

DAILY RECORD-UNION

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mine. The wealth acquired by digging out gold from mines is not an addition to the wealth of the world, a fact upon which all far-seeing and thoughtful minds agree, and which is established in the face of all history. Gold is simply a convenient means of measuring wealth. It is a medium of exchange and has value as such only. It is true that it has some value in the arts and sciences, but the world could get on a great deal better without gold than without iron. Measured by its usefulness to man, a pound of iron is worth ten pounds of gold. This would be plainly perceived by everybody were it not for the worship of gold, which is a sentiment so common among men.

THE RUSSIAN THISTLE.

The Agricultural Experiment Station at the State University of California has issued a bulletin on the Russian thistle in California that is of special value to all producers from the soil, and for the matter of that to all owners of real estate in towns and cities, since it appears that these places serve as breeding spots for the pest. This thistle belongs to the class of tumble weeds, and as we know it is a modification of a plant that was once a harmless thing. It was introduced into the United States through the mediumship of impure flaxseed brought from Russia into South Dakota in 1873, but it was not until 1880 that it created any alarm, by which time it had considerably spread and its bad effects upon wheat and barley fields were causes of complaint. It may now be said to be troublesome in a very large if not the larger part of the agricultural area of the United States, and in California is sufficiently prominent to demand serious attention, but just how it has spread with us is not known, and the Experiment Station invites information on that point, for by early action the pest in its infancy here may be stamped out.

The local distribution of the thistle is mainly by winds. When the ground is hard its light, round masses containing the seeds of the plant are swept over the surface for many miles shedding the seed. A mature plant will bear from 100,000 to 200,000 seeds, and as one of the tufted carriers of the seeds has been known to travel sixty miles in a day, the rapidity with which the plant may be distributed can be imagined. Distribution is also aided by badly cleaned wheat sold for seed. It is also assisted by railroad cars, to which the seed clings and is carried hither and thither. It appears, indeed, to follow lines of travel mostly. In the bedding and litter of stock cars the thistle seed is much carried and distributed. Emigrants carry it in their stock feed. It is transported in agricultural machinery, and in a hundred other ways, as will be readily comprehended.

Once established in the soil it kills all other plant life and absorbs all vitality from the soil. It spreads rapidly and seldom decays. The stiff horny weed makes it difficult to run harvesting machines and annoys both men and horses. It thrives on high dry soil and is perfectly at home in alkali.

But this thistle may be easily killed by cultivation, though of course that means money output. Slovenly farmer fallow, says the University bulletin before us, is friendly to the thistle. Such land must be kept free from weeds all the year round, if one would be sure of a clean grain plot the succeeding season. The monograph gives in some detail the literature of the subject and sketches the various anti-weed laws of several States. While in this State we have no Russian thistle law there are anti-weed laws under which much good action can be taken. The Scotch Thistle Act of 1872 is in point. The County Government Act providing for the destruction of gophers, squirrels, noxious weeds and insect pests injurious to fruit trees is also helpful law.

Within incorporated towns and cities ordinances to destroy and keep out the weed may well supplement the State laws, in addition to the special Act of 1873 relative to the eradication of weeds within municipal bounds. This law authorizes towns and cities to declare weeds in a town a public nuisance, and to compel lot-owners to abate the nuisance. As the plant is an annual it is easily killed in the growing season. For three months from the time that it sprouts no good farmer need be afraid of it. But there must be action, for no Russian thistle must be allowed to produce seed. The vitality of the seed is low, and the conditions affecting such vitality are moisture and heat. Mr. Shinn, the author of the University monograph on the thistle, says:

The seeds crack, and the germ is destroyed by a low degree of dry heat, hence when stubble and pasture fields are burned over in the autumn the larger part of the thistle seed will be kept from germinating. The tap-root will not sprout again when cut on the surface, and if the plants are plowed under they perish as easily as matoes. In orchards, vineyards, beet fields, and all lands devoted to food crops, there should be no trouble with respect to cultivation. But if a farmer stops at the limits of his cultivated lands, he must do the same work every year. Fence corners, creek borders, and waste places of every description, must receive the same attention, or the Russian thistle will again see the fields. The alighted cultivation so often seen even in the most fertile parts of California, and perhaps elsewhere with less aggressive weeds, though never advisable or profitable, becomes entirely impracticable after the Russian thistle once obtains a foothold.

In Minnesota great stress is laid upon the use of what is called "green manure fallow" in cultivated lands. Modified for California, this means to plow shallow with the first rains, and sow bur clover or some similar crop, to plow under, with the young thistles for a green crop fertilizer. After the last plowing the field must be gone over and any stray plant hoed out. If the thistle is found in grain fields, the advice is to cut to hay very early, and plow the stubble under without waiting for the aftermath. A second plowing may be necessary. In most sections this system will clear out the thistle in two seasons if no seeds are allowed to blow into the fields.

When the grain crop is harvested the stubble and weeds should be burned where the thistle has appeared. It has been suggested that the use of a header, as leaving a greater amount of stubble,

furnishes the material for more thorough burning. Especial attention should be paid to any patches in the grain fields where a poor stand of grain has allowed the thistle to develop.

Well-graded highways are easily kept clean by dressing with a reversible road machine, and by vigorous use of the hoe on the narrow borders. Wide, unutilized road-spaces are difficult to deal with, and often will have to be plowed and cultivated. Attention should be paid to the road ditches, whose sides should be so sloping that they can easily be cleaned from top to bottom. Along infested highways the cultivation should extend to the wheel-tracks. The scythe seldom cuts low enough, as the thistle branches so close to the ground that many seeds will be left. Burning is preferable, or the hoe.

In order to prevent the large weeds from rolling, the Russians plant belts of sunflowers which stop the plants, collecting them in high banks, and they are then burned. Belts of trees, or any other windbreaks answer the same purpose, as do fences. This, of course, is expensive on a large scale, and there is no doubt that the time to fight the thistle is when it can still be plowed under.

In cities, towns and villages special care is needed, not only on the streets and sidewalks, but upon all the unoccupied lots. The points of infection usually begin at or near the railroad station, and the townspeople and merchants should make stringent regulations to suppress the thistle at its first appearance. The owners of lots should combine and break up every neglected piece of ground, sowing it to alfalfa, or, where water cannot be obtained, to such a plant as the Australian salt bush (*Atriplex semibacata*). It is needless to say that this would make our towns and villages look much neater.

The cities and towns of California that seize opportunity on the now returning tide of prosperity will be those that will go to the front and retain their pre-eminence. What place is Sacramento to occupy in the competition? For that there is competition is indubitable. Some are to be left behind in the race for population, wealth, enlarged industries and community prosperity. Sacramento has fair chances now, brighter prospects and more in sight, than any other town or city in the center and north. But to fully realize upon these we must manifest energy, breadth of view and moral and financial courage, put aside small matters and grapple with large ones, and win confidence by proving that Sacramento is worthy of it. There has been manifest the beginnings of a fine spirit in this matter of the electrical carnival, but there is just a bit too much of expression compared with the aggregate of effort put forth.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The system—for it seems to have grown into a system—of waiting for the injured party to make complaint, is demoralizing to the law and the forces of peace. Has it not occurred to anyone that when a crime is committed the officers of the law have not the right, under the present requirements, to come forward and prosecute? Let it be understood that offenders will be prosecuted whether private individuals prosecute or not; that men and women who know of offenses will be compelled by the magistrates to come forward and give the necessary information, and two things will follow: there will be fewer offenses, and cessation of attempts to use the law to accomplish private ends.

The summer outing season has set in. Which suggests the thought that too many people make vacation a season of harder work than if they remained at their tasks. The way to enjoy one's vacation is to do some one's self as to invite repose with change without absolute idleness.

The suggestion of the RECORD-UNION that a Chamber of Commerce, broad in purpose and liberal in membership requirements, be formed, has been endorsed generally. Now let the work of organization be entered upon. Sacramento can have a chamber of 200 members as well as not, and thus mass the best and most progressive sentiment and activity for the city's good.

But a little over one and a half months remain before the festival season sets in in Sacramento, and the city will be thronged with guests. It is not, therefore, one moment too early to begin the work of general cleaning up of the city, and the consideration of a systematic and harmonious plan for decoration of the streets according to some such scheme as that recently outlined in these columns.

Carl Browne has run away with Coxy's daughter, and the two have been secretly married. What will the harvest be?

There are many reasons for believing that Japan is entirely agreeable to the plan of Russia to obtain a strip of Manchurian coast for the terminals of her transiberian railway. The proposition of the czar to China to construct a terminal line and relate them to the Russian trunk system cannot be sincere. He knows that China cannot do anything of the kind. It is merely proposed to emphasize the demand for Russian occupation of a portion of Manchurian territory, and it is not unwise or objectionable, Russia's push toward the Japan sea is natural, and in the interest of the world's commerce.

SENATOR BUCK'S DEATH.

Comment on the San Francisco Detective Police. [Marysville Democrat.] Now that the inquest over the remains of Miss Nellie Harrington has been held and the result known, it is proper to comment on the cause of the death of ex-Senator Buck. Every person of intelligence who has read the report of the evidence taken at the inquest can arrive at only one conclusion. And that conclusion points unerringly to the fact that his death was the result of criminal carelessness on the part of the police department of San Francisco. If Captain Lees believed Senator Buck could assist in capturing the cowardly murderer, why did he not go quietly to the man and interview him? If he was engaged and could not leave San Francisco two hours he should have sent a trusted member of the force who would treat the gentleman with respect and perform the duty for which these servants of the people are paid.

Had Captain Lees acted the part of a careful and intelligent officer in the performance of his duties the life of a useful man would have been saved. He is not a king to sit on his throne and relate to his chief and command men as though they were his subjects. The continued chain of crime in San Francisco during the past year and the escape of the murderers and criminals has demonstrated that the police force of that city is sadly in need of an intelligent head, as well as a shaking up all along the line. Lees may have been competent and energetic at one time, but that day has passed. He should be removed before other good men are sacrificed through such criminal carelessness.

FEDERATED TRADES PICNIC

It Was Well Conducted and Fairly Well Patronized. There was a good attendance yesterday at the picnic of the Federated Trades Council at East Park. The day was cool and pleasant, and everything passed smoothly and without jar or unpleasant incident. Excellent music was rendered by the Millant Band throughout the afternoon. The committees having charge of the picnic were:

General Picnic Committee—H. Goddard, Orlando Jones, L. Reeber, N. Reuff, R. L. Fowkes, H. Heyman, J. E. Oberle, C. S. Alvord, H. Clements, C. J. Nangle, On Finance—L. Reeber, H. Heyman, H. Clements. On Games and Prizes—R. L. Fowkes, C. S. Alvord, H. Clements, C. J. Nangle. Reception—All members of the council. Floor Director, C. S. Alvord.

There was a great variety of games, which were won as follows: First race, for boys under 12—First, Edgar Coleman; second, William McOmear; third, Fred Stein. Girls' race, under 12—First, Daisy Farrars; second, Edna Reichert; third, Lulu Westphalen.

Young men's race—First, William Dunston; second, J. Dunn; third, G. Vassells; fourth, J. Walker; fifth, H. B. Chambers. Young ladies' race—First, Annie Azarov; second, Lena Oiler; third, Christina Scholtz; fourth, Teresa Gideon; fifth, Mary Gideon.

Three-legged race—First, C. Reams and M. Foley; second, W. Cunningham and G. A. Griffin; third, F. T. Brown and G. A. Griffin. Three standing jumps—First, N. A. Hain; second, G. Vassells; third, J. Hain. Married ladies' race—First, Lizzie Kemitzer; second, Mrs. Lindemeyer; third, Annie Kinney; fourth, Mrs. Lyman.

Married men's race—First, T. J. Woods; second, Frank Jones; third, P. Surgeon; fourth, P. S. Sanders. Single men's race—First, Tom Galligan; second, F. Allen. Old ladies' race—First, Mrs. Goggins; second, Mrs. Cousins; third, Mrs. Mendenhall. Old men's race—First, S. Greenwood; second, J. Slaughter.

Auto prizes were drawn by the following tickets—707, 894, 354, 441, 525, 514, 348, 743, 909, 474, 288, 341, 34, 638. The holders of these tickets may obtain their prizes by applying to the Secretary of the council at Federated Trades' Hall any evening after 7 o'clock.

A Most Magnificent Heirloom. It is health. No gem in tiara or coronet is so precious. Per contra, a hereditary tendency to disease often proves a fatal legacy, since the most trifling cause may fertilize the latent germs of ill health and render the fruitage deadly. An inherent transmitted weakness of the physical constitution is more effectively opposed and counteracted by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters than by any other safeguard. Digestion and assimilation promoted, the binary secretion, action of the kidneys and bowels insured, are many guarantees of permanent health, and these are the consequences, among others of like importance, of a resort to the Bitters. This medicine also prevents and remedies malarious complaints, nervousness, chronic insomnia, rheumatism and neuritis. Such warnings as loss of appetite and sleep, too, should not be disregarded. The Bitters will restore both without fail.

FIRST-CLASS PASTURE at ranch of late Peter Burns. Horses \$2 50, cows \$1 a month. Vehicles—BAKER & HAMILTON—Hardware, Carriage, Buggies, Carriages, Bains, Farm and Header Wagons. Wholesale Hardware. Send for Catalogue.

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children, while teething with perfect success. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays pain, cures wind colic, regulates the bowels, and is the best remedy for diarrhea, whether arising from teething or other causes. For sale by druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. Twenty-cents a bottle.

Chichester's English Diamond Brand. Original and Only Genuine. See above notice. Sold by all Local Druggists.

SEND THE WEEKLY UNION TO YOUR FRIENDS IN THE EAST.

AUCTIONS.

AUCTION! AUCTION! A BEAUTIFUL RESIDENCE AND LOT 70 by 100. We will sell on the premises, TUESDAY, June 18th, at 10 o'clock, the Beautiful Residence No. 1631 Seventh street, corner Q, being between P and Q, lot 70 by 100 feet. A POSITIVE SALE. No limit. Must be sold. Now open for inspection. D. J. SIMMONS & Co., Auctioneers, 414-416 Office, Eleventh and J streets.

COFFEE. Try our VOLUNTEER JAVA, a special mixture, at 23 cents a pound. We make a specialty of TEAS and COFFEES.

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ASSAYING. F. H. HARVEY AND W. S. HUTCHINSON, GALT, CAL. Mining and Metallurgical Work in All Branches.

NOTICE. To All Persons Having Dealings With Sacramento County.

State and County Taxes.

THE TAX ON PERSONAL PROPERTY assessed by real estate is now due and payable at the office of the County Assessor. If not paid prior to June 20th, payment will be enforced according to law. T. H. BEHKEY, County Assessor. 163-164

GALVANIZED ARE. Miller Brothers, 1110 J Street, Telephone 252.

8-FOOT STEEL WINDMILL. \$27 50. Simple, Strong and Good.

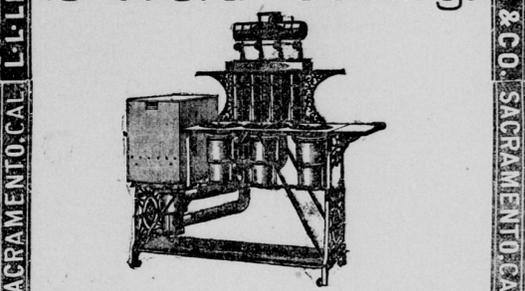
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PENNYROYAL PILLS. Original and Only Genuine. Sold by all Local Druggists.

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Your kitchen always cool, and \$2 per month saved in your fuel by using a JEWELL GASOLINE STOVE. We sell them on monthly installments. The JEWELL is ABSOLUTELY SAFE and a child can use it. Sole agents:

L. L. LEWIS & CO., 502 and 504 J St., Sacramento.

AMUSEMENTS.

METROPOLITAN THEATER. J. H. TODD, Manager. June 16th and 19th and Wednesday Matinee, 2 P. M. The Famous and Only LILIPUTIANS.

Mumpty Dumpty UP TO DATE. Four Grand Ballets, Giant Kaleb, Brilliant Scenery, Gorgeous Costumes.

SACRAMENTO SWIMMING BATHS NOW OPEN. Under New Management. Everything in First-class Style.

Whole Wheat Bread. OLD HOMESTEAD BAKERY, 1012 J STREET AND BRANCH BAKERY 619 J STREET.

UNDERTAKERS. GEO. H. CLARK (Successor to J. Frank Clark), County Coroner, Undertaker and Funeral Director. UNDERTAKING PARLORS 1017 AND 1019 Fourth street, between J and K streets. Telephone 134.

JOHN MILLER, UNDERTAKING PARLORS 905-907 K street, Old Fellows Temple. Embalming a specialty.

A. D. FENTON, MANAGER AND FUNERAL DIRECTOR. Telephone 186-72a.

W. J. KAVANAUGH, Undertaker and Funeral Director, 800, 613 J STREET. Box office open Friday, 9:30 A. M. 1613-61.

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Jacket and Cape Prices ARE DOWN.

From \$3 00 to...\$2 00 From 3 50 to... 2 50 From 7 50 to... 4 00 From 8 50 to... 5 00 From 10 00 to... 7 50 From 14 00 to... 10 00

THESE ARE MONEY-SAVING TIMES.

And that is one way of making. Most people are not averse to saving dimes and dollars when it comes to personal expenditure—one reason why our special sales are so popular.

This Week's Offerings,

A list of which we give herewith, will be found right up to the true bargain mark. The irresistible logic of high values and low prices appeals to all purchasers, more or less. To make the high values higher and low prices lower is a problem we are working on all the time.

Cape and Jacket Prices ARE DOWN.

From \$3 50 to...\$2 00 From 4 00 to... 2 50 From 5 00 to... 3 25 From 7 50 to... 4 00 From 9 00 to... 6 00 From 10 00 to... 7 50

Black Alpaca. 54-inch Heavy Quality Black Alpaca, firm weave and an excellent finish. Value, 85c a yard. Special at 59c.

Pongee Silks. 26-inch Pongee Silks, firm weave and soft finish. Those who recall our past offerings in this line will appreciate this. The Silk is worth 40c a yard. Special price, 29c.

Table Damask. 500 yards of Bleached Damask. Specially adapted for restaurants or hotels. Width, 58 inches. Value, 40c a yard. Special price, 30c.

Tea Sets. 5 dozen Tea Sets, white, with fancy colored border and fringe; cover and one dozen doilies to match. Worth \$2 75 a set. Special price, \$1 95.

Summer Comforters. We shall place on our counters to-day 3 dozen Light, Fluffy Cotton Comforters, filled with fine carded cotton. You might imagine them "down," but there's nothing down about them except the price—\$2 50. Reduced to \$1 50 each.

Laces. One lot of White, Ecru and Butter-color Laces, all new, choice designs that were bought at a great sacrifice sale. They are actually worth 25c to 40c a yard. Special price, 18c.

Veiling. Black Dotted Veilings, Chenille Dot and Tuxedo Net. They are all worth double the special price, 10c a yard.

Children's Suits. Children's Cottonade Knee Pants Suits, double-breasted style, neat in appearance and very serviceable; ages 4 to 13 years. Special value at 75c a suit.

Men's Nightshirts. One mixed lot of Men's Twilled and Plain Wamsutta Muslin Nightshirts; sizes 14, 14 1/2 and 15 neck; bodies cut good and full. Values run from 65c to 90c each. Special price, 50c.

Men's Dress Shirts. One mixed lot of Men's Shirts, laundered and unlaundered, Marcellite bosoms; percale fronts and plain white linen bosoms; some slightly damaged, and there are no numbers 15 or 15 1/2 in the lot. Former prices were 75c and \$1 each. Special price, 25c.

Men's Hats. Men's Yachtshape White Straw Hats, neat and durable. Worth regular 40c each. Special price, 25c.

Men's Tan Shoes. Men's Russia Tan Calf Shoes, hand welted, with narrow square toe; makes a very dressy shoe. Worth \$3 50 a pair. Special at \$2 75.

Ladies' Oxford Shoes. One large lot of Ladies' Fine Kid Oxford Lace Shoes, seamless foxed, with black cloth top and patent leather tips. Value, \$3 a pair. Special price, \$2 15.

Scissors. One lot Steel Extra Good Full Nickelplated Scissors at the following special prices:

4 1/2-inch.....15c 5 1/2-inch.....20c Pocket size.....20c 6 1/2-inch.....25c Button-hole.....25c

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