

## FREAKS IN FOOD CONSUMPTION.

GUY ELLIOTT MITCHELL.

Consumers the world over, and not alone in the United States, as has often been asserted by magazine writers, are very fastidious in their selection of articles of diet. Peculiar as it may seem, this selection is not made with the idea of procuring something which will please the palate or which is nutritious, but more with regard to the effect upon the eye of the object sought. Sometimes, too, there is a hide-bound conception of how a certain food should be and no way can break the public of this fancy. The Department of Agriculture, a year or so ago, found that the English people would not purchase a consignment of American sweet potatoes, the sole complaint being, that while the tubers were of good color and satisfactory in every other respect, they were sweet in taste. The English conception of how a potato ought to taste was certainly a compliment to Irishmen.

Butter, an article of food supposed to be purchased for food reasons alone, depends largely upon its flavor and perhaps, still more upon its color as to its quality when it comes to purchase. With the fine fruit produced by horticulturists through modern means we find that attention has been paid more to the color and shape of the product even than to its quality. The most productive of blackberries, while

the skin and the color is inherent—not derived from the fat. On the contrary, in some European countries there is a preference for the darker-skinned chickens. A curious preference, entirely unassociated with taste, is the color of eggs. While in Boston brown eggs sell for a cent or two per dozen more than white eggs, the contrary is true in New York, and if one or two dirty eggs are visible the price is still lower. It is said that Chicago is indiscriminating in regard to the color of eggs, but that San Francisco prefers white ones.

### Eggs Colored With Coffee.

In England, where brown eggs are the favorite, dealers go so far as to color the shells of white eggs with either strong coffee or some dye stuff. New York likes a white butter but Chicago and Philadelphia a little darker, while Washington demands a deep yellow butter, and New Orleans wants a color still darker than Washington. How far this question of color or goes may be taken from a late instance in which a car-load of butter intended for Washington was sent on to New York, and the butter originally consigned to New York was sent to Washington. The receivers in both places remonstrated strongly, the one claiming the butter to be too dark and

## Ploughing as a Great Sport.

In the Minnesota Agricultural College they are applying the lesson that Mark Twain's hero, Tom Sawyer, had impressed upon himself on that Saturday morning when his aunt set him at work whitewashing the fence—that is, that what one must do is work, and that play may be turned into work or work into play. At the college a ploughing contest was recently held, and it has been decided to make such contests a permanent part of the field day sports.

In reporting the success of the competition in which the first prize, a sulky plow, was won by a freshman in the school and the third prize by a senior, the Pioneer Press of St. Paul, advanced the theory that if, all the energy now expended in foot ball and other school and college sports were directed toward turning the soil with

The means chosen to create the new orange may be described by either of the words, hybridization or pollination. That form of citrus which grows farthest north is a Japanese shrub, citrus trifoliata. It may be seen in the United States as far north as Massachusetts. Its use is only ornamental. Its fruit under favoring conditions attains the size of a wild persimmon and is globular, tawny and bitter. In Japan, its home, the fruit is converted into a conserve. Three trees of the citrus trifoliata grow in the grounds of the Department of Agriculture. Each of them is about eighteen feet tall.

In the Spring when these trees are in flower a botanist watches till the sun excludes from the stigma. This sign tells him that the ovary of the flower is ripening for the reception of the pollen and the conception of the fruit. Straightway he clips the stamens—those delicate filaments, fine as hairs, which extend themselves from the heart of the flower. He clips them because at their end hang tiny pods—the anthers—in which the pollen, or the germinal dust, is held. Going to the orangery of the department he gathers the bursting anthers of the



THE CONSUMER'S FANCY

Wishes the plow in Ploughing Contest First in Department of Agriculture.

plow, those would surely remain space for cities to increase on unploughed land.

It appears that the ploughing contest was introduced this year as a new feature of the field day sports. Preliminary were held and the best plows in the school were selected. Each contestant was given a strong team and a plow. He was required to lay out a "land" about twenty feet wide and finish his "land." The contestants were allowed to use stakes in laying out their "land." In judging, the straightness, width, depth and evenness of the furrow, the evenness of the land and the manner in which the weeds were turned under, were all considered.

### A HARDY ORANGE.

#### Crossing the Florida Variety on the Sturdy Japanese Species.

Botanists in the employ of the United States Department of Agriculture hope to bring into being an orange tree which will be as sturdy as the apple tree; an orange tree that will not perish in the chill of northern winter, which in December will bear its wreaths of snow and in May its garlands of bloom, and which when summer comes will yield fruit as good as that sweetened and gilded in the south sun. This may seem to be an unnatural proposition but it only seems so. No violence upon the laws of Nature has been or will be attempted. It is simply an effort to make the citrus tree from which is obtained the sweet table orange, as hardy and insensitive to cold as the orange tree from which is obtained the bitter unedible orange. By crossing a citrus tree which grows in the north and which bears an unedible fruit with the citrus tree of the south it is sought to beget a plant in which will be combined the good traits of each.

Government botanists are confident that the result of this citrus marriage will be a scion that will grow and fruit at a latitude midway between the northern limits of the sweet orange and the northern limits of the line of growth of the unedible orange. If this should be there might be orange groves in central Virginia, middle Kentucky, southern Indiana, southern Illinois, central Missouri and central Kansas. Think of orange gardens around the home in Norfolk, Richmond, Lynchburg, Lexington, Louisville, Calo and perhaps in Cincinnati, St. Louis, Jefferson City and Kansas City.

Department of Agriculture.

The pollenation of these trees has been made for about ten seasons and each year the fruit of the little bitter orange has improved till this season the oranges will be fairly good table fruit.



EXPERIMENTAL ORANGE TREE.

Department of Agriculture.

sweet oranges and sprinkles the sweet orange pollen on the stigma of the bitter orange.

The pollenation of these trees has been made for about ten seasons and each year the fruit of the little bitter orange has improved till this season the oranges will be fairly good table fruit.

### An Adopted English Knight.

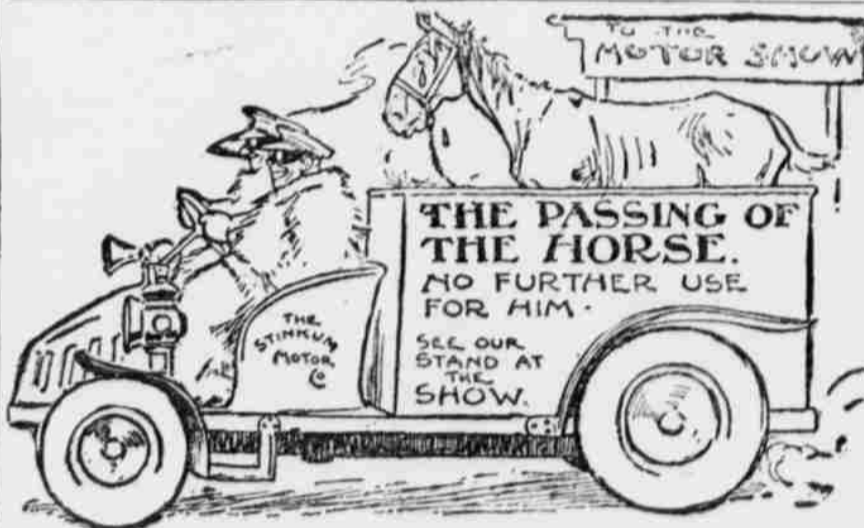
An Englishman who visited New York City a short time ago had occasion to ask an Irishman the direction of a certain business house. This son of Erin happened to be going that way, and offered to guide his inquired to the place. As they walked along, Pat, to be friendly, asked: "And who might ye be?"

The Britisher drew himself up with dignity and replied: "I am the Honorable John Kenneth Edgerton of London, Knight of the Garter, Knight of the Bath, Knight of St. John, Knight of the Golden Fleece, Knight of the Royal Legion and of the Iron Cross. And whom have I the honor of addressing?"

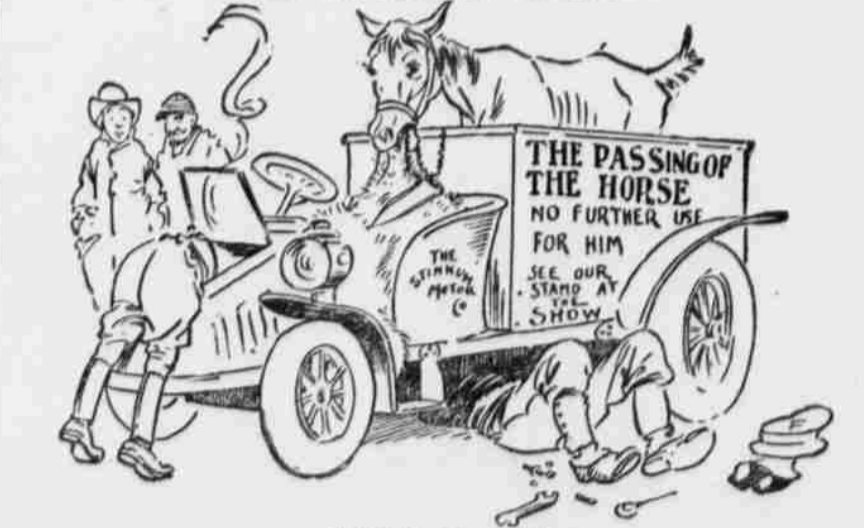
Pat, for a single instant was bewildered with this long list, but quick as a wink, he threw forward his chest, and responded pompously: "O' am Patrick Timothy Flannigan of Hoboken, to-night, to-night, to-night, to-morrow to-night, the night following and I verry other bloody night of the wake, including Sunday night, be gorra!"

Senator Beveridge's book, "The Russian Advance," is still on sale—state on all.

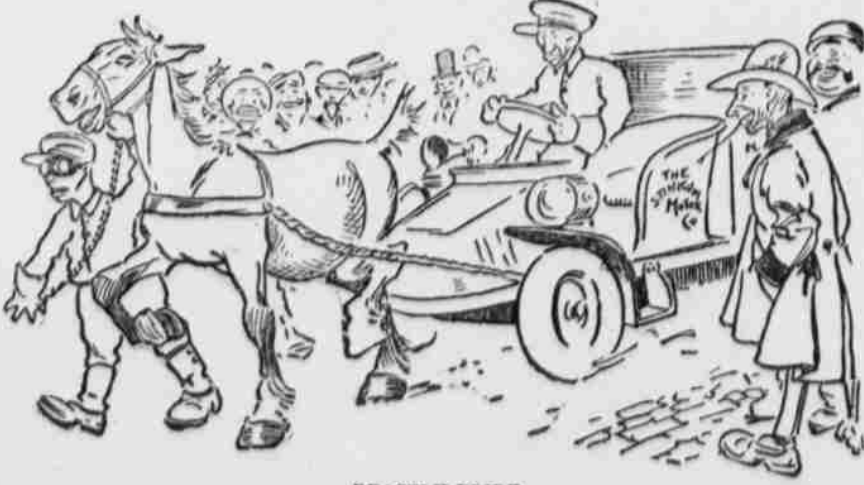
It is understood that the Kentucky crops prove a somewhat large output of pure Cuban tobacco this year.



THE ARROGANCE OF INVENTION



PICKING UP A BIT



BEASTLY PRIDE

## STOP YOUR RUNAWAY

None Genuine Unless Stamped THE GEEB SAFETY REIN PAT. AUG. 25, 1900

You Can Do It EVERY TIME With A GEEB SAFETY REIN PRICE, COMPLETE, \$5.00 Expressage Prepaid No more smash-ups; No more lives lost; Can be buckled on, in a minute, to any bridle!

WORKS INDEPENDENTLY OF THE DRIVING REINS. Write for descriptive circular, free on application, to THE GEEB MANUFACTURING CO., 47 EXCHANGE PLACE, NEW YORK. Will Stop any Horse or Money Refunded.

### Suburban Co-operation.

In Kensington, Maryland, one of Washington's suburbs, there is a group of pretty little cottages inhabited mostly by government office-holders. There is no municipal gaslighting or water supply system, and to offset the benefit of the health and pleasures derived from living near to nature, there is some discomfort to those who are used to these city luxuries. One householder, of an inventive turn of mind, however, has seemed to solve the problem for himself and neighbors. The party who lived next door to him owned a gasoline engine, but he had no deep well from which to obtain a supply of pure water—the government employe had. A deal was fixed up between them by which the inventive genius was to set up and install the engine and connect it with his pump, so by a system of piping, water could be had by both parties without the necessity of hand pumping or a windmill.

This system of water supply has worked well—so well indeed that the piping has been laid to a couple of neighbors even more distant, and the well, being of ample capacity, now supplies half a dozen families with water. It is understood that plans are now being perfected by which the gasoline engine will be celled to do double duty. In the daytime it will fill the water tanks, while at night it will be connected to an electric generator, and thus furnish current for lighting the immediate neighborhood. The example set by this resident of Kensington could be followed by co-operation between residents of many rural settlements. Co-operative telephones are now a success and co-operative sewer, water and electric systems should prove equally valuable and successful.

## Sandwich

SELF FEED FULL CIRCLE TWO HORSE

## HAY PRESS

The Baler for speed. Bales 12 to 18 tons a day. Has 40 inch feed hole. Adapted to bank barn work. Stands up to its work—no digging holes for wheels. Self-feed Attachment increases capacity, lessens labor, makes better bales and does not increase draft.

Send for Catalogue

SANDWICH MFG. CO.,

124 Main Street, Sandwich, Ill

## Well Drilling Machines

Over 70 sizes and styles for drilling either deep or shallow wells in any kind of soil or rock. Mounted on wheels or skids. With engines or horse powers. Strong, simple and durable. Any mechanic can operate them easily.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE

WILLIAM BROS., Ithaca, N. Y.

## Kirk's

AMERICAN CROWN

## SOAP

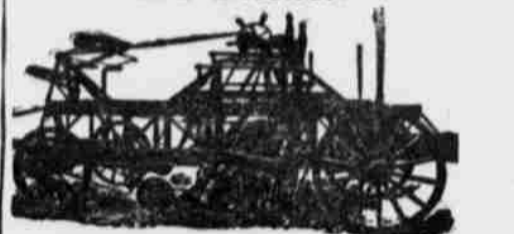
Is a green soap, consistency of paste, a perfect cleanser for automobile machinery and all vehicles; will not injure the most highly polished surface. Made from pure vegetable oils. If your dealer does not carry American Crown Soap in stock, send us his name and address and we will see that your wants are supplied. Put up in 12 1/2 and 50 lb. pails.

James S. Kirk & Company CHICAGO, ILL.

### EXCAVATION WORK.

With Greatest Economy use the

Western Elevating Grader and Ditcher.



ROAD CONSTRUCTION.

Western Wheeled Scraper Co. AURORA, ILL.

Send for Catalogue.

### Gleanings in Bee Culture

teaches you about bees, how to handle them for honey and profit. Send for free copy. Read it. Then you'll want to subscribe. 6 month's trial free. Don't delay but do it today.

A. I. Root Co., Medina, Ohio.

"Tell me honestly, dearie, how could these doughnuts be improved?"

"By making the holes a little larger."

How to Make a Home for Ten Cents a Year

COOKING SEWING ENTERTAINING MUSIC HEALTH

and how to build a house to do it in

MAXWELL'S HOMEMAKER MAGAZINE

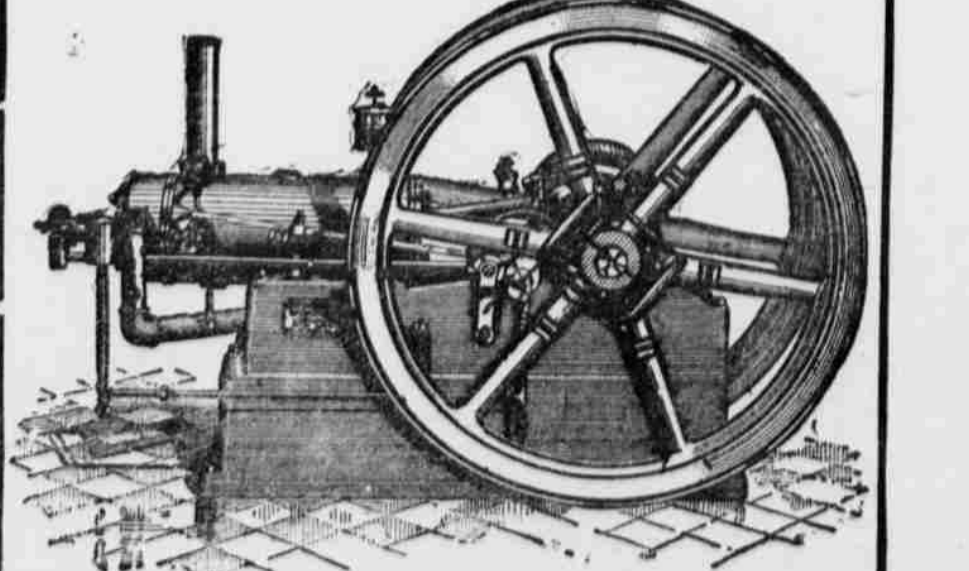
The most original, practical and entertaining illustrated monthly magazine ever published

SUBSCRIBE FOR IT NOW One Whole Year for TEN CENTS

Send a Dime or five two cent stamps with your name and post office address carefully and plainly written to Maxwell's Homemaker Magazine 1405 Fisher Building CHICAGO, ILL.

## International Harvester Co. GASOLINE ENGINES

When equipped with an I. H. C. gasoline engine, the farm, the dairy, the mill, the threshing machine, or the husker and shredder can be operated more economically than with any other power. Farmers who have water to pump, wood to saw, feed to grind or corn to shell, can do this work at a minimum cost with I. H. C. engines.



I. H. C. HORIZONTAL ENGINE I. H. C. gasoline engines are made in the following sizes: 2, 3 and 5 H. P., vertical type, stationary; 6, 8, 10, 12 and 15 H. P., horizontal type, stationary; and 6, 8, 10, 12 and 15 H. P., horizontal type, portable. WRITE FOR GASOLINE ENGINE BOOKLET. International Harvester Co. of America (Incorporated) 7 Monroe Street Chicago, Ill., U. S. A.



OYSTER BLEACHING IN FRESH WATER AND FANCY CONDENSED MILK CANS

large and beautiful, are, if anything, inferior in flavor to the wild ones found along the roadside. Red apples are the leading favorites of this sort of fruit. An instance of this is the Ben Davis, one of the best sellers and certainly the poorest eater

the other too light, and that no customer could be found for either. The matter was adjusted only through the reshipping of the consignments to the proper places.

### Artificially Colored Meats

Meat dealers have found that corn beef, cured ham and some salt meats find a much more ready sale where, in the process of curing, some salt peter has been added to impart a bright red color. Sausages and other forms of minced meat are frequently colored by aniline dyes, as are also the wrappers of some sausage and ham. These obtain more ready sale in competition with uncolored goods. Porterhouse steak, the most expensive cut of beef is in high favor, whereas beef coming from the neck, equally as nutritious and as palatable, it is stated, if suitably prepared, sells at a much lower price.

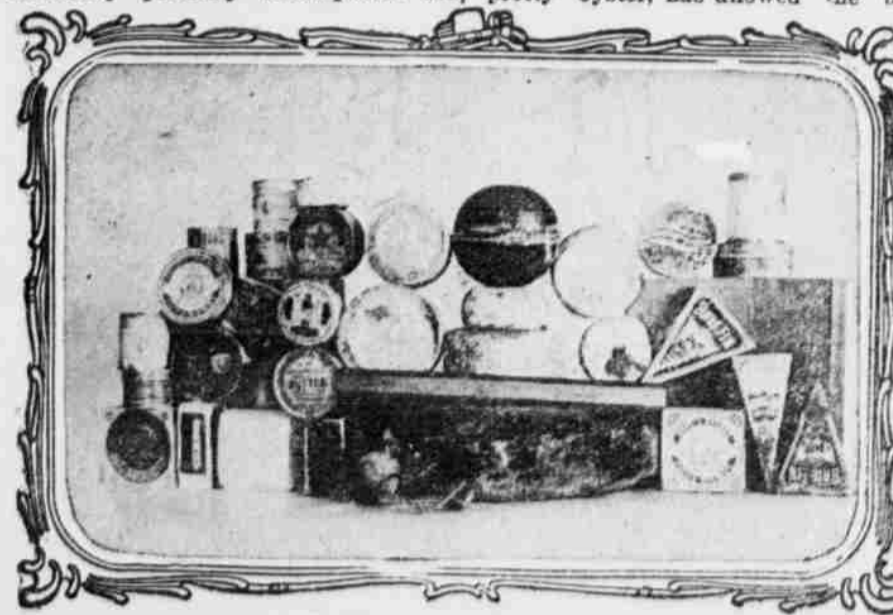
Consumers, of course, are appealed to the selection of some foods through the quantity of advertising given to a particular product. Instances of this are found among the enormous sale of breakfast and health foods that are so widely advertised in newspaper and magazine. Years ago oat meal was sold only by druggists and kept by them merely for the sick; indeed there was long a prejudice in England against oatmeal as food for human beings, although in Scotland it was the staple food. Even in our bread the consumer usually insists upon the pure snow-white bread that is robbed of the most nutritious element constituting the wheat grain.

Your elders now are complaining that they cannot get oysters with the same flavor as they used to years ago. Instead they seem to get a white tasteless bivalve. It is only made palatable through a drenching with vinegar, horseradish or some other seasoning. The reason for this is that while the oyster of to-day is the same as that of years ago, the dealer, in order to meet the consumer's desire for a "pretty" oyster, has allowed the bi-

valve in shell to remain for about twenty-four hours in fresh water before opening it, thus causing the white appearance.

And so the gratification of taste in these modern days is of minor consideration; the city-bred people want something that appeals to the eye, and the dealer appreciates that in order to catch the fancy of a customer it is more important to place a product in a showy and convenient package, than it is to furnish a wholesome or well-flavored food.

Hodgins' automobile ran away with his mother-in-law and scared her so that she's been speechless ever since. Hodgins considers the investment a good one.



FANCY FOREIGN CHEESES

odor, if smelt before cooking, would prevent many people from eating it. Others do not know that when they boast about the "fine lamb" they are getting, the butcher is serving them with kid meat instead. Our people hold in high favor certain products with particular names attached to them. For instance, the amount of "Canada" lamb sold here is enormous. This word has the same magic effect upon lamb prices that the word "Philadelphia" has upon spring poultry or that of "Long Island" upon fresh eggs. The housewife, too, in many parts of the country has a strong preference for yellow-skinned chickens under the assumption that fat lies beneath the skin, although as a matter of fact chickens store very little fat next to

the skin and the color is inherent—not derived from the fat. On the contrary, in some European countries there is a preference for the darker-skinned chickens. A curious preference, entirely unassociated with taste, is the color of eggs. While in Boston brown eggs sell for a cent or two per dozen more than white eggs, the contrary is true in New York, and if one or two dirty eggs are visible the price is still lower. It is said that Chicago is indiscriminating in regard to the color of eggs, but that San Francisco prefers white ones.

Hodgins' automobile ran away with his mother-in-law and scared her so that she's been speechless ever since. Hodgins considers the investment a good one.