

Yet t' y are a contented lot, these railway mail clerks, happy only when 'on the road." But it is not the e vironment for a comestic man, a Montreal paper—which doubtless of the hill of life and is jogging down into the dark valley beyond. Thus a most are taken to Australia they learn m: jerity of the clerks are young men; there are preferred by the Post Office Department, for they have fewer cares, are more active, and can work

faster and with greater accuracy. Uncle Sam is proud of the personnel of this expert force and takes every precaution for their safety and comfort. Their hours are fixed, and evertime is required only in cases of absolute necessity.

A Traveling Postoffice.

A railway ma. car is technically an "R. P. O." or Railway Post Office. It runs between stated points, receiving and distributing mail through post offices along the line. It is a government post office on wheels, and is United States territory, though owned by the railroad. It is as well built and as completely equipped for its purpose as a Pullman. Iron racks for mail sacks extend along each side. Above are tiers of open boxes and pig-een holes. "Work tables" si ? on the racks. There is neither plush nor makegany. It is built for work and is the abode of workers.

Let us imagine that this car is the "R. P. O." leaving Pittsburg, Pa., for Cleveland, Ohio, over the rennsylva-nia road. The Pittsburg city post office delivers to the car mail for points east of Cleveland (called "local mail") and "through mail" for Cleveland and points west. The train rushes out of Pittsburg. The whistle blows for a station. No stop here. A "helper." station. No stop here. A "helper," opens a side door, swings out the mail cept just enough in each day to satisfy "catcher" and pieks up a mail sack from a crane by the track. Now the work begins. This sack contains mail of estimable people, but for our own of the world's sugar production, clerk pounces on it like a wolf on a do our best to believe it. There are showed for beets the highest proportions. He throws papers and packages hither and you, this way and that Bees, despite their reputation for intelligence, are evidently about the stages as fast as an expert eard player stupidest things with wings—merely showed for beets the highest proportion of sugar, one morning the warehouse indicated that showed for beets the highest proportion of sugar, one morning the warehouseman encountered the big fellow. With a brown and the wings—merely showed for beets the highest proportion of sugar, one morning the warehouseman encountered the big fellow. With a brown and the wings—merely showed for beets the highest proportion of sugar, one morning the warehouseman encountered the big fellow. can distribute a deck. But every piece of mail finds its mark in a particular sack or box. The mack and boxes are labeled; but the labels are unnecessary; his quick eye catches only the name of the office, ignoring that of the addressee. Though me work p-

threwa off, and the catcher yanks anether sack about for distribution. And
so it goes without cessation. The
the profit of human robbers should be whole scheme is so arranged that there is just time, working with the utmest speed and accuracy, to make connections.

Skill Needed to Throw Sacks.

peuma sack from a train going a mile to choose that differences of opinion a minute, landing it lightly on a truck on the subject are entirely permissible. twenty feet from the track.

Of course there are accidents, and danger is always present. Yet in ten years past but 96 clerks have been killed on the road—an average of ten a year, with a force numbering up to 11,000. The legal representative of

To be one of an army of 10,000; to | tie wide. The comparatively light travel by raffred 1 23,000 miles every tender and mail car responded instant of sugar. The sugar producers at year; to stand in a car forming part ly, while the heavy baggage and home are increasing their output of

Bees Natural Spendthrifts.

The New York Times reprinted from in a single year the uselessness of storing honey for a winter that never comes and that they thereafter aban- United Kingdom. The total consump-

OUR SUGAR CONSUMPTION.

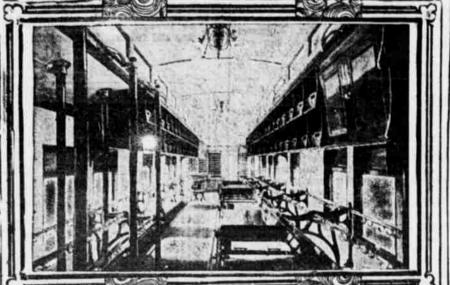
Beet Sugar Now More Than Half the World's lotal Production.

Of the more than 1,200 million dol lar's worth of merchandise brought in to the United States during the last year more than 150 million dollar's worth was sugar. Sugar formed by far the largest single item in this largest importation which the United States has ever made in any single year.

year; to stand in a car forming part of a swaying, rus ing train, surrounded by open-mout ed sacks and pigeon that broke the coupling. Relieved of this burden the engine, t nder and this burden the engine, t nder and this burden the engine, t nder and mail car shot ahead and leaped the twenty-foot draw, landing on the other side in safety. The engine cannot seeply and interest of the railway mail clerk. Then add to these the constant sibility of being knocked into eterlary or crippled for life in a wreck.

It is sugar. The sugar producers at home are increasing their output of both cane and beet sugar, but even to their rapid increase in production is not keeping pace with the increasing home demand, and as a consequence of twenty-foot draw, landing on the other reside in safety. The engine cannot side with the increasing home are increasing their output of both cane and beet sugar, but even their rapid increase in production is not keeping pace with the increasing home demand, and as a consequence of twenty-foot draw, landing on the other reside in safety. The engine cannot side with the increasing home demand, and as a consequence of the quantity of sugar brought into the country increases from year to year. It has doubled in the last twenty years, while population meantime increased while population meantime increased while population meantime increased while population meantime increased with the increasing home demand, and as a consequence of twenty-foot draw, landing on the other rapid increase in production is not keeping pace with the increasing home demand, and as a consequence of the quantity of sugar brought into the country increases from year to year. It has doubled in the last twenty years, while population meantime increased but 50 per cent. The annual average importation during the five-year period ending with 1885 was 1,031,149 tons, and define the five year period ending the country increases from year to year. It has doubled in the last twenty years while population meantine. importation during the five-year period the settled principles of business and with 1905 the annual average was 2,106, 043 tons, despite the fact that the sugar production at home had grown from 176,035 tons in 1885 to approximately 600,000 tons in 1905,

The United States is the largest sugar-consuming country in the world. though the per capita consumption in this country is not as great as in the



INTERIOR OF A MAIL CAR.

don their dear-bought fame as models tion in 1904 aggregated 2,767,000 tons except to get, get, get.

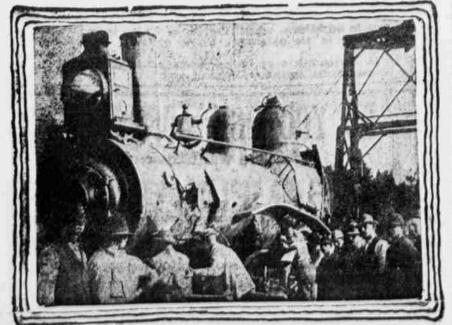
As fighters, while bees are brave pears mechanical it calls for a high enough, they are unable to strike more dogree of training. Note the marvel-than a single blow against any of their lous accuracy—less than two per cent. more dangerous foes, dying themselves ferce for a given year.

The whistle blows for another way and hunt more honey. It is almost incredible, therefore, that a creature threws off, and the catcher yanks are the catcher yanks and the catcher yanks are the catcher yanks and the catcher yanks are the ca of errors in the work of the whole as a result of it, while the foes, after able so quickly to draw an inference from the failure of winter to appear when expected. "Almost" is not "quite," however, and we, too, can believe what we want to believe. So we Threwing off sacks calls for another kind of skill. The expert knows from the weight of sack, speed of train and pressure of wind just when and how to let the sack go. He can drep it on a mark. If a platform be crowded or littered with baggage he must pick a clear spot lest his cannon hall of leather and mail regret to the sack go will take a few of our ants down there and prove that they, also, are industrious only because they have to be—that they are not a bit fonder of industry than are the butterflies or any of the salveyards who have always had the will not question the story from Ausball of leather and mail reom up sluggards who have always had the against some unsuspecting traveler. I sense to see that between toil to-day have seen a mail clerk drop a sixty and hunger to-morrow there is so little

Famous for Artificial Noses.

The city of Indore is modern and ugly and uninteresting. Apart from being the prosperous capital of a rich each clerk so killed receives \$1,000 native state, its chief claim to notor-from the government. Arrangements lety rests upon its hospital, which has are contemplated for payment of an won universal fame by the manufac-annuity to every clerk permanently disabled in line of duty.

won universal fame by the manufac-ture of artificial noses. That may seem a very limited industry on which The mail car is usuaffy next the tender and runs a greater risk in accidents than a passenger car. But the position is sometimes advantageous. An instance is cited of a peculiar wreck near Poughkeepsie, N. Y. band suspects a breach of the Seventh The train was crossing a bridge when



A PECULIAR WRECK

the engineer saw that the draw was in the same plight you may set him open. His speed was such that he down as a usurer who has fallen into could not stop. But he was a quick the hands of his clients, and has had thinker. Reversing the engine for s no Portia to plead his cause. Indore moment he suddenly threw the throt- is the Mecca of these unfortunates.

of industry and hilariously devote to making an average consumption for

from the station just passed. Some of part, says the Times, it very considerably increases such little affection as Cleveland, some for the for west. We previously had for these tiresomely virtuous fowl and therefore will we clerk pounces on it like a wolf on a do our best to believe it. There are

Chostly Ashes.

and, as is usually the case, the former rushed at his assailant. Once he hid betenants had left much rubbish behind hind a coll of rope overhead, and then them.

"Just look," complained the little woman, "here are three horrid palls of ashes in the yard." "Ah," laughed the big husband,

'speak of them with more reverence." "Reverence, Why should I?

"Why, they are the ashes of the dewhich carry many rodents.

SENATOR LODGE DOES NOT RECOGNIZE HIS AMENDED BILL

IN IRONICAL VEIN.

objectionable section:

"That whenever a vacancy shall occur in the office of consul general, or consul above the sixth (\$4,000) class, members of the two classes next below that in which the vacancy occurred shall be deemed eligible to be selecte!

to fill such vacancy."
This was a paloable attempt to engraft the merit and promotion system mon the consular service, and thereby tent in selecting consuls general and high-salaried consuls. A majority of the committee regard it as the sordid niection of commercialism into a pure v political matter, on the flimsy pre-tence that the consular service is a usiness institution.

If the Committee on Foreign Relations had permitted this section to stand, it would have been an abject cap-

Senator Lodge's bill providing for prominent citizens recommended by the reorganization of the consular ser-vice has been shorn by the Committee at the foot of the list was intensely on Foreign Relations of its most in repugnant to the Senatorial sense. As cendiary and detestable features—the statesmen representing watchful and exprovision for examining candidates pectant constituents, many of whom exfor appointment, and this still more ercise valuable influence in behalf of their party, they could not consent to closing the door of hope. Every Congressional district has its share of elderly and highminded students of the world's affairs, men who may have been rudely buffeted by fortune and who cherish the hope of dodging further cruel strokes by landing in a pleasant consulate. They are men who have done yeoman service for their party. and often they retain connections that to deprive national la-makers of their can not be ignored. Are these to be encient sacred right to assist the Prest | superseded and thrust aside by popinjays? Are the oxen that tread ou the corn to be muzzled? Is the accuraed thirst for gold to commercialize the honorable office of consul, so long the haven of ancient marine:3 tempest-tossed on chartless political seas, the asylum of indigence, the badge of decaved gentility?

The Senate Committee on Foreign stand, it would have been an abject cap truletion to the force that are surrentitiously robbing Congress of its parronage povers. The idea that young consuls that have made good records should be promoted and that test consular places.

"TOO MUCH LAW-MAKING."

REPRESENTATIVE BOWERSOCK, OF KANSAS CITY, CRITICISES BILL MAKERS.

Says Scifishness and Ambition Lead them through a Wilderness of Folly and Buncomb and Valuable Time is Wasted.

"I have long criticised and seriously The U ited States is increasing objected to the making of so many steadily and rapidly its consumption laws, and I have long contended that men are not made good and honest by remarked Representative Justin D. Bowersock, of Kansas, re-

"The comparatively indiscriminate enactment of legislation on all subjects -general, special and personal-is a great evil and a greater folly. I have insisted that selfishness and prejudice are at the basis of too many enactments, and that human nature and commerce, honorable competition, and the results of supply and demand can hardly be changed by law to any beneficial extent.

"Corporate greed, cupidity, and corruption can be, ought to be, and will be modified, curtailed, and brought within decent limits, to say the least. No man desires this ore earnestly than I do; no man will go further along any reasonable lines in any legitimate and practicable effort to bring this about, whether it be in con-nection with railroad rates, Standard Oil rebates, beef trust, unlawful combination, watered stocks, or whatever or whoever may burden the consumer or producer, unduly or unjustly, for extortionate gain.

"'Equal rights to all, special privileges to none will not come through impracticable, non-enforceable laws drawn on the theory that we have reached the millennium.

"The ordinary legislator, and his name is legion, has a legal panacea for every ill. If he had as much honesty as assurance, the title of his bills would be:

"'An act to make men do business on earth as it is done in heaven,' a consummation devoutly to be wished; but let us not forget the effect of the Pope's bull against a comet and the beating of tom-toms by the aborigines on an eclipse."

A Two-Foot Rat.

A warehouseman at the Oriental dock, in Baltimore, had the distinction the other day of killing the largest rat ever seen along the local water front. The rodent weighed nearly seven pounds, and from the tip of his nose to the end of his tail he measured two feet.

It was only after a desperate fight, lasting twenty minutes, that the im-mense rat was killed. For some time scraps of paper and wood in the tool-room of the warehouse indicated that showed fight. Back and forth he They had just moved in the house scampered, and when cornered he dashed at the man's head. The latter dodged but the rodent's sharp teeth grazed his face. At last the rat was killed and measurements proved that he was the biggest ever seen in port

> The animal is supposed to be a spe cles found in South America and it is believed he came here in a ship, all of

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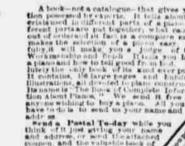
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