



A NIGERIAN CHIEF'S METHOD OF SUMMONING HARVEST HANDS BY BEATING OF DRUMS.

In the primitive parts of Africa labor is not regularly employed, and when one of the petty chiefs needs workers he collects them in a peculiar manner. In Nigeria, when a chief is ready to begin his harvesting, he sets his tribesmen drumming. They beat huge kettle-

drums made of skin stretched on calabashes, and some small side drums beside. The sound of the drumming carries for great distances, and soon the laborers begin to respond. In a short time a small army of workers is gathered and the work of harvesting is rushed to completion.

even if the fact's only too apparent. He won't want to stay half as long the next time as he will if he anticipates tears and reproaches. She apologized for other delinquencies of Stribling's from time to time, as when he wasn't nice about a hat, complained of the summer or brought guests home unexpectedly in the course of the next fifteen or sixteen years.

Find the Moral

Before Stribling got married Mrs. Sanaper told him she had no idea of interfering with his domestic affairs. "I hope I always have realized that young people must find out for themselves what is best for them, and settle their own differences without the help of any third person," she said. "When you marry Bessie I can't help being your mother-in-law, but I'm not going to be the kind of mother-in-law that you read about in the funny papers."

Stribling turned on his heel and left the room. That night Mrs. Stribling said: "What have you been saying to mother, John? She's been crying about some thing and she won't let me what it is." "I'll tell you," said Stribling. "I wish she'd go. She's been here two days now. Because she happens to be my mother-in-law I don't see why I'm to be criticized by her. She's been trying to make out that I'm mean to her—or she, thinks so, that's all. It's the natural hostility of a woman to the man who marries her daughter, I suppose, and I suppose I'll have to put up with it; but I don't like it. Just plain mother-in-law."

Revival of Dickens' Neat. Instead of snubbing Man, she Looks Up to Him as a Superior Being. We are threatened—and there is no use any longer disguising the fact—On the south of the palace a range of buildings has been found at a lower level, largely buried under debris of the palace itself. The latter included a mass of ivory fragments, the remains of carved caskets and of fresco paintings. Inside the south building itself, under a staircase, a small hoard of silver vessels has come to light—some bowls and a jug. These will be welcomed as first fruits of that work in precious metals which so greatly influenced the ceramic artists of the middle Minoan periods, but has generally disappeared. We hear, too, of fine vases of various kinds, some with papyrus plant ornament in relief and others in the best "palace style." Work is also proceeding actively on the restoration of the royal apartments on the east of the palace, and every effort is being made to get into the great dome tomb found last year and to find other tombs.

How Flowers Hide Honey. Fits Where Sweets Are Stored in the Lily. "Before the bee sucks," as Ariet put it, he must find the wonderful places where the flowers hide away their honey, to be found like the priests' hiding holes in ancient mansions, by the right sort of visitor, and to keep away all intruders. In the recesses of the crown imperial lily at the center can be seen six large honey pits, one on every floral leaf,

MY POLICIES OF THE DAY

Where Are the Democrats? We have never had an administration which enforced with so much rigorance and in so many offensive ways the one that is now bearing its fruit. Under cover of vociferated virtue it has upheld irresponsible personal government; it has undertaken to override Congress and the courts; it has ignored the constitution and the laws; it has encouraged extravagance, war and waste; it has suspended laws in the interests of expediency; it has denounced as gully men who had not been tried; it has maintained one standard for itself while holding its critics to another; it has convicted with trusts, monopolists and schemers in raising campaign funds while pretending to assail such offenders, and to who he protested or expostulated. It has replied with denunciation and vilification.

To make the central figure in this administration thoroughly complete and consistent nothing is wanting but a crown, a scepter and a golden carriage with outriders. "Hinged here and there with the exaggeration of comic opera, our citizen sultan shows at one moment the rollicking abandon of a tipsy stage potentate and at another the drastic tyranny of an Asiatic despot. What he does, what he thinks, and what he says is right. What other people do, think and say is wrong; therefore, off with their heads or consign them to the limbo of the undesirable, for the king can not err. To round out his career of capricious recklessness and lawlessness he names his successor and assumes to bludgeon him into office.

There is greater need of a true Democrat to dictate its candidate for President, but gave him both a platform and a running mate out of harmony with his recognized principles. No sooner had Mr. Taft been placed at the head of the ticket than he began the work of remodeling the platform on which he stood. Mr. Sherman, lieutenant of Speaker Cannon, never made pretense of being a Roosevelt Republican till he became tail of the Roosevelt (Taft) ticket.

By constant reliance on Roosevelt and in particular by the submission of his speech of acceptance to the President for approval, the Republican candidate has given the public an impression that he is a mere proxy for his chief. This has counted against him. To preserve the personal feelings of rival aspirants for the post of national chairman Mr. Taft made a wholly illogical and cumbersome arrangement by which both Hitchcock and Voris could be chairmen, the apparent duty of each being to get in the way of the other.

The vacillating policy of the Taft management in reference to Senator Foraker leads to a situation demanding the most stringent measures to untangle. First he was to be eliminated. Then it was specified that the elimination must be by the painless method. Then overtures from the Taft camp were about to lead to complete harmony and the killing of the fatted calf, when the Hearst charges threw all hands into a panic and the end is not yet.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Forecasting Political Results. Organized attempts to forecast results of the national election this year began in both parties as soon as the candidates were nominated. In New York and several other States preliminary prophecies based on them have already begun to appear. The methodical effort to find out results in advance may extend until reports have been made covering every ward and county in which changes are expected. Then, instead of being accepted as authentic prophecies, or even as reliable forecasts, all conclusions thus reached become "claims" as soon as they are published. With all his reports footed to the last totals, the most expert political prophet remains uncertain if everything except

THE ERUPTION OF MT. ROOSEVELT. The eruption of Mt. Roosevelt, which has been in progress since the middle of the month, is the most violent since the eruption of Mt. St. Helens in 1882. The mountain is now a vast field of lava, and the surrounding area is covered in ash and cinders. The eruption has caused the evacuation of the town of St. Louis, and the surrounding area is now a vast field of lava. The eruption has caused the evacuation of the town of St. Louis, and the surrounding area is now a vast field of lava.

Why So Much Vindictiveness? The Republican party has been in power practically forty-six years and its record should be clear to all men of intelligence. But the almost superhuman efforts to vindicate its policies at the present time bears out the long-entertained certainty that the record will not bear close inspection. And when it comes to the charges of the issues expressed in the Chicago platform, and the virulent attacks upon the prominent men of the Democratic party, the suspicion becomes a certainty that there is a long list of damaging irregularities to be concealed from the public. A great majority of the people of this country are close observers of the political trend, and therefore not merely voting cattle to be driven to the polls by threats of ruin and disaster to their interests. Every mechanic can look at his pay envelope, all bills from the neighboring grocer and butcher, and then feel the amount of interest—the passing years of a Republican administration have deposited there. It is a practical test.

A Campaign of Errors. If Mr. Bryan, elected President, and he claims with increasing confidence that he will be, the Republicans will owe their defeat to a series of errors in management which are little less than appalling when viewed in the aggregate. Beginning the campaign with every political factor apparently in their favor, Mr. Bryan defeated and expelled many men for an opponent, the Republicans have by their persistent blundering invited the disaster which may be in store for them. The Chicago convention allowed the

AGRICULTURE AND GARDEN

The first requisite of success in breeding is the love of an animal. Burn the potato vines and all trash in the fields to prevent rot. An honest nurseryman is a rare prize that should be tightly clung to. A heavy rain coat is cheaper than doctor's bills. So is a hired girl for the wife. The man who has learned enough to attend to his own business has a pretty good education. A good deed and a pleasant manner will do more with your neighbor than a lawsuit.

National Resources and Waste. Conservation of natural resources and prevention of waste are two subjects that go together. Conservation of forests, for example, means that they should not be cut faster than needed. The stoppage of waste is a corollary to the main proposition. The waste in the manufacture of lumber is something enormous. The old-fashioned sawmill, when it made an arch board, also made a quarter of an inch of sawdust. This waste has been reduced by band saws and scientific sawing, but there is still enough sawdust made to build cities if it were saved to the people. The National Conservation Commission is trying to find out what uses can be made of sawdust beyond its meager use as fuel.

It is estimated that, under present methods of mining coal, more than a ton is wasted for every ton that is gotten to market. Cavel-in mines, which cannot profitably be reopened, contain more coal than has been taken out of all the mines. It is lost forever. The commission wants to know whether everything possible has been done to lessen the loss while the mine is in operation. These are big practical questions. Handled in a big, practical way they mean great saving to the people. The saving added to the national wealth.—Minneapolis Journal.

How Many Eggs Will a Hen Lay? Here is what Professor Graham told about egg production recently to the students of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph: "I find it a very difficult matter to get an accurate idea of the number of eggs that the average hen in the Province of Ontario produces in a year. I am very much inclined to believe that the average hen does not produce eighty eggs in twelve months. I believe that the average hen at the average experiment station does not average 110 eggs per year. One would expect that, under various experimental conditions and on various farms scattered over the United States and Canada they would probably get as good an average production as on the poultry farm. They have many conditions present which are not present on the average farm, and they have other conditions that are not present on the average farm. Considering all things, you should get somewhere near the average production at the experiment station."

Securing Fertile Eggs. Officials of the Department of Agriculture have been collecting data regarding the factors which affect the fertility of eggs, the question having been carefully studied at a number of experiment stations in the United States and elsewhere. "Two warm quarters for laying stock and overfeeding are commonly believed to exercise an unfavorable influence on egg fertility, as well as does a cold season. The way eggs are handled or stored is also believed to affect the proportion which will hatch as will also the conditions under which incubation occurs. The vigor and character of the parent stock and the length of time the male bird has been with the flock are also important questions with respect to egg fertility. At the outset it should be pointed out that fertility and "hatchability" are not necessarily identical. An egg may be fertile and still the germ does not have sufficient vitality to produce a healthy chick under the ordinary conditions of incubation. In a series of incubator experiments at the Rhode Island station of 8677 eggs tested, 83 per cent were found to be fertile, while only 46 per cent of the fertile eggs, or 38.6 per cent of the total number of eggs, hatched under the conditions of the tests. The various observations made, while not entirely conclusive, indicate that in order to secure fertile eggs which will hatch, the laying stock must not be kept in very warm quarters or overfed; the males must be kept with the hens continuously and that only eggs should be used which are produced after the male has been with the hens several days. Only few fowls from very vigorous parent stock and those known to produce a high percentage of fertile eggs (hens vary widely in this respect) should be used; the hens should be allowed a rest after each laying period, while the eggs should be handled carefully, not subjected to extremes of temperature in storing and used only when comparatively fresh.—Prairie Farmer.

What has become of the good old apple butter that mother used to make? The department experts show that 90 per cent of the stuff now sold for apple butter is so badly adulterated as to make it unfit for food. It takes courage to keep on raising sheep or hogs or anything else when prices show a weak backbone for a couple of years in succession. But the man who has the grit to stick to his business will win in the long run. The Stock Breeders' Association of Grandview, Wash., paid \$10,000 for a Percheron stallion. He is dark brown, 5 years old, weighs 2,300 pounds and stands 18 hands 1 1/4 inches. The association is composed of ten farmers. Under no circumstances should the unaccomplished country girl go to a large city on a tempting offer of high wages unless the position she has in prospect is one in which she has absolute confidence. In all too many cases girls are wont to view these offers as bona fide only to find by bitter experience that they were traps set for unprincipled or immoral schemers to lure them to the city. For years past fumes of tobacco have been used for the purpose of fumigation in green and hot houses. But, due to the fact that this is not always effective with all kinds of insects, other insecticides have been experimented with, and hydrocyanic acid has been found to be very effective. One of the drawbacks with this is that in addition to exterminating insect life it will also inflict injury on the plants if allowed to remain in the inclosure too long. It is likewise a deadly poison, and great care has to be exercised in the use of it.

A Busy Horse Is Seldom Sick. Many farmers have a great amount of work for their horses during the busy season, but not much for them to do in the winter. As a consequence the horses come through the winter looking well, but are weak and easily tired with the burden of heavy spring work. The lack of regular exercise for several months has reduced their general vitality and muscular powers. It is better for horses to have some regular daily work in winter in order to keep their muscles hard and strong, even if it is but a few hours in the harness at a time. Then they will not be weak and flabby when spring work opens. When it is impossible to furnish them work let them out in the lot or field where they can browse a little and kick up their heels. The Fruit Garden. Pick the pears two weeks before they would become soft and store them in a cool dark place to ripen. Peaches picked for shipping should be removed from the trees while still hard, but with good color. For home use, however, let them remain on the trees until they are ripe enough for fall. Trees can be set out for a new orchard in September and October. If the trees are received with the leaves still on, strip them off at once. Get your orders in early, so that the plants will be received early. Currants and gooseberries can be planted to much better advantage now than in the spring. It is also the time to increase your stock of a favorite variety of these fruits. Cut the tips of the stems into pieces 3 or 4 inches long and tie them in bundles. Store in damp sand, in a cool place until spring.—Surreburian Life.

Alfalfa Don'ts. In "The Book of Alfalfa," by Secretary E. D. Gibson of Kansas, the following list of don'ts is given: Don't sow any nurse crop. Don't sow on freshly plowed land, no matter how carefully prepared. Don't let weeds or grass grow over six inches