

plains, endures further deficiencies after complaint for a period and then changes his milkman. As long as it looks yellow and "rich" he is indifferent, not knowing it is charitable to assume that ignorance is at the bottom of such cases on the part of the customer—richness in appearance is often danger in fact, that some of the yellowest-looking milk in the market may be skimmed and "doctored" with coloring matter and then preserved from souring by one of the most powerful agents known to science, formaldehyde.

Milk of this character is no less than poison. It refuses to digest and it harms the stomach. It will kill a babe if fed to it continuously, for the child will starve if nurtured by nothing else. Yet there is nothing in its appearance or taste to give warning. What is the average customer to do? He may provide himself with a few cheap bits of testing apparatus, which will show him the true color and the proper specific gravity of the milk. He may thus detect radical departures from the standards and he can constantly add to the force of the municipal campaign against adulteration by reporting instances of deficient milk. He can add his voice to a persistent demand for more stringent laws and a more effective inspection force.

In this District he can reinforce the health authorities by urging the passage of a law providing for a central examination station and for the extension of the District's inspection authority to the dairies of Virginia and Maryland. He can read up on milk and its dangers and can familiarize himself with the signs of adulteration. He can inquire into the sources of his supply.

The chief point to get into the mind of the average milk consumer is that while there is no article of food more wholesome and nutritious in an unadulterated condition, there is also none more susceptible of contamination and more likely to convey disease germs to the human system.

The Negro Question.
The following is among the recent dispatches from Montgomery, Alabama: "It has been learned here that the negro preachers are beginning to advocate from the pulpits an exodus of the negroes in case the constitutional convention disfranchises them. The large land owners are also beginning to advocate an exodus on the suffrage, taking the open ground that they would rather continue counting out the negro at elections than to lose the territory. The preachers advise going to Texas and Arkansas."

At a time when the crop of suggestions about negro suffrage is so large the negro himself may with reason ask to be heard; but the foregoing does him no credit, nor were it adopted would it do him any good. It ranks no higher, indeed, than the suggestion about wholesale emigration to Africa, than that about the formation of a negro state with the borders of the United States, or that about converting Porto Rico or the Philippine archipelago into a negro colony. All alike are utterly impracticable, and unworthy of a moment's consideration by the negro or by anybody else. They may not be mischievous, but they certainly are not meritorious, and if they show anything it is that their authors have not gone very far into the negro question.

The negro question is, in one particular, like the money question or the tariff question—so very difficult that it invites speculation. It is a great developer of prophets and wisecracks. Nearly every man can settle it with his tongue or his pen, and some of the plans proposed are a trifle persuasive until one comes to think about them. Then they are found to lead everywhere, and nowhere, and to overlook the plainest conditions surrounding the case. If pure fancifulness, or namby pamby sentiment, or prejudice born of either or both, could settle the negro question, the country would have it off its hands in twenty-four hours. But it is a very practical question, and nothing short of practical means will avail anything in the end. The negro in numbers, and in increasing numbers, is here and here to stay. He is a savage. After forty years of freedom he shows in his best development capacity and character, and it is the recognition accorded Booker T. Washington. In his worst estate he gets the swiftest and the awfullest punishment inflicted in the country, and he is nowhere strong enough to resist the officers of the law. His labor is in demand, and when he labors with a will, as he often does, he is preferred by those who know him best to any other man who works in the same way with his hands.

The remedy for the difficulties that exist? Who shall say? But of this much we may all be sure: that does not lie in the forcible transportation of the negro to another country, nor in his running about from state to state in this country hunting for favor which can only be secured, if at all, by patience, by self-improvement and by unflagging industry.

It is possible to approve the innovation just ordered in the examination of candidates for the Naval Academy by the civil service boards throughout the country without sympathizing entirely with the argument that there is danger of the lads becoming demoralized by their visit to "a strange city." Annapolis has never been accused of much wickedness. It has its spasms of political obliquity, to be sure, and the town occasionally gets lively with the advent of the few scholars laden with fees or the passing of an oyster fleet. But there is no atmosphere of vice sufficient to make the community infamous among the American cities. However, it may be well to spare the boys who do not pass the experience of a fruitless visit to Annapolis. Failure is bad enough in itself.

Governor Odell denies that while in Newburg, N. Y., he amused himself by doing as the new man Mr. Odell did not do. He does not deny to such a parade of physical comfort to emphasize the fact that his position is an enviable one.

Mormons claim to be making numerous converts in New York. Possibly the system of common law marriages paves the way for an even more liberal interpretation of matrimonial obligations.

There is many a worse speech made at a school commencement than is heard every now and then in Congress.

Mr. Dowle continues to cure a great many people of their money.

"Measured Service" Vandeville.
A New York vandeville manager has broached a "measured service" project which is receiving serious attention among the caterers to the public entertainment. He proposes to charge, as at present, a fixed admission fee and to give a rebate to every patron who leaves the show before it is actually regulated by the length of the program left unexperienced. The bored or dissatisfied auditor. This pay-for-what-you-get plan is not original, for it obtains in the Chinese amusement world and is also a distinctive feature of all such forms of theatrical entertainment in Spain and in most Spanish-speaking countries. The Spanish method is to charge by the act, each being distinct. At the close of each act the house is theoretically cleared, those remaining in their seats being permitted to join the state militia. The idea on which this suggestion is based is not only creditable to the union itself, in that it assures the objector a rebate to be like so many of their rejected claims, a "fake." The soldiers never had a better friend in the pension office than is Commissioner Evans, himself, who has been so long and so hard on the objector, while he has proved the right man in the right place, despite what certain "professional soldiers" may say to the contrary.

Common Sense Prevailed.
From the Chicago Chronicle.
The international convention of printing pressmen in session at Washington promptly voted the customary proposition that the deal of money to be spent by the pressmen in working up opposition and they have even gone so far as to declare that the national committee promised to have Evans removed, and they have to be, like so many of their rejected claims, a "fake." The soldiers never had a better friend in the pension office than is Commissioner Evans, himself, who has been so long and so hard on the objector, while he has proved the right man in the right place, despite what certain "professional soldiers" may say to the contrary.

poorer Chinamen to the doors of the native theaters toward the close of the performance.

The exact equity of such schemes to adjust the price to the goods delivered is not to be denied, save on the assumption that in a dramatic performance the value of any part depends upon its relation to the whole and that no part is worth a proportion of the full price if separated from the entirety of the play. This applies specifically to continuous plays with "plots," but it cannot be urged against the Chinese scheme, for the celestial drama conspicuously lacks in consecutiveness. Nor can such an objection prevail against the Spanish plan, for the acts, so-called, are veritable divisions of the program, without reference to each other. This is no less than the "vaudeville" which is so prominent a feature of the American stage entertainments of today.

Yet it may reasonably be urged that as long as the managers plan they should take account of the differing qualities of the various "turns" of their shows. Some numbers on vaudeville programs are not only not worth paying to see, but are so poor that patrons might reasonably demand to be paid to see them. A true sliding scale would adjust the proposed rebate to the quality of the specialties. The twenty-five dollar song-and-dance team might stand for one-cent return, while the loudly proclaimed "1000 star production" could be held good for fifteen cents to the patron who decided to eschew its enjoyment.

There is said to be a great demand among multi-millionaires for men who are worth \$25,000 a year. The few engagements made at that figure make painfully apparent the difference between the man who is worth \$25,000 a year and the man who thinks he is.

In spite of the oblivion which goes with the vice presidency a number of papers insist on discussing the question of whether Mr. Roosevelt would make a good presidential nominee for 1912.

It would be at least a momentary relief if the weather bureau would so far sacrifice its reputation for truth and veracity as to let the populace get a glimpse of the cold wave flag.

California suggests that the Hawaiian Islands be annexed to it as a congressional district. California evidently wants all the picturesque places that it can sweep within its grasp.

Russia's threat to cease trading with this country will hardly be carried into full effect so long as Uncle Sam can put up such an alluring bargain counter.

When Mr. Wanamaker contemplates the purchase of a street railway franchise, he is too much in earnest to stop and haggle about the price.

No species of faith cure has been discovered which will dispense with the vulgar necessity of ready cash.

A Superabundance of Intellect.
"Has your company any really great thinkers?" asked the tourist agent of the Kansas agriculturist. "Every once in a while we run across a man that's masquerading as a farm hand, but who doesn't want to do a thing but think."

Idle Curiosity.
On these warm nights one lies awake while queries fill the mind with doubt. What does the Indian fakir fake? And what does the mulrah mad about?

An Abstract Thought.
"Do you think that young Mr. Cadly takes after his ancestors?" "Really," answered Miss Cayenne, "I haven't time to discuss the Darwinian theory."

One Sorrow Less.
"Do you think that a young man, who is poor, has an advantage over the child of luxury in an artistic career?" asked the aspirant. "Well," answered Mr. Stormington Barnes, reflectively, "of course, he has this comfort: He isn't nearly so liable to lose a lot of money."

A Father's Confession.
"My dear," said the fair girl's father, "I listened to your graduation essay with a great deal of interest." "Did you?" she rejoined coolly. "Yes; and I want to say that I have been doing you an injustice and that I am sorry for it. I used to think you were worrying about what Susie Simpkins was going to wear or whether Charlie Champkins was going to call, when all this time you were pondering on the Ultimate Destiny of the Human Race!"

The Happy Heathen.
In distant tropic lands,
Close by a tepid star that rolls
On superheated sands.
He dons no coat nor gorgeous gown.
In deference to the style
He sometimes wears a heavy frown
And sometimes wears a smile.

Oh, happy heathen. When our clan
By heat is sore distressed,
You sneer and vow the shirt-waist man
Is sadly over-dressed.

Get Out of Doors.
From the Syracuse Post-Standard.
These are good days to be out of doors, getting sunshine and fresh air, and enjoying nature.

Most persons keep to the house or the office too closely for their own good. Nature is the most healthful and inspiring companion one can find, and she is ever ready for human company.

Whether at home or some other place, this is the season to be out of doors; and the man or woman who forsakes house or office for the open air is every opportunity will not only enjoy summer, but will reap the reward of renewed physical and mental strength.

A Creditable Act.
From the Philadelphia Press.
The refusal of President McKinley to remove Pension Commissioner Evans, despite the tremendous pressure brought to bear against the commissioner by the system pension attorneys—not the reputable men engaged in that business—is one of the most creditable acts of the administration.

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