

# The St. Tammany Farmer

COVINGTON, LOUISIANA

Even \$10,000,000 worth of peace is worth having.

Money talks, but it will have to do more than that if it insures peace.

Every little while nobody's seismograph is recording an earthquake.

Every year this world drinks 1,250,000,000 pounds of tea. That seems plenty.

Whenever the dressmakers think of other outrageous spring styles they let us know.

That latest earth shock might be traced to the militarists bringing up their heavy artillery.

Still, feeding children on two cents a day and making them like it are two different propositions.

If we must have so many warships why not get Mr. Edison to make a few with his cement molds?

Now Peru and Bolivia are disagreeing. What South America needs is a fight and revolt antitoxin.

If motion pictures are to add the insane they should not be associated with nickel-theater ventilation.

When a cold wave hits New York there are noses sympathetically red in Weehawken, Hoboken and Hackensack.

If all the New England hunting stories are true the abundance of venison should bring down the price of beef.

No objection is heard from the young men of the family to the new fad of employing young women chauffeurs.

A ninety-three-year-old man has been left a fortune but refuses to give up his job. He knows what has kept him alive.

The Courier-Journal notes the fine difference between the words "died" and "passed away" as applied to bank cashiers.

It was a stroke of genius which made the census taking precede the opening of the shooting season for amateur hunters.

Chicago highwaymen carried a victim three miles to rob him. That must constitute a violation of the interstate commerce law.

A new million-dollar apartment house in New York is to have a kindergarten, hospital and skating rink. The three don't go badly together.

Mrs. Russell Sage is going to build a model town for 1,500 model families near New York. But she may have to go out of New York to find her tenants.

When aerial freight transportation begins to become a fact, we shall hear some railroad men arguing that there is not enough air for the success of the plan.

An Iowa judge granted a divorce to a man whose wife liked cigarettes better than she did him. Must have been awfully good cigarettes or a pretty poor husband.

New York waiters are opposed to the institution of the Bertillon system, and the public will stand by them so far as pertains to thumbprints on the soup plates.

Paragrapers all over the country will mourn that it is the society women of Philadelphia, instead of Chicago, who are unwilling to show their feet in a classic tableau.

Dr. Wiley says that the earth is cooling and that men will freeze to death on the equator some day. From a man who is contemplating matrimony one would expect a brighter view.

Last year Alaska produced \$20,463,000 gold, or about three times what Uncle Sam paid for the big territory. Some day Secretary Seward will have a fine monument as a good judge of a real estate bargain.

The students of Vassar proclaim with pride that they can cook and cook appetizing meals at that. There is no danger in the higher education, even for the conservative, when women take pride in their cooking as an accomplishment, and men, as a rule, do not care how much science and philosophy their future wives absorb as long as the absorbing process does not interfere with the prospect of good dinners when the cook is on strike.

In the silk war between Italy and Japan goods and prices cut much more of a figure than battleships.

The brave police president of Berlin has taken a valiant stand against long hat pins, calling upon women to cease making themselves in this respect a menace to mankind. The long hat pin affected by fashion is really dangerous, as those who have been jabbed in crowded cars or on the street can testify. If the women won't be reasonable about it, won't they please be merciful?

An ossified man has been married in Pennsylvania, but it is suspected that this is not the first case on record.

The census shows an average increase in population in the New England states considerably in excess of that in some parts of the west. Iowa, for instance, reports an actual decrease for the ten years since 1900, and but for gains in the larger cities Missouri also would have shown a falling-off. Conclusions that the east has gone into decadence will have to be revised.

## Child Life

### Should be Given Fair Chance for Useful Existence

By SIR OLIVER LODGE

**T**HE ultimate object of religious training must be to encourage such ideas and habits as shall result in a happy childhood and a sound and useful life. We should not subordinate the life of the child too entirely into the life of the adult. It is a period of preparation, truly, but it is something more than that. It is a life period of value in itself. It is a time of considerable subjective length, and it should be allowed due weight and permanence in the scheme of existence. At the same time a respect for grown-up people is a natural, child-like instinct which ought not lightly to be destroyed.

The first real goals of a child are his parents, however ungodlike they may be. And hence arises that feeling of security and nearness of protection and law which is one of the luxuries of childhood, and, I may add, one of the responsibilities of parenthood.

In discussing religious teaching we are considering what we term their souls; and however many clouds of glory the average poor child may be trailing when he arrives in this poor planet he has not to wait long before every trace is completely lost and the vision splendid fades into the light of common day at an early stage, I fear, in the infancy of the street urchin.

It is a lamentable result of town life and the struggle for existence in our complex civilization. I am not sure that it is not a wicked and blasphemous condition of things.

That nation or colony which could insure that its children should spend their short and vital early years among healthy, happy surroundings suited to their time of life and state of development, and leading to a good, robust, serviceable manhood and womanhood—that nation would in a few generations stand out from amongst the rest of the world as something almost superhuman.

The idea seems remote, the path towards its attainment too difficult; yes, but that is partly because too few realize it as an ideal, too few are aware of any such problems before them. They have no such aim, and without proper aim we are not likely to hit the mark.

I do not believe that the problem is insoluble. I believe that some day it will be solved. Human life is not always going to be the failure that it is at present. Crime and vice and besotted stupidity are not always going to have it their own way.

We owe it to the children to give them a fair and decent chance of understanding the world and of living in it with pleasure and human profit.

People will say that it would cost too much. Nothing of the kind can cost too much. What is the necessity of life? What is this planet for? Consider those questions and then consider whether as yet we have learned or even effectively tried to answer them in any reasonable manner; whether we are not hopelessly befogged by custom and buried beneath the relics of barbarous times.

The failures would be comparatively few. But so long as neglected, weedy wastes are allowed, the most cultivated plots are unsafe and all the neighboring territory is infected to a lamentable extent. The whole world is welded together in this way, so that new physical and moral diseases, bred in some tropical swamp or eastern city, can at times decimate the healthiest civilization.

No fraction of the world or of the individual can be thoroughly healthy and happy while any member of it is degraded and wretched.



## Need for Killing Disease-Spreading Germs

By WELLS ANDREWS, M. D.

Thorough boiling or burning will destroy every kind of disease germs, but obviously we cannot always employ such means. We cannot boil our hands or bodies, on which the germs may lurk unseen if we have been near sick people whom we suspect to have been ill.

The nurse who is attending a case of typhoid, scarlet fever, diphtheria or measles, though she knows that the unseen infection on her hands, if in an incautious moment it gets near her mouth, may convey the disease to herself, cannot burn her hands or boil them. If we are not rich we cannot burn everything in the room where these diseases are nursed.

No, in hundreds of such cases we cannot destroy the living seed in this way.

What are we to do, then? Why, we can destroy it in another way, which is simple, cheap and sure—by the use of disinfectants.

The question as to which are the best disinfectant substances has attracted the attention of physicians for years. The result of a vast amount of study and experience shows that formaldehyde in solution or in the form of gas is the best of all disinfectants and that next in value is corrosive sublimate in the proportion of 1-500 to 1-1,000, or even weaker; but for cheapness, activity and general usefulness chlorinated lime is better still.

Whenever the lime is bought the purchaser should see that all the chlorine has not departed from it.

It should not be forgotten that rheumatism, heart disease, Bright's disease and dropsy often follow scarlet fever; that consumption and lung complaints are not infrequently the sequel to measles and whooping cough.

The means of stopping the spread of infection has now been discovered, but can never be attained by the efforts of a few.

No combination of doctors or scientific men will ever succeed in banishing infectious disease from among us until the men and women of our country take the matter in their own hands and use the means provided to effect its banishment.

## Working to Bring About "Sane Sunday"

By E. F. GUERIN, Chicago

In Detroit, Mich., recently there was inaugurated a closed postoffice on Sunday. All divisions and branch stations were closed all day, except the general delivery at the main postoffice, which was kept open to oblige transients.

There were no complaints on account of closing and even the callers at the general delivery were 75 per cent. less than when the main office and branch stations were open on Sunday to accommodate patrons.

This much for a "sane Sabbath" was accomplished by the postmaster of Detroit, acting on a petition presented to the head of the postoffice department at Washington by patrons of the Detroit postoffice.

There has been some agitation to close in Chicago and a business men's association endeavored to close the Jackson park station of the Chicago office.

A prominent minister of a Woodlawn church made the subject his theme in an address before this association.

Why not close the postoffice on Sunday? It surely can and must be done if public sentiment demands it.

# WASHINGTON GOSSIP

## Senatorial Trifles Cost Much Money



**W**ASHINGTON.—The vanities, follies and eccentricities of statesmen are brought a trifle further into the limelight through the secretary of the senate's annual report, made public in congress. It discloses the little odds and ends of luxury and comfort near a senator's heart, when it can be obtained at government expense.

From May 1 to June 23 there were 232 cases of apoplethias splits furnished the senate, costing \$1,856. Taxicabs for taking senators home at the close of sessions cost \$110. Twenty-six boxes of lemons were used during the month of July last year. They cost more than \$175. It required two barrels of granulated sugar, costing \$36.33, to sweeten them.

Five gallons of witchhazel cost \$3.25. One dozen bottles soda mint and pepsin tablets to cure indigestion were purchased for \$44.20. Three large bottles of bromo seltzer were worth \$2. Nineteen dozen of assorted hair brushes cost \$20. Ten cases of soap were obtained for \$27.50. Twenty-four dozen whisk brooms aggregated \$50.

## Crop of Capital Rumors Is Abundant



**I**F THE legislative season is dull, the rumor crop is very large, and it has been what might be called a season of denials in the capitol. Recently whisperings of changes in the president's cabinet were afloat, and they multiplied so rapidly and assumed such distorted shapes that they led to vigorous denials from the white house authorities. The two in particular that were whispered around were the resignation of Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh and the elevation of Mr. Taft's secretary, Charles D. Norton, to the place, and the elevation of Congressman James A. Tawney to the position now occupied by Secretary of the Interior Richard A. Ballinger. Both called forth the most vigorous denials.

Aside from denying rumors, President Taft's chief work has been along the lines of the Panama canal zone, which he intends bringing to the attention of congress very soon. The president has recommended and is preparing to urge legislation appropriating large sums for the fortification of both entrances to the canal zone, and this in itself will cause a struggle. In addition there is pending before the senate a bill, already

## Postal Thieves Reported Plentiful



**N**UMEROUS complaints are coming daily to the postoffice department at Washington caused by the losses of packages and money. Mails are easy to rob, but few postal thieves ever escape detection. They are sure to be caught and punished in the end. No thief is harder to catch than are those who rob the government's mail. Their methods are skillful and the plunder is easily hidden or destroyed. Postoffice thieves are not arrested every day, although valuable letters and other articles are stolen almost daily and an army of sharp inspectors are on the watch. Positive proof of guilt must be in the possession of the inspector before an arrest is made. Circumstantial evidence does not go at any time. In almost every case an arrest means conviction.

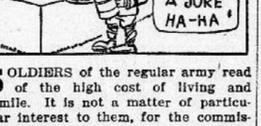
The postoffice employes never know when they are being shadowed. Outside of business hours, even, they may be watched, when not under suspicion of theft, to see if he is spending more money than his salary will allow.

It is wonderful that there are as few thieves among the many thousands of clerks who handle the mails, for great temptations surround them, as they handle millions of valuable parcels. These clerks soon learn to tell by the very touch of a letter whether it contains money. It would be an easy matter for the dishonest clerk to slip letters into his pocket and open them in some private place. But the cases of dishonesty are comparatively few.

There are but two successful ways to catch a postoffice thief and these are by constant watch and by decoy letters. With these and a large supply of patience the game will be caught. It often requires months and sometimes years to accomplish this. It is one of the most annoying and difficult lines of detective work a man ever engaged in and requires the most earnest labor. Not a single thing must be overlooked.

But few arrests have been made in Washington where there is a powerful army of postoffice employes. They seldom go wrong, yet inspectors are no more numerous there than in other cities.

## Living Expense Doesn't Effect Army



**S**OLDIERS of the regular army read of the high cost of living and smile. It is not a matter of particular interest to them, for the commissary is bound to issue the regular ration at regular intervals, regardless of what the cost may be.

In the war department the situation causes some concern, for it means going before congress with a plea for more money for the army, incidentally for funds to make up a large and growing deficiency now amounting to \$1,125,000.

Uncle Sam's are the best-fed soldiers in the world. The ration provided for them insures plenty of the best of food three times a day and the army ration intelligently handled soon produces a company fund, from the

Life's Varied Interests. "The weather's rather bad, isn't it?" said the young woman. "Yes," replied the nonchalant youth. "Lucky thing it is. Helps conversation. It would be a deadly bore to go on forever saying 'It's a pleasant day.'"

Always Busy. "And you are really settlement workers?" interrogated the housewife as she handed each of the wanderers a wedge of pie. "Yes, mum," responded the dusty spokesman, with a low bow, "we work every settlement we come to."

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