

CHANGES BEING WROUGHT IN THE OIL COUNTRY.



"BILL" DITCHWATER - FARMER



MR. WILLIAM J. DITCHWATER - OIL MAGNATE

A WONDERFUL CLOCK.

Contains 2,200 Parts and Required Many Years to Complete.

One of the most remarkable clocks in the world, eclipsing perhaps the famous timepiece in the cathedral at Strasburg, has been completed by a poor German weaver. Twenty-four years ago he began his labors, and although he had a grant from the Emperor he was reduced to beggary before his great work was finished. The strain upon him was so great that his friends declared him insane and he was for a time confined in a lunatic asylum.

The clock is a wonderful piece of mechanism. It tells the day, the month, the season, the year, the signs of the Zodiac, the phases of the moon, and the positions of the stars. It also foretells eclipses of the sun and moon, and presents a perpetual calendar. Like its great Strasburg prototype, the clock is embellished with many automatic figures. Two angels strike the quarters; there are also figures representing the angel of death and the four ages of man. At the striking of the full hour an angel appears bearing the hour-glass, while another blows a trumpet.



A WONDERFUL CLOCK.

On the left side of the clock is a cock, which five minutes before noon flaps its wings, stretches its neck, and crows. Spring is symbolized by a cuckoo, and summer by a quail; while autumn is represented by a bull at the feet of St. Luke, and winter by the lion of St. Mark. All these creatures utter their appropriate cries. At noon and midnight a figure of the Saviour appears, accompanied by his twelve apostles. There are also musical chimes which play melodies after the "even" hours. Not content with his tremendous labors, the inventor, Herr Julius Spahn, has written three volumes descriptive of his clock.

The work consists of 2,200 parts, 142 of which are wheels. Each part is itself a masterpiece. All the wheels, logs, levers and bridges are the constructor's own handiwork, and are ornamented with flowers and creepers in fretwork. The cabinet is of old oak, veneered and polished, and the weight of the entire structure is a little over 300 pounds. The cabinet is constructed in such a way that one is able to see the full working of the whole clock through the front glass and the side glasses, which are divided by columns.

CLOTHING GOING TO WASTE.

Many Unclaimed Collars and Cuffs Destroyed at Laundries.

Thousands of dollars' worth of laundered shirts, collars and cuffs that have not been called for are burned or otherwise destroyed in Chicago every month. It is estimated that the linen thus consumed in the city in a single year amounts in value to \$231,000. Nearly \$14,000 worth was either burned or consigned to the rag heap during the last month.

"To successfully put them on the market," said a laundryman, "the articles would have to be assorted in sizes, and this would be impracticable, as they would have to be sold at a price that would not justify the trouble. In consequence they are taken out and burned, but in a short time the shelves are again filled with unclaimed packages. The value of these packages usually ranges from 30 cents to \$5.

"All bundles are kept on the shelves of the various laundries for sixty days, and if no one has called for and claimed them by that time they are thrown into a large basket and opened. If the shirts are in good condition they are given to tramps or turned over to the charitable organizations. The collars and cuffs cannot be disposed of in this way, and are usually burned. The ques-

tion of disposing of unclaimed laundry is a constant thorn in the side of laundrymen in Chicago and other large cities of the country."

This heavy loss is due to the carelessness of the linen-wearing public of Chicago. One laundryman who has been in the business here for years, and who has seen enough linen go to waste to clothe half the population of the country, said:

"The remarkable number of shirts, collars and cuffs left at laundries can be accounted for in several ways. Frequently strangers come to the city, send their soiled clothes to the laundry and hastily leave without calling for them. They rarely go to the trouble of sending back for them, and the package is consequently burned.

"Another reason is gross carelessness. A man often starts down town with a bundle of linen and leaves it at the first laundry he happens to see. He forgets where he left it, and some poor laundryman is frequently the victim of abuse from an irate citizen who had never been in his establishment. I have callers nearly every day who fiercely demand their linen, which they had left at some other place.—Chicago Record-Herald.

PLANNED FOR LARGEST SHIPS.

Locks of Nicaragua Canal to Accommodate Biggest Vessels Afloat.

The Federal statute under which the Isthmian Canal Commission was created required that body to make examinations and devise plans for a canal of sufficient navigable depth and of the requisite dimensions to accommodate the largest vessels afloat.

As a rule, merchant ships are longer than naval vessels, while the latter class have relatively much the greater beam or width. The longest vessel now afloat is the Oceanic of the White Star Line; it has a length of practically 704 feet. It is quite probable that within a comparatively short time longer vessels will be built, but it would manifestly be impracticable for the commission to take into consideration the possible development of ship design for an indefinite future period.

It was, then, necessary to consider those vessels at present afloat whose dimensions are the largest yet used, and design the canal and its works so as to afford a reasonable margin beyond those limits, but not so great as to involve excessive cost. To meet these conditions the locks were designed to give a clear length of 740 feet and a clear width of 84 feet. The greatest beam or breadth of warship at present is practically 77 feet. The locks, therefore, meet the requirements of the law and give some room for developments beyond the maximum limits of size already attained.

It is well known that ships drawing as much as thirty-two feet in sea water have entered or passed from New York harbor as well as some other ports, and there is no reason to believe that the limit of draught has yet been reached. It was, therefore, decided that the least navigable depth in the canal should be thirty-five feet, and that limit has been carefully observed throughout its entire length. In the harbor entrances at the extremities of the canal, says William H. Burr, in Scribner's, this depth of thirty-five feet is provided at mean low tide.

Old Kansan Philosopher.

"Yes," said the old philosopher of Kansas, "I am feeling pretty well. You see, an old man is a good deal like an old wagon. So long as the old wagon is kept well greased and is driven along smooth roads at a moderate clip, it will last a long time. But when the boys drive the old wagon to town of a Saturday, and run races on the way home, after they have had a bottle or two down in the box stall at the livery stable, it is mighty apt to go to smash. If an old man keeps himself well greased, travels slow on a smooth road, and doesn't try to run races with the boys on Saturday nights, there is just no tellin' how long he will last."—Kansas City Journal.

Not Prepared.

Whyte—Bjens calls himself a practical politician. Black—A practical politician! Why, I asked him to change a \$10 bill for me on election day last year and he said he couldn't do it.—Somerville Journal.

No Geologist.

"What kind of pie is it to-day, Jim?" asked the first restaurant boarder of his companion. "Dunno," replied Jim, as he tried to gnaw off a bite. "I'm no geologist."—Ohio State Journal.

The Way Out.

She (scornfully)—I despise you from the bottom of my heart! He (cheerily)—Oh, well, there is always room at the top.—Puck.

NOW THEY MERELY SPEAK.

For She Knew All the Time Who It Was.

Half a dozen persons in a big downtown office building enjoyed themselves hugely the other day at the expense of a young lady with whom all of them are well acquainted, and who is located in a room adjoining the one which is the scene of their daily labors.

The leader of the six jokers went to the telephone instrument and called the 'phone in the next room. As was anticipated, the young lady answered. "This is central office," announced the joker. "We are testing the wires. Will you kindly assist us?" Of course all this was said in an altered tone of voice.

"Certainly," was the sweet response. "What shall I do?" "Kindly place your mouth about two inches to the right of the instrument," directed the joker, "and say 'hello' three times at short intervals."

The obliging creature at the other end promptly complied with the request. The joker waved his disengaged hand at his five associates and bent double in the effort to repress laughter.

"Now place your mouth one inch to the left and repeat 'hello' four times," the joker instructed.

The response proved excruciatingly funny to the man at the 'phone, and, although they could not hear what the young lady said, his five companions were not devoid of imagination. By this time they were holding their sides.

It required such a long time for the joker to regain control of his voice that the victim had twice inquired, "Is that all?" before he could say "with your mouth just above the instrument pronounce the same word again." This was done.

The joker could keep in no longer. Though beginning to laugh, he managed to splutter:

"Now stand on your head and say 'hello'—"

With a shout he slapped the ear-piece on the hook and literally fell into a chair. The other five screamed.

Still giggling, the six merry men, a little later, proceeded to visit the imposed-upon damsel. As they reached the doorway of her room she turned up her nose disdainfully and remarked, in an chilling manner:

"Humph; I knew it was you all the time."

They speak now as they pass by, but that's about all.—Washington Star.

TALKS ON ADVERTISING

Small spaces can be made to pay; it is not necessary to take a half-page to tell a good story. It is more important to put interesting matter in your ads than it is to make them big and boisterous.—Press and Printer.

There never was a bigger mistake made by any merchant than for him to think that he had reached a point where he could do without advertising. He may not realize it, but when he stops the more enterprising merchant is gradually taking his business away from him.—Jacksonville (Fla.) Metropolis.

Newspaper advertising is not only more direct, but it offers more chances of success than magazine advertising. The newspaper reaches so many different classes of people that there is always a wide margin for miscalculation in copy. The big dailies furnish many different sets of ideas. They reach the sporting man, the society folks, the merchant, the banker, the laborer, the woman in the home, all by matter that is specially prepared to suit their tastes. The magazine, on the other hand, furnishes but a single set of ideas. It treats all matters from one point of view—the woman's, the literary reader's, the educational, the critical. Each magazine aims to appeal to one definite class; therefore nice discrimination is needed in selecting magazines to carry certain forms of advertising. There is a very narrow margin for errors. When the medium is fitted to the advertising, it is sure to reach larger numbers of people, however, and the leisure and intelligence of readers are large factors in returns.—Printers' Ink.

Irish Tobacco on Sale.

Tobacco has been grown in no fewer than twenty-five centers in Ireland, and the leaves have been cut and dried, and are now offered for sale. Its excellence for smoking is vouched for, and there seems no adequate reason why the weed should not boom contemporaneously with the new Irish literature. Quite possibly here and there the growing may bring wealth to the cultivators, and eventually—who knows?—become the envy of American trusts.

Still Useful.

Loanedit—Borrowit, didn't you get my lawn mower last summer? Borrowit—Yes, I'm the man. Loanedit—Are you thinking of bringing it home this winter? Borrowit—Hadn't thought of it. I'm going to lower the knives in that machine and use it to shave the ice off my sidewalk.—Indianapolis News.

When a girl hangs around a store to see a young man her parents should pull on the lines and yell whoa. Many a disastrous marriage has begun in this way.



FARM AND GARDEN

Riding Attachment for Plows.

The illustrated device is a riding attachment for a plow, which a correspondent of the Iowa Homestead says he showed a number of years ago.

Fig. 1 shows the attachment attached to a walking plow and shows how it is attached. Fig. 2 shows the attachment detached from the plow, and if it is to be used for a harrow or other implement where there is no furrow a larger wheel is substituted for the small wheel, which would make it run in a leaning position. This wheel is attached by a set screw and can be re-



ATTACHMENT FOR PLOWS.

moved easily, and the shaft is long enough so the large wheel may be put on the extreme end and thus make it less liable to tip over.

The Corn Breeder.

Corn-breeding has become a specialized industry. The field for this branch of farming is very great, as is shown by the fact that the corn growers of Illinois alone use over 1,000,000 bushels of seed every year. Of course it is not necessary that this seed be secured from the breeder fresh every year, but seed will not as a rule remain pure more than four or five years. It then becomes necessary to again secure well-bred seed. As yet the demand has been but little developed. Farmers are just beginning to realize the importance and benefit of improved seed, but even now corn breeders are not able to supply the demand. That this demand will increase far beyond the capacity of corn breeders to supply there is no doubt.—A. D. Shamel, in Orange Judd Farmer.

The Asparagus Bed.

We believe in mowing the asparagus bed in the fall and burning it over to destroy the beetles, eggs and rust that may be there. Others who have grown much more of it than we have prefer to have the old stalks remain until spring, as helping to hold the snow on the bed. But in either case we would cut out and carry away all the seed-bearing plants before the seed begun to fall. The little seedlings in the old bed are no better than as many weeds. If seedlings are wanted to set a new bed, cut the stalks when the seed is nearly ripe, and hang them up to ripen, and sow the seed in a new bed from which it may be transplanted at a year old. We like good yearling plants better than two-year-olds.—New England Farmer.

Early Puritan Potato.

As a rule the early potato crop is the profitable one, although the past season good money was made from late potatoes, and especially if the best late varieties were grown. The Early Puritan, one of the new varieties, has been tested in different potato sections sufficiently to prove its merit. The skin is nearly white, most early sorts of value having a pink skin. In flavor



THE EARLY PURITAN.

the variety is first-class and the tuber cooks well, being dry and mealy, another point hard to find among early sorts. It is a good keeper also.

Teaching Lambs to Feed.

When a lamb is two weeks old it is ready for feeding something in addition to the ewe's milk. It is true that by feeding the ewe her milk will be increased, but the first thing to do is to feed the ewe, for the sake of the lambs, which may be fed indirectly in this way from the first day of their lives. The lambs are easily taught to feed by themselves if they are provided with suitable feeding pens into which they may go through narrow openings too small for the ewes. This is the simplest matter possible. To catch a lamb and take it into the pen and put a little of the feed provided into its mouth is all that is needed; the lambs will do the rest; for where one goes all will want to go instantly.—Farmers' Voice.

Setting Strawberry Plants.

Any one who believes in fall setting of strawberry plants has opportunity this year. The weather since fruiting has been such that the runners have made a good growth, and there has been moisture enough for newly set plants. We think we seldom saw plants set in the spring, and well cared for during the summer, produce as many or as handsome berries as we have seen on those set the same year in Au-

gust. Excepting some of the new varieties, one can get as many plants as he wants, well known and standard kinds, for a trifling sum if not for nothing, at this season of the year in almost any neighborhood.—American Cultivator.

Avoiding Peach Yellows.

It may not be generally known that peach yellows is found in every State in the Union, with six exceptions. Of course, it is worse in some States than in others, but it exists in all States where the peach is grown, except in California, Mississippi, Texas, and parts of Alabama, Florida and Georgia, and there is no cure for it. In orchards, located in Georgia and in New Jersey, there is apparently no difference in the severity of the disease when at its worst, and the trouble apparently attacks trees budded on stocks grown from pits obtained from different sections of the country. It is safe to say that with the possible exception of California pits, it is as safe to select the pits for budding stocks from the finest fruit on the most healthy trees in one's own orchard as from any other source.

Working for Fertile Eggs.

Poultrymen should keep before their mind's eye at all times the fact that the percentage of eggs hatched on the farm in May and June is much greater than from those hatched anywhere, under the usual conditions, in March and April. It is simply because the hen on the range has access to all that is necessary to produce a fertile egg. This being the case the cue should be taken and every effort made to supply the same conditions during the late winter, as are found in the early summer. Food in variety, with considerable green food and animal food, is of the first importance; next comes a comfortable house and plenty of room in which to exercise.

Winter Treatment of San Jose Scale.

Winter spraying to destroy the San Jose scale is most effective. Summer spraying is usually necessary in addition, but the insecticide cannot be made as strong as in the winter season when there are no buds to injure. There are several remedies for the scale, but crude petroleum is the best for use in winter, and it may be used only slightly diluted. The work must be thoroughly done, every branch being touched with the petroleum, and several applications made if necessary. If done thoroughly in winter it is probable that only one or two light sprayings would be necessary in the summer.

Safety Milk Pail.

Many a pail of milk has been lost by a kick from the cow just as the task of milking her was about finished and many a stray bit of dirt falls into the open pail if the farmer is not extremely careful in his labors. John Heustis King, of Garry, Ala., believes that the pail he has just designed will save the milk in case of an upset pail and also prevent the gathering of impurities.

In the picture the details of construction of this improved pail are shown. The top of the pail has a screw-threaded flange, to which a receiving bowl is secured by a similar flange. In the center of this bowl is a strainer, and below the strainer is an open frame in which is placed a loose cone corresponding in shape to the under side of the strainer. As soon as the pail is tipped over the flow of the milk toward the strainer seals the cone and effectually closes the outlet until the pail is righted again.

Millions of Eggs.

New York City, according to the statistical expert of the New York Herald, consumes 2,283 eggs every minute of the day, which means 100,000,000 dozen a year. The city may feel independent of the hen so far as the hatching process is concerned, but is entirely dependent for its supply of eggs on the moody creature who regulates her output according as the weather happens to suit her whims. These hens get food and lodging for their part of the work, and their owners receive \$20,000,000 a year for the 342 eggs that they supply annually to each inhabitant of the city.

Bavarian Hops.

Although hops have been grown in this country for a great many years, they have always been inferior as compared with the best European hops, and, as they bring a lower price in the market and are not so desirable as the Bavarian hops, cuttings of the best of the latter were imported last year. These cuttings have been placed in the hop-growing districts of the United States and, according to the report of the Secretary of Agriculture, promise to be far superior to the ordinary varieties grown, in addition to maturing earlier and extending the picking season.

Keep Sheep in Good Condition.

A sheep should never be allowed to fall off in condition. Its constitution is weakened permanently. The clip of wool is seriously injured. No animal is so difficult to restore to good condition as the sheep, and there is none where a loss of flesh tells so quickly upon its outward covering.—J. F. Hancock.

Tuberculin in Herefords.

Dr. Geddes, representative of the United States Department of Agriculture, resident in England, tested during the past year 249 Herefords with tuberculin prior to export. Of this large number only seven reacted, and it is stated that of these seven he considered three only "suspicious cases."

AN ABLE STATESMAN.

Death of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava in Ireland.

The death of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, which occurred in his castle in County Down, Ireland, removing a



MARQUIS DUFFERIN

personage whose achievements in politics and letters won him world-wide fame. He was a great administrator and a diplomat who had few equals in the British realm. For the greater part of half a century he was in the service of Britain as an ambassador and agent, and his career is closely interwoven with the history of England during this period. Lord Dufferin retired from public life a few years ago, full of honors, but comparatively poor. What little money he had was swept away in the failure of the London and Globe Finance Corporation, to which he had lent his name a year ago. The crash came when he was about to go to South Africa, where his son was seriously wounded in an engagement with the Boers.

The Marquis of Dufferin and Ava was 75 years of age and came of the best Irish blood on both sides of the house. His great-grandfather was that brilliant Irishman, Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Our subject began his career in the service of the British Empire as lord-in-waiting to the Queen, which position he held three years. In 1855, when 29 years of age, he was attached to Lord Russell's mission in Vienna. In 1860 he was sent as British commissioner to Syria to investigate the massacre of Christians there. Two years later he left diplomacy for politics and colonial administration, being appointed under secretary of state for India. In 1866 he was under secretary of war for a short time, and in 1868 he received the post of chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. In 1871 he was created a British earl. Then came, in 1872, his appointment as governor general of Canada, which he held for six years. His administration in the Dominion was marked by tact and statesmanship and he became extremely popular among the Canadian people.

On leaving Canada he was sent as ambassador to St. Petersburg, 1879-81, and ambassador to Constantinople, 1881-84, with a special mission to Cairo in 1882. In 1884 he became viceroy of India, and during his administration annexed Burma and won for himself a marquessate with the new title of Ava added to his old one of Dufferin. In 1888 he became ambassador to Rome, and in 1891 he was transferred to Paris. Lord Dufferin held this position nearly five years and was released from it with regret. Lady Dufferin, his wife, is a woman of rare charm and is very popular.

AN AMAZING YOUNG WOMAN.

She is English to the core, and has started New York society. She rides astride, fences, dances, talks, sings, plays, and is an athlete. She attended the Paderewski recital given by William C. Whitney in his New York home. Upon this occasion Lady Constance electrified the guests by performing a



LADY CONSTANCE MACKENZIE.

Highland sword dance after two walking sticks were placed upon the floor. There seems to be nothing that this versatile young woman cannot do well. In London she is noted not only for her athletics, but for her love of farming, her fancy for baby boa constrictors as pets, and her patronage of kindergarten.

An Error of Judgment.

A former archdeacon of Suffolk visited an out-of-the-way English parish when the rector happened to be away. The visitor was shown about by the clerk, and on arriving at the churchyard was surprised to find a crop of wheat growing in it.

"Dear, dear!" said the archdeacon. "I can't approve of this. I really did not think Mr. Winkley would plant wheat in the churchyard."

"That's just what I told parson," said the clerk. "I says, says I, 'Ye didn't ought to have wheated it; 'ye ought to have tatered it.'"

A Queer Servian Custom.

A traveler through Servia will often notice dolls hung up inside the cottage windows. He learns that the dolls are put up as a sign to announce to wayfarers that a marriageable daughter dwells in the house.

Delicate Work.

A Baltimore engraver has put the alphabet on the head of a common pin. The work took only an hour and a half.

Russian railroad trains have smoking cars for women.