

Topics of the Times

Brodie may possibly discover that Mrs. Duke is much harder to lose than she was to find.

If Andrew Carnegie has any more money to give away he will write. Those who want it needn't.

Prof. Vincent says "church socials are a bore." As a rule, however, they get what they are boring after.

A good start to make at drowning all idiots would be with that New York physician who makes the pleasant suggestion.

They have succeeded in pulling the Russian ship of state off the rocks, but her plates are badly dented at several places.

Cuba is expected to show its patriotism by means of the scrubbing brush and the fumigator for some time to come.

There may be something in Andrew D. White's argument that reform must come in Russia, because any change must be for the better.

Somebody has written a book entitled "Practical Poker." The most practical kind of poker is the kind that is left practically alone.

Strange emotions must have stirred the Czar when, as promoter of The Hague Peace Conference, he heard the din of slaughter at his palace gates.

An illiterate population is easily managed up to a certain point. And then the advantage of a public that can be reasoned with becomes apparent.

Those college boys at Oberlin who will get back the money they lost through Mrs. Chadwick realize that the Carnegie signature is worth something, after all.

A man has been arrested in New Jersey for swindling people by selling them glass eyes that were not what he represented them to be. The champion mean man seems at last to have been caught.

It would be a good thing to order your pig iron for the year at once. If you do not you are liable to get left. The demand is so great that there will be no fire sales of the article in the near future.

Oregon apples sell in the Boston market for sixty and seventy-five cents a dozen—a higher price than is asked for good oranges in the same market. The reason is that they are carefully selected and carefully packed. The fact and the reason are commended "to whom it may concern."

"Those children up in the New Hampshire town where I have been this summer," remarked a little urchin in New York City, "have never seen an elevated road or an electric car, and Jimmy Hobbs—seven years old—has never even seen a locomotive." Jimmy Hobbs is in good company. The same might have been said of all the great men, from Julius Caesar to George Washington. The person of to-day who lives far in the country sees more modern appliances and inventions than Abraham Lincoln or the poet Longfellow ever heard of, and they did their life's work well.

President Eliot of Harvard, in addressing the Archaeological Institute of America, made the remark that if some great change should destroy our present civilization, about the only thing by which the archaeologist of two thousand years hence could judge us would be our subways, because they are the only things which are likely to last so long. It is a curious fact that with few exceptions, if any, the works of man below the ground last longer than those above it. Oliver Wendell Holmes pointed out that long after every other trace of a house had disappeared, it was possible to trace an old home by the cellar and the well.

It does not take much to transform Uncle Sam into Santa Claus. A little heavier growth of whiskers and a change of outer garments, and he will do very well for the part which he plays every Christmas. For he is, indeed, the Santa Claus of the whole world. Money goes in large sums every winter from adopted Americans to other countries. This last Christmas the amount was greater than ever before. From New York alone money orders aggregating more than four and a half million dollars were sent abroad. Great Britain led in the number of orders received and in the total amount sent to it, but Italy was far ahead in the average amount of each order.

President Roosevelt's brief message to Congress in regard to divorce sta-

tistics and uniform divorce laws will produce different effects on different minds. People who have obtained two or three divorces by false pretenses and sharp practice will regard the President as a dangerous meddler, but decent people from one end of the country to the other will rejoice that the attention of Congress and of the States has been directed to this important matter. That the censors have taken no notice of divorce statistics for twenty years is a remarkable and somewhat discreditable fact, and the suggestion that Congress should take steps to correct this fault in the future is highly proper, but the chief point in the message is "the hope entertained that co-operation among the several States can be secured, to the end that there may be enacted upon the subject of marriage and divorce uniform laws." There are not many thoughtful people in this country who do not regret that the constitution gives Congress no power to legislate on this subject, but it is a vain regret. There will probably never be a national divorce law in this country, and the only hope there is of relief from the evil of unwise and conflicting divorce laws is that held out by the President of co-operation between the States. Such co-operation will no doubt be sensibly hastened by the notice which the President has taken of the subject and still more by the statistics which Congress may direct the Census Bureau to compile. The probability is that one sight of the figures will produce so much condemnation that the reform will immediately take shape.

Dr. Eugene F. Talbot, an authority on degeneracy, and President Roosevelt would hardly agree in regard to large families. The President deplores small families as bad in many ways and calls them "race suicide," while Dr. Talbot informs us that there is no family of eight or ten children that has not at least one degenerate. The reason he gives is that no woman has the nervous energy necessary for the prenatal nourishment of so many children. It is not likely that Dr. Talbot would make such a statement unless he had statistics to support it, and still it is widely different from the general opinion of mankind, and not many people could ever accept it. John Wesley, in advising his preachers in regard to choosing a wife, said, "Take one out of a bunch," and his advice would be just as good for anyone else as for a preacher. It would be risking little to say that nine out of ten of the great men and great women of the world have had "a bunch" of brothers and sisters. We would risk just as little in saying that the children of large families are more robust physically as well as mentally than "race suicide" progeny. If the world were compelled to choose between the blotting out of all its small families and the blotting out of all its large families it would not hesitate a moment to doom the small families. Families are small so that the children can enjoy greater advantages, but we constantly see them eclipsed in the race of life by the children of larger families with fewer advantages, who are not only stronger and smarter but possess a social nature and unselfish traits that are more valuable to humanity than strong bodies or bright minds. This is the order of nature, and it is useless to try to change it. Dr. Talbot's moralizing about fast living and neurasthenia and about the necessity for sound health and good nerves in order to successful motherhood is all perfectly true, but what he says about excessive motherhood, in itself considered, is not borne out by common observation. Nature never intended motherhood as an injury to a woman's health. No one can greatly blame parents for preferring two well-clad and well-educated children to eight ragged and neglected children, but the fact is that the two are far more apt to be degenerates than the eight.

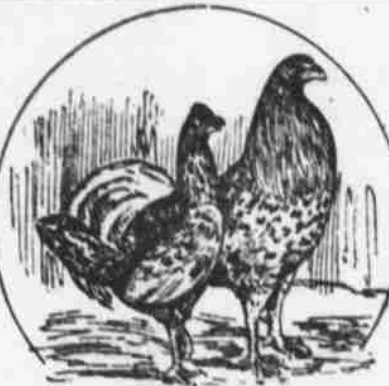
Chinaman's "Home Paper."
The Chinese Weekly Herald is one of the curious institutions of New York. It is not popular among Americans, for, being printed "backwards," a white man must stand on his head to read it. Outside of a similar publication in Frisco's Chinatown this is the sole printed medium for news from "home" for the thousands of New York's almond-eyed half-citizens. It is to be found just as regularly in Chinese laundries as the comic weeklies in an American barber shop. When the laundryman goes out of business his successor carries on the subscription. The out-of-town circulation is greater than that in New York. Scores of its subscribers cannot read it. The Herald is a four-page paper, about half the size of an ordinary news sheet, and always disconcerts Americans, because it opens at the left side instead of the right. The columns run crosswise instead of up and down, and a flash-view of the sheet gives the impression of a scrambled egg. Such things, however, are purely matters of national taste.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Yeast.—The chauffeurs, I understand, get \$15 a week and found.
Crimsonbeak.—You mean and find, don't you?—Boston Herald.



A Fine Table Fowl.

For some years the old English game fowl of England has been coming to the front. We see much in print about the revival of the old English game. This fowl occupies a foremost place as table poultry. They are most delicate and fine flavored fowls, a well-known fact to those who have feasted



OLD ENGLISH GAMES—SPANOL.

on what we call pit game. In fact, it is said that they outrank the pheasants in delicacy when served on the table. They grow very fast and are always plump and ready for the spit any time after they are six weeks old.

The colors bred are black breasted reds, brown breasted reds, duckwings, blue reds, piles, black, white and spangled, the latter the most popular. As shown by the illustration, these fowls are beautifully built and free from the long shanks of our standard games. They have full, plump breasts and longer bodies than our exhibition games. In fact, they are the same as our pit games, only they are bred to exhibition form and color and not for the pit.—Country Gentleman.

Practical Sheep Barn.

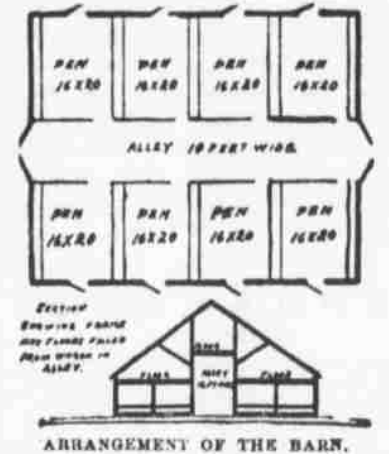
The plan shown is intended for a sheep barn, although it would answer equally well for cattle, and is arranged in such a manner that hay is stored



A \$500 BARN.

over the pens at the sides, and this space is filled directly from a wagon driven through the center alley.

The space at each side of the alley is divided up into separate pens by the feed racks and each pen has a separate window and door. This gives



plenty of light and permits egress to yards outside. While this barn is only ten feet at the side, it gives ample storage for hay and a large amount of room without any waste space. The cost will not exceed \$500.

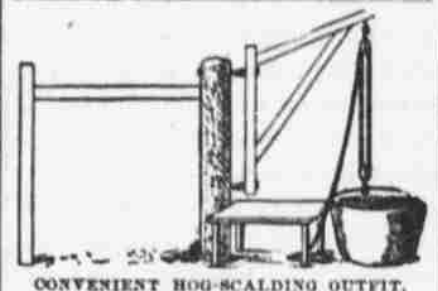
Whitewashing the Trees.

Whitewash may often be applied to fruit trees, especially apple trees, to good advantage. For this purpose the brine may be slaked in the usual manner with cold water, though hot water is preferable for that purpose. By adding some skim milk to the wash it can be made to adhere better to the bark. To make it adhere still better, some people add a thin solution of glue to the wash. This whitewash should be of such a consistency as to be easily applied with a spray pump, and the application should be made in the spring. It aids in keeping off fungous diseases and insect pests.

Woolless Sheep.

A variety of sheep grown in the Barbados Islands is being introduced into the Southern States under the direction of the Department of Agriculture. The breed is claimed to be excellent for the production of mutton. The habits resemble those of the goat—great browsers, easy keepers. The lack of wool enables them to endure warm climates without suffering from the heat. These sheep are fawn color streaked with black, males weighing about eighty pounds, and females seventy-five pounds.

Profit in Swine.
A young, thrifty, growing hog will turn grain into money quicker than any other kind of farm stock. Every farmer who has not an extensive range for his hogs should sow rye to give them a green winter feed. Bake up all the corn cobs, burn them, and when in the form of bright coals, throw water on them, thus making charcoal for the hogs. A little salt may be added. Try to feed young hogs regularly; never feed late, especially the evening meal. Watch the hogs closely to see if their digestion is good, for if they are not healthy they will not thrive well. To get your hogs ready for market they should be on full feed of corn; but after they are as fat as they can be without detracting from their comfort, put them on the market at once, for they are unsafe to keep, because hogs fattened on the corn diet are very tender and cannot stand any abuse or disease. The hogs kept for breeding purposes should never be put on corn diet, but require feed that has more bone and muscle-producing quality. Keep a few more good brood sows; they will prove to be the best investment on the farm before another year is gone. Don't waste good corn by feeding it to hogs in the mud. Your hogs will be worth the extra cost of a feeding trough. Try keeping an account with your hogs; charge them with everything they eat and give them credit for everything they bring in, and you will be surprised to see how much better they pay than any other animal on the farm. All kinds of stock are a source of profit on a good farm. And the farmer who thinks he can leave off stock growing is sure to find his mis-



take. The pasture must be utilized and fertility of the farm maintained.—Agriculture Epitomist.

Cure for the Dog Evil.

The Rural New Yorker says: The only cure for the dog evil is a law requiring the owner of one male dog to pay a small sum for a metal tag, with the name and address of the owner and the date, placing a practically prohibitory tax on additional dogs and female dogs, making it the duty of the proper officers to kill all dogs not tagged. When a dog is killed while worrying sheep or other domestic animals or fowls, the tag would show the owner and recourse could be had for damages done. A law something like this was on the statute books of Indiana several years ago and worked well; the revenues from that source were trebled, and the dog population decreased two-thirds, but for some reason it was repealed. If a majority of farmers could be induced to put a small flock of sheep on their farms sentiment would soon be molded to back such a law. Now the dog owners are in the majority and sentiment trends the other way. The same complaint may be made in most sections of the country.

Country's Rice Acreage.

A preliminary report to the chief of the bureau of statistics of the Department of Agriculture shows the total acreage of rice in the United States this season to be about 648,400 acres, distributed as follows: North Carolina, 1,800; South Carolina, 33,300; Georgia, 9,000; Louisiana, 365,100, and Texas 284,200 acres. The rice acreage of the country has increased 83 per cent within the last five years and is now four times as large as it was fifteen years ago. In 1899 Louisiana and Texas contained 59.9 per cent of the total rice acreage of the country. Now these States contain 93.1 per cent of the greatly increased total.

Pin Feathers.

Do not expect eggs when the hens are moulting.

Comfortable quarters for winter will be a great saving of food.

Aside from the question of eggs a warm quarters is a great saving of feed.

Chickens that are of a marketable size should be fattened now as soon as possible.

In having food constantly before fowls the great risk run is of having them too fat.

Ten days after the hens are cooped up with a cockerel the eggs will hatch true to the mating.

Fatten and kill off the old hens unless wanted especially for mothers.

The egg is found to contain a variety of substances, accordingly the food of the hen must be varied.

From this on chicks cannot be expected to grow very rapidly unless particularly well housed and fed.

Kerosene on the roosts prevents lice on the fowls. An ounce of kerosene is worth more than a pound of lice.

The purity of one bird is not improved for breeding purposes by being bred to another of a different breed.

Ayer's

We know what all good doctors think of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Ask your own doctor and find out. He will tell

Cherry Pectoral

you how it quiets the tickling throat, heals the inflamed lungs, and controls the hardest of coughs.

"Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is well known in our family. We think it is the best medicine in the world for coughs and colds."

KATIE PATTERSON, Petaluma, Cal.
Sole, Mo., \$1.00. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.
All druggists.

Hard Coughs

One of Ayer's Pills at bedtime will hasten recovery. Gently laxative.

A Well-Known Fact

Magistrate—What have you to say to the charge of being drunk and disorderly last night?

Prisoner—You know, y'r honor, that when a man is drunk, he thinks he's sober, and it's the other people is drunk.

Magistrate—Um—yes, I have heard so.

Prisoner—That's how it was, y'r honor. Th' policeman was drunk.

Millions in Oats.

Salzer's New National Oats yielded in Mich., 240 bu., in Mo., 255 bu., in N. D., 31 bu., and in 30 other states from 150 to 300 bu. per acre. Now this Oat if generally grown in 1905, will add millions of bushels to the yield and millions of dollars to the farmer's purse!



Homebuilder Yellow Dent Corn grows like a weed and yields from 157 to 200 bushels and more per acre! It's the biggest yielder on earth!

Salzer's Speltz, Barless Barley, Macaroni Wheat, Pea Oat, Billion Dollar Grass and Earliest Cane are money makers for you, Mr. Farmer.

JUST SEND THIS NOTICE AND 10c

in stamps to John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., and receive their big catalog and lots of farm seed samples. [P. C. L.]

A Russian "Volunteer."

It is often said that Russians are soldiers "born;" occasionally, however, one is made to order. An English visitor in Moscow was in one of the side streets recently when his attention was attracted by the scuffling of feet, the swish of a whip, and the sound of loud words.

Looking across the way, he saw a stocky fellow in a blouse, flat on the ground and stoutly resisting the efforts of two soldiers to set him on his feet and make him go along.

The Englishman turned to a man in official uniform at his side, who also was watching the struggle, but without excitement or interest.

"What's the trouble?" asked the Englishman.

The official shrugged his shoulders. "There's no trouble," he replied. "It's only a peasant turning volunteer."

Piso's Cure is a good cough medicine. It has cured coughs and colds for forty years. At druggists, 25 cents.

Latest Slander on 'the Sex.

"I can cure you of that peculiar affection of your neck, madam," the physician said, "but I shall have to prescribe a most heroic remedy."

"Not a surgical operation, doctor?" faltered his fair patient.

"Worse than that, madam," he rejoined. "For six months you must refrain absolutely from turning your head to glance at the attire of anybody whom you happen to meet on the street."—Chicago Tribune.



For Cupboard Corner

St. Jacobs Oil

Straight, strong, sure, is the best household remedy for

Rheumatism

Neuralgia Sprains
Lumbago Bruises
Backache Soreness
Sciatica Stiffness

Price, 25c. and 50c.

PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION