

That cats can spread both scarlet fever and diphtheria among humans has been a well settled fact for some time, and now it is thought that chickens are often responsible for the presence of diphtheria. In North Wales it has been observed that several outbreaks of that disease immediately followed an epidemic of "roup," which is a fatal chicken disease.

Commercial relations between the United States and Spain have been resumed with greater activity than ever before, and apparently with greater cordiality. During the year 1901, our imports from Spain amounted to \$7,040,758, and our exports to that country amounted to \$10,785,711. With a single exception the imports and exports were greater than in any preceding year.

In Amberg, Prussia, the mayor and the overseer of the poor have been sentenced to three months' imprisonment, with one fast day a week, for allowing the sole inmate of the local poorhouse to starve to death. They plead that they did their duty under the law, which only provided that the unfortunate should be given lodging. Sometimes it's best not to construe the law literally.

Unquestionably an essential element in business is a well-lighted store or office. A gloomy room is not a good place in which to conduct commercial transactions. Cheerfulness belongs to business. There should be plenty of windows to admit the sunlight, advice profitable advertising, and for the night there should be the best appliances for the production of artificial illumination.

In France, more than anywhere else, the science of economy is carried almost to a fine art. The common sewer rats of Paris are raised to clean the flesh from bones that are to be used in manufactures, but that must not be boiled to clean them. When full-grown rats are killed their furs are used for fur trimmings, their skins for gloves, their thigh bones for the highest grade of "Ivory" toothpicks; their tendons and bones are cooked down to make those beautiful gelatine capsules which our physicians often give us medicine in, and their teeth are used for tipping fine burnishers for bookbinders' use.

Here is a case of suicide or attempted suicide on account of a ludicrously insufficient motive. The wife of a railroad fireman in a Pennsylvania town was one of the candidates for a rocking chair in a voting contest at a fireman's fair. He began to think that her chances of winning were not bright. So he shot himself. Asked why he had done so, he answered: "That contest." So trivial a matter had added his brains. His case is one of many, comments the New York Sun. People rush out of life for anything and nothing; drown, shoot, poison themselves as easily for a wail as for a cancer.

The marbled American hotel, the New Orleans Times-Democrat says, is not a delight under the most favorable circumstances, and its plate mirrors and barber shop furniture become an absolute horror when one has to contemplate the prices he is to be charged for the tawdry entertainment that is furnished him. Why should one save money throughout the year to spend it in such miserable fashion? The modern hotel proprietor is not above robbing his guest on such a petty detail as the laundry bill. It seems to be the intention of these people to make it plain to the stranger that cleanliness is next to godliness; by making it more expensive. Why should these hotel rates have taken such an advance? The cost of living has advanced, it is true, but there should still be hotels at which persons not millionaires should be permitted to stop.

Snail-Eating in England. The statement at a meeting of the British branch of the Church pastoral aid society that poverty drives girls to collect and eat snails as food is based on a misunderstanding. Among the poorer classes of the west country, writes a correspondent, snails are esteemed as dainty and nourishing eating. They are euphemistically known as "wall fish."

During the autumn and winter men go from garden to garden collecting snails for sale and food. The usual mode is to boil the snails, and crack the shells, to eat them, spiced with pepper and salt, with bread. Their flavor is very delicate. By athletes and footballers inheriting ancient ideas of training they are especially favored as strengthening the "wind" and stamina. Indeed, the medicinal value of snails in respiratory affections rests on centuries of belief. Dr. Bullery, court physician to Henry VIII, wrote that "snails broken from their shells and soddin in whyte wine with oyle and sugar are very wholesome for straightness of the lungs and cold cough."—London Chronicle.

PACE THE KAISER SETS.

ONE DAY OF HIS BUSY CAREER TELLS THE STORY.

Also Those Given to Recreation, Business, Friends, Correspondents and Dining—Even at Night He Will Rise and Write—His Quickness of Repartee.

The London Telegraph recently, apropos of the world-wide interest in the Kaiser's personality, went into an exhaustive study of his methods and daily activities. After discussing the Kaiser's amazing versatility, which surprises every one who comes into contact with him, the Telegraph continued: "But the average man familiar with the Kaiser at all that the Kaiser manages to do, wonders chiefly how he manages to do it. Genius may exist without the infinite capacity for taking pains, but it is the indefatigable application added that distinguishes the doer from the dreamer. We shall understand the Kaiser better when we follow him through a 'specimen day' of his existence."

The Kaiser attacks the morning at the outset with cheerful and vigorous alacrity. He is often up with the lark, and always before the postman. He not seldom rises as early as 5 o'clock, and in any case sure to be astride before 7. When he has braced himself with a cold bath he invariably dons uniform, and then goes straight to breakfast.

In the circumstances of the meal is found the keynote of the way in which Kaiser Wilhelm combines a tranquil and charming family life with all the conscientious energy of his public career. It is the pride of the German emperor, and indeed of her husband, that she regards herself in the good old Teutonic fashion as being the first housewife as well as the first lady in the land. She herself supervises the preparation of breakfast, which, to suit the taste of the emperor, who abhors complex and insubstantial kickshaws, is a rather plain and robust meal, consisting of tea, bread and butter, cold meat and eggs.

In this, as in other things, there is quick dispatch, and before the Kaiser quits the table the younger children come in to bid their father a brief and brisk "good morning." They are brought up with a keen discipline, but they probably know that the Kaiser carries their photographs with him wherever he goes, and there is possibly no household in the world whose members are on more loving terms. But there is no time in the morning for dalliance, and after these pleasing little interviews all separate for work.

His majesty goes straight to his study, where he confronts a mass of correspondence as immense and miscellaneous as comes in all probability before any living person. The letters are usually several hundred in number, and with the assistance of his staff, Kaiser Wilhelm works his way rapidly through. Petitions he puts aside to be examined and reported upon by others. When there is something familiar about an envelope the emperor cuts it open himself, passing on the letter with the necessary comment to his secretaries; occasionally, though, of course, the case is rare, reserving some favored communication to be answered with his own hand.

To the few whom he counts as intimates, whether on account of friendships formed in old college days or made since, the Kaiser is known to have sometimes written letters of extraordinary frankness, sincerity and interest. But, with the increasing demands upon his minutes such confidences must be exchanged now at intervals few and far between. Then there are reports upon a thousand matters, great and small, public and private. A bird's-eye view of the whole correspondence is obtained. It is sorted out for further investigation by the staff, and before the emperor has disposed of what he wishes to reserve for his personal and prompt attention the interviews of the day commence.

The Kaiser receives his ministers, distinguished naval and military officers and other experts of the public service. Great persons arrive, the ambassadors of foreign powers present themselves, and various able and remarkable men, whether subjects of the emperor or visitors from other countries, are seen by invitation. It is typical of the mind of Wilhelm II, that no subject is too difficult for his strong and intense intelligence to cope with and nothing is too minute to excite the lively suggestiveness of his lighter talents. It, of course, goes without saying, that all this activity is not packed into the morning's work alone. The emperor goes on receiving reports and holding audiences throughout a large part of the whole day, and between visits he turns over important papers and concentrates his mind for a few fruitful seconds upon a topic which has engaged something or another in his unlimited interests.

But the imperative orders of the doctors re-enforce the Kaiser's own healthy tastes, and insure a sufficient allowance of the constant physical exercise which keeps his complexion brown and maintains his vigor. When he hunts or holds a review, he is, of course, abroad with the sun. But in the ordinary course of the routine we have sketched, the emperor leaves his study about 9, and rides or drives or walks, usually accompanied by the empress.

The latter, indeed, has many glimpses of him throughout his busiest days, for although he detests the idea of the interference of women in politics, he knows, like a wise man, the value of a wife's inactivity, and likes to consult it upon many matters other than the issues of high policy. Upon returning from the airing in the forenoon the work of the cabinet is resumed and continued up to luncheon. This meal is taken, in the ordinary course, at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and the imperial children frequently join their parents, and a special guest sometimes appears. But in the sphere of social intercourse the evening ushers in the brightest and by no means the least valuable hours of the Kaiser's day.

Guests are always invited to the 5 o'clock dinner, where the courses are generally few, though the imperial table is splendidly set out with beautiful flowers and precious plate. This is the rule, whether the company be small or large. Supper is served at 9, when there are more guests. The interval between the two evening meals is often spent by the Kaiser with the empress and their children, and to judge by the hilarious shouts which are often heard from the apartments where these little reunions are held they must represent the simplest and happiest moments, when this tremendous worker allows himself.

MODERN EGG COLLECTIONS.

Tremendous Cost of Representative Displays 30-Day.

The collection of eggs as a fad as old as the hills, and is as popular today as ever. In fact, of late years the encroachments of science upon daily life have given a new zest to the pursuit, and raised prices accordingly. At one time a collection which included the common birds of the State or a division of the country was considered among the first rank. To-day such a collection would be laughed at as a boyish plaything. The regular collectors desire to represent every leading member of the bird kingdom, while several hundred purchase the eggs of extinct and even prehistoric birds. The egg of the great Northern auk, which died out more than a half century ago, is now worth anywhere from \$1500 to \$2000. The egg of the dodo, which lived formerly in Madagascar, is worth several hundred dollars. That of the dinorhis, a giant feathered creature of New Zealand, is worth even more.

From these large figures the prices run down very rapidly. Those of the eagle family are as a class the most valuable. The golden eagle's egg brings \$10, the bald eagle's \$4, the great Swiss eagle \$8, the snow eagle \$8, the Greenland falcon \$5, the Louisiana kite \$10, the Philippine fish eagle \$10, and the fish hawk \$1. In fact, it may be said that eagles' eggs average \$7, falcons' eggs \$4, hawks' eggs \$2, owls' eggs \$6, and kites' eggs \$3. The eggs of the grouse and partridge family are very pretty in their markings and command good terms. They range all the way from 6 cents for the egg of a common ruffed grouse up to that of the Canadian grouse at 75 cents. There are 150 humming bird whose eggs are in the market, and although the latter are scarcely larger than beans, they bring exceedingly good prices, varying from 25 cents up to \$10. The eggs of the duck and goose family are not very high priced. The cleopatra is worth a single cent, while one species of the wild duck costs \$5. There are said to be 150,000 collectors in the United States, and the collections run from 1000 to 50,000 eggs. If a collection has less than a thousand eggs it is hardly worthy of the name. The smallest egg is that of the Central American humming bird, the size of a pea, and the largest is that of an ostrich. The centre of the trade was formerly in New York, but it is so no longer. The merchants say that the business has been broken up among fifty cities.—New York Post.

It's All in the Point of View. It is interesting how one's own interests govern one's view. I was sitting behind a group of women on the train who were going out to different suburban homes along the line. During the forty or fifty minutes on the train these women discussed servants, their wages, their habits, their virtues, their failings. They told of their troubles; they discussed the pantry at length; what things were cheapest in the market, what fuel was best to burn. Two or three of them told complaining stories of how hard life was when one couldn't manage this or that in a house, and all the rest of it that goes with house-keeping.

Then a very well-dressed woman got on the train and sat down. She laughingly said to one of these women that she had been at the dressmaker's for two hours having different frocks fitted.

When she left the train these women said, with fine scorn: "She thinks of nothing but dress. I wonder how any one can waste so much time on such a subject?"

And the friend who sat with me sighed as they all got out of the train, and said: "No wonder men get tired of their wives if they talk to them about nothing but cookery. Do they never play golf or read a book?"

It's all in the point of view! You may be superior in one thing to your neighbor but make up your mind that you've got something that your neighbor considers inferior to her.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Postmaster Was Too Honest. "I noticed," said an old resident of Chicago, "a recent story of a Nebraska postmaster who bought goods, and stock, and lands with stamps to such an extent that his office went into another classification and his salary was raised to several hundred dollars a year."

"That reminds me of another postmaster out in Missouri who didn't make half as much, and who, without any increase in salary, had to buy drinks for half the town just after he failed to rise to an occasion."

"It was under the first Cleveland administration. The postoffice had been in the fourth class all his life, and there had never been any public stir about putting into any other class; the new postmaster sat down on his job and sold stamps at current rates, making the usual settlements and thankful for small favors. But in the third year of his incumbency of the office things took a spurt, and when it came to a final settlement for the year the receipts showed that the fourth class office had sold things miscellaneous to within \$3.85 of the \$2000 limit, making it a third-class office. And don't you know Smith turned in the proceeds of that last quarter without a thought of buying that \$3.85 worth of 1s, 2s, and 5s necessary to make his office of the third class for a whole year."—Chicago Tribune.

The Drunkard's Request. The number of imbeciles and idiots in the country is increasing at a rate faster than the general population. Mr. Alexander Johnson, superintendent of the Home for the Feeble-minded at Fort Wayne, Ind., who has made a life-long study of such matters, says that seventy-five per cent. of these unfortunates owe their defects to drunk en parents.

Queer Cause of Fright. While Mrs. Luther Ahalt was on the wagon assisting her husband to load hay, she was so badly frightened by a ground-hog which her husband tossed up on the wagon in a fork full of hay that she fell off the wagon backwards. She escaped injury.—Middletown (Md.) Valley Register.

Don't ask for ice water. The well water is as cold as any self-respecting stomach will ask for. Don't expect half a pint of cream on 29 strawberries. Don't ask for a glass of milk at every meal. It is not good for you. One home-spun cow equals eight quarts of milk, equals one quart of cream. And where does the baby come in? Don't ask for ice cream nine times in seven days. The icehouse is four miles away. Don't wear too many starched things. Steam laundries are not found on every farm. Don't think any old thing will do to wear on the farm, but don't "dress" too much. Both extremes are in bad taste. Don't imagine that because country fare and ways are different they are not so good as city things you don't see or for things out of season. It's two miles to the store. Don't try to be a superior person. It may lead to mistakes. Don't indulge in improving conversation—unless you need it. Don't sit up late or be late to meals. Both are unsanitary. Don't complain because there are no links; life is more than golf. Don't ask for sterilized milk for the baby—unless you bring your own sterilizer. There are other "don'ts," but they can all be condensed into the Golden Rule.—The Prophet's Chamber.

Big Truck; Little Load. An auto truck capable of carrying at least 30 tons rumbled out of Broadway and into Spring street, and all there was in it was a single sewing machine movement without its table. Among those who observed its burden and smiled was an old citizen, who commented upon the extravagant waste of energy.

"There is power enough there to run 3000 sewing machines, and a boy could easily carry that one. It reminds me of the old story about A. T. Stewart sending two men with a two-truck to deliver one little spool of cotton as a fine implied rebuke to a wealthy customer who asked to have the spool sent home and charged to her account."—New York Sun.

Not So Tactless as That. She-Mrs. Borcton called today and I thought she would never go. He—But you are so amiable, I suppose you never gave her the slightest hint that you wanted her to go. She—Indeed, I did not. If I had, she'd be here now.—Brooklyn Life.

Fire Signals.

At a meeting of Hope Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1, held on July 9, 1901, the town was divided into Fire Districts and a Code of Signals was adopted in order to facilitate the location of fires in the future. The town was divided as follows:

District No. 1—All that portion of town bounded north by Bellevue street, west by Union street, south and east by corporation line.

District No. 2—All that portion of town bounded by Bellevue street on the south; Union street on the west, and corporation line on the north and east.

District No. 3—The portion of town lying west of Union street, and south of Bellevue street, with the corporation line as the south and west boundary.

District No. 4—The portion of town bounded on the south by Bellevue, east by Union, north and west by corporation line.

The Signals adopted were short taps to indicate the district in which the fire is located, followed by a rapid alarm, same to be repeated until general alarm is given.

To illustrate, should an alarm be sounded for District No. 3, first three taps, one, two, three, followed by rapid alarm, and repeat.

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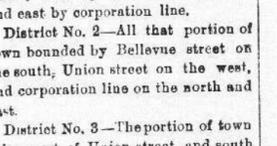
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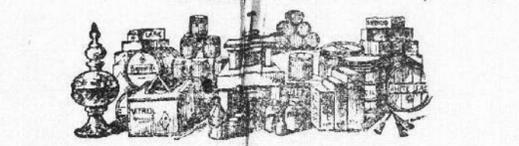
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