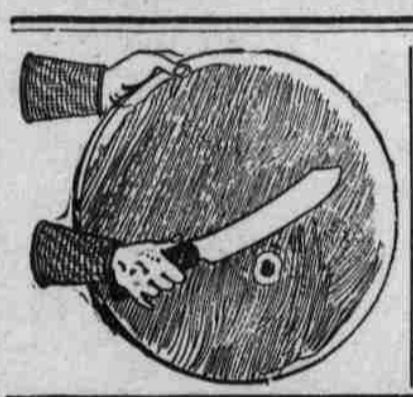
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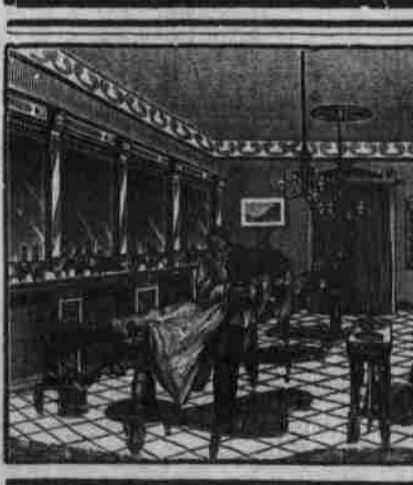
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