

# FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY

## IN THE HOP YARDS

### LICE PLENTIFUL, BUT DOING NO DAMAGE.

#### Spraying Is Strongly Urged to Destroy the Pest—Hot Weather Will Kill the Vermin.

The hop yards in the section surrounding Salem are reported as looking fine, the vines showing an excellent growth, and the prospects at this time are reported very favorable for a good yield of this valuable crop. Lice however, have increased during the past few weeks, according to the reports of hop experts, but while the increase is considerable, there is no danger from the pest at this time, though spraying is strongly advised for all growers, who have found evidence of vermin on their vines.

The lice now in the yards are not a menace to the crop, provided favorable weather conditions are had before the hops mature; if a week's warm and dry weather would occur about August 1st or thereabouts, with the temperature from 90 to 95 degrees, all lice would disappear in short order, and there would be no bad results.

Local dealers, who have made careful inspections of the yards throughout the valley, are much pleased with conditions, and all agree that the lice are not as plentiful as they were this time in 1898, while the growth of the vines is fully up to last year's if not superior.

Valentine Loewl, in the New York Price-Current, of July 8th, says:

Receipts for week..... 599  
Receipts for week..... 156,755  
Exports to Europe for week..... 1,000  
Exports from Sept 1..... 106,935  
Imports for week..... 8  
Imports from Sept 1..... 2,823

There is no change in the local hop market. The trading is very light, neither brewers, dealers nor exporters, showing much disposition to operate, but the light remaining stocks the world over make a generally steady holding. Those who own hops are not inclined to urge sales, certainly not until the prospects of the growing crop are a little clearer. The few sales making are in the range of our quotations, and really fine qualities are no lower than they have been for some weeks past. Only a little business is transpiring in the interior of this state as farmers are still inclined to hold rather than accept the prices bid. The crop reports are conflicting. Dry weather has retarded the growth of the vines and the yards are looking none too well for this season of the year. On the Pacific coast the vines have been making fair progress, and though vermin are said to be increasing in the northern sections, the present outlook is for a larger yield than last year. Frequent showers and warmer weather have naturally improved the conditions of the crop in England. Most of the reports are summed up in the following concise statement: "The planters continue to progress very rapidly, and much of the backwardness of a month ago has been made up. Although there is a general sprinkling of reports in which the vines are said to be doing well, and very few growers have thought it necessary to commence washing."

The Oneida (N. Y.) Dispatch, of July 4th, says of the hop crop in that section of New York state:

A trip through the hop country in the central part of Madison county on Sunday developed the fact that the hop outlook has greatly changed for the worse during the past week.

While many of the yards visited were in an excellent state of cultivation, being free from weeds and vines well killed up, the awful effects of the blight, which was said to have disappeared, was strongly apparent. Not only are the vines and leaves badly infested with vermin, but the strength of the vines seems to have vanished, and the healthy color has changed to a dark green, as if the vines had been burned.

The rapid change in the indication of a large yield has had a depressing effect upon the growers, and caused them to cling more tightly to their old hops, waiting for higher prices, which are almost assumed.

Conservative growers state that this year's crop will not amount to more than three-fourths of last year's crop, and that could not be called a full crop. Indications at present seem to point to the fact that the dream of growers of 15 cents a pound for their hops this fall will be realized.

The Waterville (N. Y.) Times, of last week, says:

There is undoubtedly something the matter with the hop vine for everyone who has taken the pains to look over the yards carefully reports that they are not growing as they should and as they generally do at this time of the year. They seem to have grown up the poles a little way and then stopped. There is far too much bare pole visible and growers are positive that such a short growth and discouraging outlook for a full crop has not existed for years at this time of the season. These reports do not come from those who have had hops on hand or from the grower alone, but from dealers and others who are unprejudiced. All unite in saying that the vines do not look right and many attribute its condition to the scald or blight of a few weeks ago.

A few sales have been made of small lots recently at 10c, among them the Shields sisters, seven bales; G. E. Richards, eleven; E. J. Roberts, twelve, and Mrs. John Sullivan, ten; all of Marshall.

After the recent performance of "Lohegrin" at Windsor castle Queen Victoria conferred the Victorian order on Jean de Rosse.

## STATE TAXES.

### Remittances Received from Four of the Delinquent Counties Yesterday—The Amounts Small.

In the state treasury, yesterday, remittances were received from the treasurers of four counties, on account of the state taxes for 1898, which are now delinquent under the law.

Treasurer W. H. Cary, of Tillamook county, sent in \$2,518.21 as a partial payment; Treasurer G. M. Hendrickson, of Wallowa county, forwarded \$2,000 on behalf of his county; O. O. Rhude, the Yamhill county treasurer, forwarded \$3,500, and J. S. Averill, treasurer of Curry county, sent in \$232. None of these amounts were in full settlements.

A BAD FALL—Frank Hurd, a lad aged about 10 years, received a very serious fall yesterday. The little fellow lives with his parents on Howell Prairie and was engaged in picking cherries in the top of a lofty tree when he lost his balance and fell to the ground. Medical aid was summoned from this city but the extent of the lad's injuries could not be learned last evening, the physician not having returned. The little fellow is a nephew of F. La Branch, of this city.

## THE RETURNING VOLUNTEERS.

Gracefully said the New York Sun in its editorial columns a few days ago:

"The first of the troops in the Philippines who are to be mustered out under their terms of enlistment are already on their way homeward, and within about two months, perhaps even by the end of August, the others will have followed. The Western states and territories will give them a warm welcome, but the whole country is equally under obligation to these faithful and patriotic troops.

"Their claims to public gratitude rest not only on their endurance of hardships and on their intrepidity in battle, for this we expect of American soldiers; but they are founded also on the loyalty and uncompromising patriotism with which they continued in the performance of their duty beyond the time for which they had agreed, remaining in the field until others could be sent to relieve them, or until no injury could result from bringing them home.

"This credit as truly belongs to those regulars who, having enlisted specifically for the war with Spain, were entitled to their discharge months ago, when the ratifications of the treaty of peace were exchanged. But they formed only parts of regiments, were enlisted individually, and could not have commanded the influence which might have been exerted by the solid organizations of volunteers, representing great states, had they chosen to bring this influence to bear for their earlier return. As a fact, they allowed spring to pass and summer to come, while many of them will remain with the colors past mid-summer. Weeks and months after their terms of enlistment had expired, they endured most laborious marches, through swamps and thickets, under tropical suns, many of them laying down their lives, too, in battle.

"It is this noble spirit on the fighting line that has crowned with honor the career of the Western volunteers. The country will not forget it."

## HORSE MEAT IN PARIS.

The consumption of horse flesh in Paris has become enormous. Its use as food began in 1856, but was viewed with extreme prejudice, and it was not until after the siege of that city by the Prussians, during which horse meat was all the people could procure, that this suspicion was greatly modified. In 1872 the number of horses slaughtered for food in Paris reached 5024, and this was increased to 10,068 in 1877. In 1883 it was 12,776; in 1885, 16,506; in 1890, 23,889; and in 1894, 23,186. The report giving these statistics says "they include donkeys and mules, for which there is also a special demand." Great care is used to prevent the sale of diseased meat of this character, special slaughter houses, under the control of a special staff of inspectors, being provided. Strange to say there is a society in Paris devoted to the promotion of the use of horse flesh for food, the members claiming for it special hygienic virtues as well as great gastronomic qualities.

## SO FASHION SAYS.

Stocks are higher than ever, and usually cut with points or scalps extending high up behind the ears.

Tightness, whether in skirts, sleeves, or bodices, is the fashion counter-sign this spring.

Paris hats can hardly be said to be worn; they are merely perched airily on the forehead.

Beads and paillettes are more fashionable than ever.

Yokes and sleeves of dressy visiting toilets are frequently made entirely of glittering overlapping jet scales.

White silk muslin elaborately painted by hand will make some of the richest summer toilets.

The favorite stock and belt for transparent, all-wide dresses just now is scarlet satin. This is very chic.

## THE BRITISH ARMY.

Mr. Wyndham, replying to Colonel Long with respect to the progress made in strengthening the British army, stated that the ultimate establishment aimed at was: Cavalry of the line, 18,559; horse and field artillery, 21,144; garrison artillery, 22,717; foot guards, 8725; infantry of the line, 144,572. The Cavalry was 82 below the establishment on March 31, 1898, and 501 in 1899, the horse and field artillery, 2995 in 1898 and 2065 in 1899; the garrison artillery, 2293 in 1898 and 2123 in 1899; the foot guards 1949 in 1898 and 1974 in 1899; and the infantry 12,421 in 1898 and 1138 in 1899.

## MANY FINE RACERS

### BIG STRING OF FAST HORSES AT FAIR GROUNDS.

#### Stables Brought to Salem Never Seen Here Before—Del Norte Is On the Ground.

(From Daily July 14th.)

At the fair grounds many splendid strings of horses are gathering for the purpose of training and preparing for the fair, when it is hoped some of them will have an opportunity to make good money. Among the horsemen now on the grounds are several from California and points in the East, who are making their first stay in Salem, and they are all highly pleased with the excellence of the grounds, and the location of the track, and all look forward to a profitable season's work. Many more horsemen, who are now at the Portland race track, are expected to come to Salem during the next few days, stalls having already been engaged for their animals.

Many old-time visitors to the Sauer track are also present, with good strings of horses. Some of these are complaining somewhat of the condition in which the track is found; they are anxious to have it watered and worked more, so as to place it in better condition for training.

Among the horses now at the track are those under the care of that veteran trainer and trackman, "Johnny" Kirkland; he has McBriar, a 6-year-old bay gelding, by McKinney, a splendid horse with a good future; Princess Dee, a black pacer, with a record of 2:18; Prinrose, a 7-year-old pacer, a handsome bay mare, with a 2-year-old record of 2:46; Frank P. Talkington's 2-year-old bay mare, which gives evidence of becoming a fast trotter, and Frank W. Durbin's Topsy, a 3-year-old trotter.

W. C. Felknap, of Monroe, has in training his 3-year-old mare Alma, an Altamont trotter.

A. E. Heller, of Medford, is training Woodman, a pacing stallion, with a record of 2:26, he also has Pathmark, a 3-year-old stallion, by Pathmont, an excellent pacer.

H. C. Kiger is training a nice string of horses, headed by the black gelding Hugo, a son of Altago; McKinley, a 4-year-old trotter, another of the Altago stock is also in this string, as is Pilot Lane, a scrupulous stallion, 14 months old; this youngster, a son of Cour d'Alene and Mandy C, is one of the most promising colts on the track, and is expected to make a wonderful record this fall; he takes kindly to the track, and is the most admired of the youngsters.

John Sawyer's string consists of Alta Dell, a 4-year-old pacing mare, with a record of 2:18; Tickets, a 6-year-old trotting gelding, with no record; Princess Angeline, a 2-year-old trotter; Deceiver, a 9-year-old gelding with a pacing record of 2:15; Kinmont, a 3-year-old trotter, and Whitvauvraire, a 4-year-old green trotter.

Earrows Bros., of Independence, have a splendid string of horses on the track, and are working their animals faithfully and with good results. The string is headed by Del Norte, the famous black stallion and champion guinealess pacer of the world, with a track record of 2:04; this beautiful animal occupies a stall near the grand stand, the interior of which is lined with red, white and blue hunting.

The horse is in excellent condition, and if an opportunity is afforded his owners, they will give an exhibition during the fair. In the stalls adjoining Del Norte, are the other colts belonging to the string; there is George L., by Del Norte, a 3-year-old pacing mare, the property of a prominent citizen of Albany; Roy S., a 6-year-old gelding, a green trotter, who has already made a mile in 2:24 with practically no training; the thoroughbred running mare Althea, by Coloma, who is expected to astonish the lovers of fast horses at the fair.

Thomas Sharpe of Portland, occupies stalls west of the grand stand, near the horseman's gate, with his stable of runners. They are a splendid lot of fleet-footed fellows, and promise to do some fast work before the season is over; they are Mark Hanna, a 4-year-old sorrel stallion; Senator Wilson, a 4-year-old stallion, and Tennessee Maid, a beautiful 6-year-old mare.

Richard Morris, a San Francisco horseman, is at the track with a string of California runners, and he expects to keep them here until after the state fair in September; they are Schnitz, Ardice and Ben Moore.

W. P. Moore, another California horseman, is on the ground with two running horses, Alice and Uncle True; he has been in the Northwest for several years, but this is his first visit to the Salem track, and he is much pleased with the race course and its surroundings, and expresses his pleasure at the opportunity to train his runners at the Salem track.

Hiram Elliott is another trainer, having charge of two excellent runners, which have recently arrived at the track; they are Negligence and Yewell, and are considered to be good for several races this year.

Charles McDonald, another Californian has a fine running horse on the track; the horse, known as Scmis, is a splendid animal, and likely to be heard from during the season.

J. B. Stetson has Major, a fine trotting horse, 3 years old, and is training him for the contests to be held during the fair. His son, Robert Stetson, a recent arrival from Omaha, is on the ground with the 4-year-old pacer Madeline. Mr. Stetson junior is enchanted with his surroundings and especially the track, which he considers one of the best he has ever seen, though he has spent years on the "grand circuit"; his last work, before coming to Oregon, being at Denver.

Harry Kelly has charge of four excellent young runners, among them being M. L. Hamilton's Aguinaldo, and it is said that this horse will develop the same speed by September

15th, that his noted namesake will exhibit when chased by American volunteers.

Among the horsemen expected to arrive in Salem in a few days, to take the stalls already reserved for them on the fair grounds, is I. C. Mosier. This well-known horseman has a splendid stable of track horses, among them being Egypt, a 3-year-old black stallion, who made a trotting record of 2:45 as a 2-year-old; he also has a promising 2-year-old filly and a splendid yearling, both of which will be given training on the Salem track; the most valuable horse in the string, however, is the trotting stallion, Cour d'Alene, with a record of 2:19 1/2.

Another horseman expected is John Pender, a California racing man, who is now at Portland. His string consists of Helen J. and Colonel Jones two trotting horses of great speed and endurance. Mr. Pender has been on the Salem track before, and appreciates the speed and other good qualities of the course.

With these and many other famous race horses on the fair grounds track, a most successful race meet is assured for this fall and as the new management is arranging to have the other features of the fair, the best that can be had, with exhibits from every part of the state, and an attendance equalled in the history of the fair grounds, there is no doubt that the exposition of 1899 will be a record-breaker.

## CARE OF SUMMER CLOTHES.

### Ways of Keeping Garments Dainty and Fresh.

How many women know how to preserve sweet and clean their summer dresses, shoes, corsets and so on? Not many, I fancy.

As soon as the corset is taken off it should be sprinkled with peroxide of hydrogen and allowed to lie in the sun and air for several hours. Ribbed corsets are more difficult to manage, but at no time should they be rolled up nor flung in a heap into some tight-shut drawer.

There should be an alteration of corsets, to do away with the putting on of the same one each day, and two or three inexpensive ones treated this way will help to make the summer endurable in spite of the sun, suggests a woman in the Chicago-Times Herald.

Shoes, if they are high, should, when taken off, be placed, inners out, on the window sill or in some breezy place to get the sun and air. The tops should be turned back, and the air allowed to circulate in the crevices and into the soles as far as it possibly can. This will not only preserve the shape and contour of the shoe, but it will help to keep it from getting "leathery." Shoes are porous skin themselves, and wonderfully susceptible to influence of climate and heat.

Blosure waists should have the shirt's tipped out at one end after removing from the body, and they should be sponged with alcohol and water and hung in the air to dry. The sleeves of the waist should be turned wrong side out and allowed to air at some screen near a draught, and not put on again for some days.

A system of rotation will be found convenient for such fabrics as are liable to be hurt by the absorption of perspiration and should be sparingly treated on particularly hot days.

A sprinkle of orris root in the lining of a dress, to be shaken out before the dress is worn again, will be found an excellent thing.

Ribbons should be rolled up immediately when taken off the neck and waist, and if treated this way will last a great deal longer and look a great deal daintier.

Care of the skirt is most important. Skirts should have loops sewed in under the ruffles, where the heels of the boots or slippers will not catch, and they should be hung upside down every night, or as soon as they are taken off. If they are trimmed with long fathings, hollockes the founcess will have to be carefully pinned to the foundation, and they will be hanging twelve hours in the opposite direction from which they are worn, regain some of their original freshness and charm.

Hats will retain their spruceness and elegance if carefully placed in their own box, after blowing the chignon and laying the feathers several times over the fingers in the direction they are disposed to lean. The ribbons' shafts can also be straightened and the hat will be ready for use at once.

Hose should be filled with crumpled tissue paper and hung in pairs in the most excluded window, to let the air blow through them.

Gloves must be blown up by the breath immediately after slipping from the hand, then filled with a light shake of glove powder and laid away, unfolded, and not palm to palm, but separately, in tissue paper.

Underclothes should be changed every day, and in warm weather often, but they need not be washed. They should be aired on a line if convenient, or over chair backs and in places where they will not be in the way.

## NOTED WOMEN.

Farah Bernhardt is said to be fond of dwelling on the idea of death, and it is added that she keeps a coffin constantly by her. It is a plain coffin, with the a-tress's initials and the words "Quand meme" painted on the outside. The inside is beautifully fitted up. The divine Sarah has covered the bottom with love letters, faded bouquets and various souvenirs.

After a medical investigation, the doctors have agreed that Princess Louise of Ceurg is suffering "schwachhain" (imbecility or mental weakness), which, it is declared, "modifies her ethical intellectual conceptions and renders her irresponsible for her actions." The mental weakness is attributed to a fall she had many years ago. She has been taken to an asylum near Dresden.

Chicago's population, according to Chief of Police Kiley, has finally passed the 2,000,000 mark, and is now 2,054,043. The figures are the result of a census taken by the police force.

## FRENCH TEMPERANCE WORK

### Growing Alarm Over the Consumption of Drink.

#### France the Most Intemperate of Civilized Nations—Temperance Work of Physicians, Students and Others in the Countries of Europe.

Public attention in Paris is being forcibly directed at present to the aggressive campaign against intemperance which is being carried on in nearly every country on the continent, and especially in France. The advance in this country is unique of its kind, as there never before has been any general movement of a national nature. The French have been wont to look upon themselves as good examples of moderation, while they gave their pity to Germany and England as horrible examples of people who drink too much. But now Dr. Laborde has informed the French that they are the most intemperate of all the civilized peoples on earth, and gives science and figures to prove it.

When this announcement was made the French told the doctor that he was mistaken and the newspapers published columns of indignant protest against the charge—and investigated as a second thought. Then they changed their confident note, for in a series of articles prepared by M. Cornely of the Financiers it is shown that close to fifteen liters, or about sixteen quarts of alcohol is consumed every year for each of the 38,000,000 people in the republic. The French find that instead of heading the alcoholic list, Germany and the British islands come third and fourth, as Belgium takes second place after France, but with nearly one-third less in its per capita consumption. Fifth in the list is Switzerland, the none of absinthe, and then, in the order named, there follow Italy, Holland, the United States, Sweden, Norway and Canada. Norway is the most temperate of any European country. Canada leads the world in its moderation with a per capita average of over two liters a year.

Most reforms of whatever kind, may be counted upon to have a humble beginning, thence to work upward among the people. But this movement reverses the almost established order, for it has started at the summit of intellectual France. Heading the movement is Dr. C. Grain, one of the best medical authorities in France, who is president of the National Anti-Alcoholic League, and editor of a temperance monthly called L'Alcool. As his active adherents are forty-two doctors, nearly all of whom are men of wide reputation and independent means, several being total abstainers in common with their president. Under the leaders, it is not strange that the students throughout France should take up the campaign. They have organized a league and are pushing the work into all parts of the country under the leadership of Georges Barbey, who is an advocate at law actively connected with the defense in the Dreyfus case. To such proportions has this movement reached that it is extended to other countries, notably to Switzerland, where students' leagues have lately been established at Lausanne, Basle and Zurich.

Drinking shops in the poorer quarters of Paris are open at 4 o'clock in the morning, and even then there are shivering men and women who have braved the nipping air to "kill the little worm," as they call their thirst for drink. The use of neat drinks is steadily growing. So fierce is the appetite for the strongest distillations that the law compels chemists to sell methylated spirits only in colored form, which means that they are poisonous. Alcohol from wood is deadly, but a popular drink in Paris they drink ether, in the north of France turpentine is growing in popularity, and here and there a case is found where kerosene oil is taken, although this is generally done secretly. Normandy is the most drunken of all the departments in the republic. While the fishermen and male peasants of the north coast are bid enough, the women are worse. So besotted have many of these people become that they work but five hours a week, earning only enough for the bare necessities of life, and to keep themselves in drink. So keen is the desire for liquor that on the farms, the despoiled apples have been pressed for cider making, they are put through a fermentation and another mashing to gain a further intoxicant from the rancid mass. Much the same is done with grapes in some regions.

The evils of absinthe drinking are growing. It is only a few years since two old women living in a secluded mountain valley in Switzerland gave out their secret for brewing a drink of rare quality from wormwood, but now absinthe is known around the world. Nowhere has its sale grown to so threatening proportions as in France, where its excessive use annually drives many to insanity. In the better cafes absinthe costs 50 centimes, or 20 cents, but in the dives it is only 5 sous a glass. As such it is little less than a poison, especially when a dash of vitriol is added to give it an extra bite. Vitriol is regularly used in many of the cheap drinks, and even in some of the better ones.

Last week the writer had an interesting talk with Senator Jules Le Jeune, secretary of state in the Belgian cabinet, who is pushing a bill to prohibit the sale of absinthe in Belgium. "It is doing much the same for us as it is in France," he said. "I also have a bill before our parliament to gradually decrease the number of public drinking houses throughout the country in the next ten years. At present we have 78,000 of these to a population of but 6,000,000 of people, or one to every twenty-four persons. My plan is to make the proportion one drinking place to every 20 people, but the proposal is too radical to carry without material amendment."

Some of the Continental governments are posting temperance lithographs in public places as a warning to the people on the effects of intemperance, and the temperance societies in France display posters labeled "Absinthe-Poison" with a skull and crossbones.

Not alone are the present French efforts educational, but they are also acting at national legislation as being the only permanent cure. These groups of temperance legislators, the chamber of deputies and in the senate, who are pressing for constitutional relief from present desperate conditions. Senator Siegfried is shortly presenting places in the republic as the beginning of an extensive legislative reform. There are more than half a million of public drinking houses in France, and in some of the departments the consumption of alcohol now amounts to twenty liters per person yearly.

A redeeming feature of French temperance is that next to no drink is given upon the streets. Publicly poor alike take the "little glass," its multiple, with every meal, and between meals. Only among the people do they follow the American practice of braving up against a bar and drinking on an empty stomach. As it may be in a continuous fuddle, never drunk.

An unexpected indorsement of the temperance movement has developed since the first of the year in the friendly attitude of the social press of France and other countries. The papers, as the organs of the Continent say that they can co-operate with the propaganda as tending to lessen the opportunity to drink, which plainly says is the workman's greatest enemy.

The widespread interest in the temperance movement on the Continent was well shown by the international temperance congress, held in Paris April. Twenty-one countries were represented by more than 1,000 delegates, and official representatives were present from the governments of France, Germany, Austria, Sweden and Norway, Denmark, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland and Roumania. These will all make official reports to their governments on the problem of drink, and the methods proposed to abolish intemperance.

The next congress will meet at Vienna in 1901 where the Austrian government has resented a week through its representative, Dr. Helra, who was at the Paris convention. Dr. de Hebra says there is a remarkable movement among young medical men of his country since the first of the present year, that he as a total abstainer is finding no recruits, not alone for temperance, but for total abstinence.

The king of Italy is a total abstainer, as is also practically the Grand Duke of Baden, and Emperor William of Germany has several times expressed himself forcibly on drinking habits of the army. He is on terms to his officers that they are a good example to the men in ranks, and the emperor is said to be alive to the dangers from the growth of child drunkenness in Germany. Other sovereigns are apparently aware of the situation, and the young queen of Holland especially so. Russia the government monopoly of the drink traffic has proved so successful in the provinces, where it has been on trial for several years, that the czar, Nicholas II., is extending the system to decrease drunkenness. The Greek church of Russia is using its paramount power for temperance and an association of the Catholic clergy of Europe has just been formed to push the church work for this cause as is being done in America.

For the first time in the history of European expositions there will be a temperance building at Paris. The year 1898 has been drawn to a close in being subscribed for by prominent French people for a handsome structure which will have as a drinks cafe on the ground floor. It is intended to use the 1898 exposition a vehicle for widely spreading the movement.

On the Continent the most powerful temperance organization is the Blue Cross, which has a membership of more than 22,000, and operates in Switzerland, Belgium, France and other countries. In Germany there are 40,000 people enrolled for temperance, many of whom are total abstainers. A powerful organization, the German Temperance Association, 12,000 members, make up in considerable part of the mayors of towns and other officials, who are using their influence to restrict the sale of drink in twelve years the consumption of alcohol per German capita has increased one-third, and the use of beer is notably growing instead of New York Sun.

IMPROVEMENTS IN RAIL MAKING

### Joints Done Away With and Smoothness of Running Secured.

Great claims are made for a rail patented by Daniel Minthorn, of West New York. The familiar "T" is dispensed with entirely. The rail is formed separately, with grooves under the side, and can be made of high-grade steel, while the base, which may be of inferior metal, is made of angular, as stated. After the base is laid on the ties the head is slid in place. Its outwardly bent flanges are fitted into the grooves of the rail. The advantage of this is in avoiding the wear and tear at rail joints. Another feature is that after the rail has become worn on one side it can easily be taken off and turned out without removing the triangular support. It is also stated that the interior of the rail may be utilized as a conduit to contain telephone or telegraph wires thus avoiding the stringing of the poles at the side of the road.

The new French minister of war has not the facile tongue of his countrymen, and he speaks so slowly that the call him Flacra a l'Heure, which, being interpreted, means a cab hired for the hour.

Mme. Melba has taken Quarry Wood cottage, Marlow, England, up to September.