

Has Been Grinding 82 Years



WATT'S MILL

THE road dips down a steep hill just before you reach Indian Creek and shuts from sight the big stone house that cost \$4,000, the last southern outpost of Kansas City that is sprawling out and engulfing all this rolling prairie.

You look for the old bee tree and there is a catch in your throat when you miss it—but no—that clump of walnut trees hit it for a moment. The ax of the real estate speculator has not come quite that far yet.

Those bees fitting far up among the dead branches against a background of gray sky are the oldest settlers of this county. The colony was there in that same tree long years before a white man set foot in Missouri. There are men living who knew that tree and its wild bees sixty years ago.

Turn to the right after you cross Indian Creek and go about two hundred yards to where the stream pours in a broad white waterfall over a low ledge of rock and drifts lazily in a wide pool with a streak of silver bubbles down its center. The banks here are rock, with hollows gouged in them and overhanging shelves that cast black shadows upon the stream.

Watt's mill squats low upon the opposite bank. The weathered gray of its sides and roof is the exact shade of the limestone beneath and all around it and the old mill seems to merge with it and is a part of it. You look in vain for any line of cleavage between mill and rock. The years have blended them into one somber gray.

An Atmosphere of Gray.

The naturalists tell of birds and lesser creatures of the wood who take on the color of the bark or the grasses upon which they live. You think of this as you see the miller in the doorway. His clothing, even to his cloth slippers, his long beard, his soft felt hat, sprinkled with flour, are a uniform gray, the gray of rocks and mill.

Stubbins, Watt's great-grandson of Daniel Boone, is 75 years old. But the old water mill is older than he. It was built in 1839 and for eighty-two years has been grinding corn and wheat within ten miles of Kansas City. The hands that bled its walnut beams and fashioned the hickory pins that keep its weathered boarding in place moldered into dust a half-century ago, but the old mill grinds on just as patiently, as faithfully, as unmindful of passing time and generations as it did long years before this city was dreamed of.

You pass your hand over the surface of a walnut beam, hewed out by the ax of John Fitzgibbon, eighty-two years ago, and lay your fingers in a gaping notch just as his ax blade left it, and think of the changes that have come to Western Missouri since then. Westport Landing grew out along the old wood road until it bridged with paved streets the miles between it and Westport and overflowed southward and yet the old mill wheel turned and the corn was ground to meal between the homemade stones of rock quarried on the bank of Indian Creek.

Since this mill was built the commerce of the Santa Fe Trail came, flourished for a time and died; and then the rush of forty-niners to California flowed past it, and after them the railroads came and passed on to the Pacific, and with them the legions of pioneers like the clouds of locusts overspreading all the land beyond to the westward. The Mormons of independence, who brought their grist to this mill, departed to found a new empire beside the dead sea in the unknown desert. Past this old mill, just two hundred yards to the east, where the big elm leans over the creek, armies of the Civil War hurried, splashing wildly through the ford, the Southern army in flight from the defeat at Westport, the Northern forces hot in pursuit.

Indian Creek Has Never Hurried.

A great city of tall buildings and all things modern has made the country to the north like a teeming ant hill, where all is hurry, hurry, hurry; but Indian Creek has never hurried; its stream has flowed placidly, basking in the sun, pausing in the shadows of its trees; and just as placidly the old mill wheels have turned, their slow creakings attuned to the liquid murmurings of the waterfall.

Placidly has Stubbins Watt's gone in and out among the turning shafts for sixty-two years, barring those four years of strife when he fought in the Southern army. In those years he was aroused and filled with a fervor that got him honorable mention more than once for deeds on the battle front. But when it was over he returned to Indian Creek and the old mill and the gurgling of the water as it ran under the floor soothed him into a calm philosophy and he talks but little.

"Yes," he says, "it's pretty here; they say there's no prettier bit of scenery in Missouri. I like to hang out the window here and watch the bubbles and the shadows, and listen to the water and the wheels, well I just couldn't live without them."

The old man with the flour dusted clothing and beard has a distinguished ancestry, and in the family Bible are the documents to prove it.

His grandfather, Samuel Watts, was a volunteer soldier in the army of General Lafayette which came from France and fought with Washington in the Revolutionary War. The records show that he was wounded seven times, that he was captured by the

British in Charleston and that after the war he settled in Shelby County, Kentucky, and that he was a member of the Lewis and Clark expedition that went up the Missouri River to the mouth of the Yellowstone. He married Sallie Dodson, a great-granddaughter of Daniel Boone, and settled in St. Charles County, Missouri.

In 1850 Anthony B. Watts, his son, came to Indian Creek and bought the water mill. He brought his family with him. Stubbins was one of the children.

To look at the old man, stooping at his bins and gathering a deposit of white flour as a bee gathers pollen from the flowers into which it dips, one would not imagine he had been a fighting man, but, as he says:

"The gurgling of the water through so many years sort of lulls you to sleep."

There is no modern machinery in this mill except the turbine wheel. Years ago the old wooden wheel was taken out and the turbine put in. All else is as it was eighty-two years ago, even to the wooden pegs in the flooring, the wooden hinges on the doors and the wooden cogs in the wheels.

DRUG HABIT GAINS IN PARIS

Wholesale Degeneracy Threatens City, a Prominent Physician Asserts.

Investigations following a recent succession of fatalities in the Quartier Latin have revealed that the drug habit has gained on Parisians. In one store alone dope fiends buy no less than one hundred pounds of cocaine and morphine every week.

So prevalent is the dope habit that a prominent physician declares he detects its victims by the score every time he takes a round of the cafes. Either is no longer fashionable, but especially in the artist quarters morphine is used recklessly. Even the uninitiated can detect those addicted to it in an evening's stroll.

Paris, in the opinion of this physician, is the most drug-cured city in the world, for while rich women of other capitals secretly indulge in various dangerous ways of stimulating their jaded forces, the dope habit in Paris has spread through every class until wholesale degeneracy is threatened.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Mission Weddings.

Within two minutes after the cab stopped at the mission door the report spread up and down the street that a wedding was taking place inside. Within another two minutes the room was packed to the very doors. That sudden rush of the crowd to the sanctuary pleased the mission superintendent.

"If I had money to spare," he said, "I would pay a bonus to young couples for getting married in a mission. The moral effect of one wedding is worth a dozen sermons. To get the best effect the ceremony ought to be performed in the middle of the service. No innovation that I have ever introduced has had such a sobering effect on the congregation. The example of a man once as far down maybe in the social scale as themselves having become sufficiently regenerated to assume the responsibilities of life stir every bit of manhood there is in them."

"The trouble is, I can persuade very few couples to be married in a mission. The bridegrooms do not mind, but the brides want something more exclusive."

Shooting for a Wife.

Lubinka Vutchitch, the youngest granddaughter of an octogenarian peasant of Tchatchak, Serbia, was given in marriage a week or two ago to the best sharpshooter in the town. In accordance with a family tradition, old Vutchitch's granddaughters, famous for their beauty, were each wedded to the first suitor who could shoot an apple fixed on a pole over the gate.

Velko Simitch won the prize in a keen contest with a rival. The young men, determined to risk their fate in the same hour, started their horses together at the appointed distance from the gates, and fired at the apple in passing through them at breakneck speed.

Surgery by Wireless.

Surgery by wireless is the latest. A laborer on Swan Island, whose only connection with the outside world is by means of wireless telegraphy, had a foot crushed in an accident. There were no medical books at hand, and there was no one near who had any surgical experience. Thereupon the wireless operator called up the surgeon of the nearest ship, and got him to explain in detail how an amputation should be carried out.—London Mail.

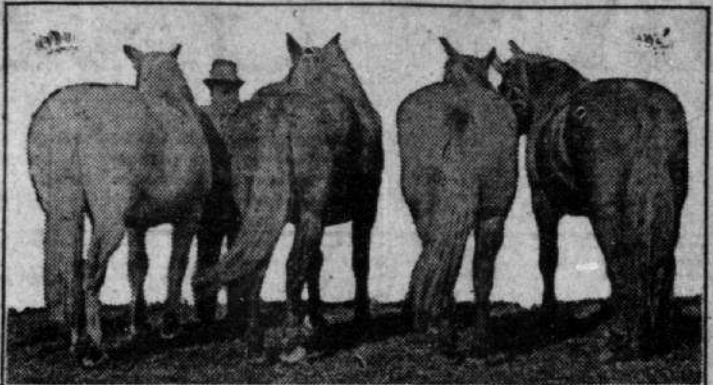
Getting There First.

Ladd—There's your old friend De Broke coming across the street. Dadd—Eh! That's right. Oh, yes, he sees me. I'll run ahead and meet him. I want to borrow a dollar. Back in a moment.

He hurries forward and greets the coming man. Presently he returns. Ladd—Why should you ask De Broke for a dollar?

Dadd—Because I knew he was going to ask me for ten.

KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO SUCCEED WITH HORSE



Excellent Types of Farm Horses.

Knowledge and skill are two things that are necessary to success in horse breeding. Theory may be of some assistance, but knowledge and experience are the main things that lead to success.

We may reason out that such and such a thing is proper, but experience may prove that our reasoning was entirely wrong.

The breeder must have some knowledge of the market if he expects to raise more horses than he needs for his own use. He must know what breed will come nearest to complying with the demands of the market. The man who breaks animals that suit his own fancy may have something that there is no demand for.

Different sections of the country seem to furnish markets for different sorts of horses. In a region where the greatest demand is for carriage and saddle animals it is not a very good place to sell draft horses, nor is a country where there is a great deal of hauling to be done, a good place for selling fancy driving horses.

The breeder must consider these

things and endeavor to raise animals that will meet the demands of his market.

It is necessary to acquire a thorough knowledge of the various breeds of horses, endeavoring to learn the merits and failings of each, so that one may breed what he can get best prices for. He must acquire knowledge that will enable him to breed his mares to such stallions as will produce what he desires.

The breeder should read the agricultural press and the government bulletins to learn what other breeders are doing. In this way he will learn many things of great value to him. He will also learn much at the institutes, and by attending the fairs and horse shows he can see for himself what others are doing. He should be on the lookout at all times for things that will enable him to do his work to better advantage.

There is a natural trend toward improvement in all things at all times. The horse breeder must keep step with these if he expects to be numbered among the ones who are successful.

GENERAL FARM NOTES

The south is thoroughly attached to the mule for farm work. Shorts are more economical feed for sows and growing pigs than corn.

Late in the fall is a good time to hatch spring chicks in some sections. The deepest mudhole and steepest hill measure the real distance to market.

Keep the cow out of the weed fields if you do not wish to drink tainted milk.

Where there are plenty of skimmed milk, beef scraps for hens need not be bought.

Where the hogs fail to gain at least a pound a day it is time to say goodbye to them.

The method of estimating value of mules by number of hands high, is going out of use.

Oats proved to be slightly better for work horses than corn when fed with timothy or prairie hay.

In order to insure uniform growth the pigs should be fed when all of them are at the trough.

A bull ten months of age is scarcely old enough for service, but if used carefully it will not injure him.

An occasional plowing of the poultry yard and runs disposes of the filth and keeps the premises from getting foul.

Lard, sulphur and a little coal oil, mixed up well together, are recommended as an effective cure for scabby legs.

Some one has told us that the best time to prune fruit trees is when your knife is sharp, but judgment must be used.

It is not altogether the fault of the cattle business if one finds that he cannot make money raising a scrub steer to three years of age.

One of the little things that lessens expense and adds to profits is to fatten and market the surplus cockerels in spring broods as early as possible.

One point in favor of the hollow brick silo is that it will not shrink and fall to pieces when the hot, dry days come at a time when it is empty.

Sheep Thrive on Weeds.

Sheep eat and thrive on weeds on the farm that other stock do not relish. Every fence corner, fence row and weed patch will be more completely cleaned by a band of sheep than by the scythe or hoe. There is no farm in the intermountain region too large or too small to sustain a band of sheep. They are the great scavengers of the farm.

Market for Dairy Products.

In practically every town there is a good market for first-class dairy products and fresh eggs, as well as some of the other farm products at the leading hotel, restaurant or bakery. Cultivate this trade and you will be surprised to see how profitable it can be made.

Lousy Fowls.

If there is a fowl in the flock a little out of condition that bird is apt to prove the most lousy member of the flock.

Feeding of Lambs.

The successful feeding of lambs depends largely on their being offered great variety of food while in the yards.

Clean Up the Orchard.

Keep all the rotten food well cleaned up around the orchard, as these constitute the winter quarters of numerous orchard pests.

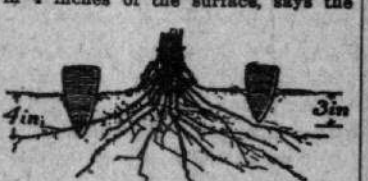
Clean Milk Utensils.

To thoroughly clean milk utensils they first should be rinsed with cold water to remove all particles of milk.

CULTIVATION OF CORN CROP

Four Points on Deep and Shallow Work—Cutting of Roots Breaks Off the Food Supply.

The discussion over shallow and deep cultivation of corn is on again. There is really not a great deal to say on the subject but a few points are of vital interest. Investigation has shown that by far the largest number of the roots of corn plants are found in the first 12 inches of soil and they are especially abundant within 4 inches of the surface, says the



Difference of an Inch.

Farmers Mail and Breeze. Until corn is 2 or 3 inches high the roots have spread out but little and the first cultivation may be deep for this reason. But long before the plants are 6 inches high the lateral roots have extended themselves half way across the row and these first roots come nearest the surface. To cultivate deeply then means that the food supply will be reduced to just the extent that the roots are broken off. Cultivation should not be more than 2 1/2 or 3 inches deep at this time and the shovels should not run too closely to the plants. From that time on the corn should be worked merely for the purpose of keeping down weeds and stirring the soil.

FATTEN HOGS ON SOY BEANS

Combined With Corn It Will Produce Remarkable Results—Gain of One Pound Daily.

Those who live in the regions where the soy bean thrives—a pretty big area that—may find that crop a money-maker as a means of fattening hogs, says an Alabama bulletin.

Corn alone, as is now well recognized, is a deficient food for pigs, although many farmers still use it exclusively. But combine it with a pasture of such material as the soy bean and the results are remarkable. In Alabama the average daily gain for hogs fed on corn alone was two-fifths of a pound, whereas when soy bean pasture was substituted for part of the corn ration the gain was raised to more than a pound daily.

Expressed in another way, it cost 7 1/2 cents a pound for the hog's gain in weight when he was fed corn, but only 3 cents a pound with the common feed. The difference is rather a nice margin of profit.

Sure Dandelion Killer.

What is said to be a sure dandelion killer is to pour creosote through a can from the top of the plant. This will follow the root to its base, burning it so that it will never grow again.

Eradicating Weeds.

One weed pulled up by the roots while the ground is soft beats a hundred cut off with scythe or sickle, for the latter are most persistent and will grow again and go to seed some day when one is not looking.

Placing Trees.

If all of the garden space is to grow profitable crops, no large trees must stand closer than thirty to fifty feet from the garden fence.

Give the Calf a Chance.

The calf that is expected to develop into a strong profitable cow should be given all the chance possible during its early period of growth.

Forage for Live Stock.

Of all forage fed to live stock, at least one-third in cash value remains on the farm in the form of manure.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY

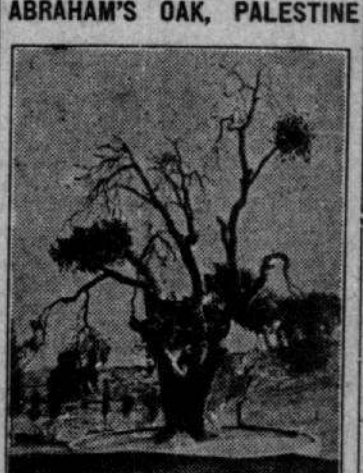
CURING DISEASED METALS

It has been discovered that the metal aluminum has a disease, and a careful diagnosis by chemists discloses the fact that it is probably due to the action of water containing lime. Tin is made ill by extreme cold, and some other metals have their pests just as plants and vegetables have, and it takes careful investigation and a long series of experiments to learn the source of the trouble. The aluminum illness was treated first by Professors Heyn and Bauer of the laboratory at Gross-Lichterfelde, near Berlin.

Cooking utensils were found to be most affected, and the experiments were begun on several pots which were made by cold rolling. Numerous spots on their surface lay in particular directions, running straight on the flat bottom, and in curved lines on the convex sides. They corresponded to the direction of stretching of the metal. Chemical tests of the deposit at the spots indicated showed the presence of water, alumina and lime. Similar metal was then subjected to all the conditions that had surrounded the use of the kitchen utensils. It was early concluded that neither impurities in the metal nor atmospheric changes were responsible for the disease.

It appeared, however, that city water had a deleterious effect on the general health of the aluminum sheets undergoing the test. The thickest sheets were attacked by the city water. After analyzing the water and continuing the experiments with different kinds of water, Professor Heyn was able to decide that lime salts were probably the cause of the disease, and suggests that aluminum utensils be subjected as little as possible to limy water.

ABRAHAM'S OAK, PALESTINE



Many pilgrims to that part of Palestine connected with the history of Abraham visit the tree here pictured. It is known as Abraham's oak and is evidently so ancient that the natives find no difficulty in believing the legend that the patriarch sat under the shade of its boughs.

SACRED CATTLE FOR BEEF

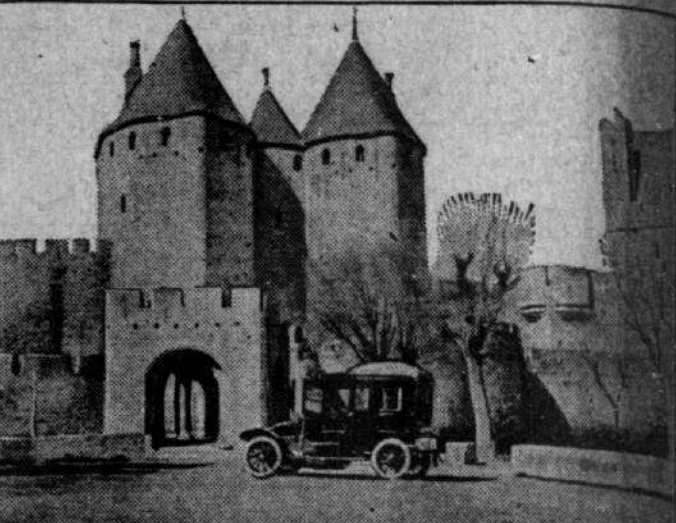
There are nearly 2,500 sacred cattle of India on the ranches near Pierce and Port Lavaca, Tex., and elsewhere throughout the state of Oklahoma. A strange looking creature, indeed, is the sacred cow. Its distinctive characteristic is a huge lump at its shoulders, an unusually prominent "dewlap" and large, drooping ears. While the original importation of the humped Zebu cattle has grown to a remarkable degree, nevertheless the most interest is attached to the crossing of the type with our

domestic cattle. It has been found that the cross-breeds remain relatively free from ticks while other stock in the same pastures would be literally covered with these pests, which cause the dreaded "Texas fever," necessitating the frequent quarantining of the whole southwestern cattle district. The Brahman cross-bred cattle appear likewise to be less affected by other parasites and pestiferous insects, such as mosquitoes, hornflies, gadflies, etc., and to withstand better the warm, dry climate and other semi-tropical conditions present in the Gulf section of the United States than do the native cattle. It is also claimed that they make a grade of beef superior to that of the native cattle. Englishmen in India long ago learned that the sacred cattle make excellent beef, the hump, which sometimes reaches a weight of 50 pounds, being especially prized.

About 30 years ago a number of the sacred cattle were introduced in Texas and crossed with native cattle, but as the original strain gradually deteriorated, the department of agriculture was requested by A. P. Borden to make a further importation of Indian cattle for the Pierce ranch with a view of restoring this strain of blood. The secretary granted him this permit, but on account of the very dangerous live stock diseases prevailing in India the department required the strictest possible precautions to prevent the introduction of any of these contagions. Not only were the animals purchased inspected by a representative of the department in India, but also on their arrival here. It was during one of these examinations in quarantine that it was discovered that three of the zebus were infected with surra. These were promptly killed and burned. Subsequent examinations showed others to be infected with the disease—probably carried by flies and mosquitoes—and these were promptly killed. On November 14, 1906, the secretary of agriculture released the animals—33 in number—from quarantine, as the last seven series of test were successively negative and, as killing frosts had already occurred, resulting in the disappearance of all flies and mosquitoes.

While the majority of sacred cattle on exhibition in circuses and zoological

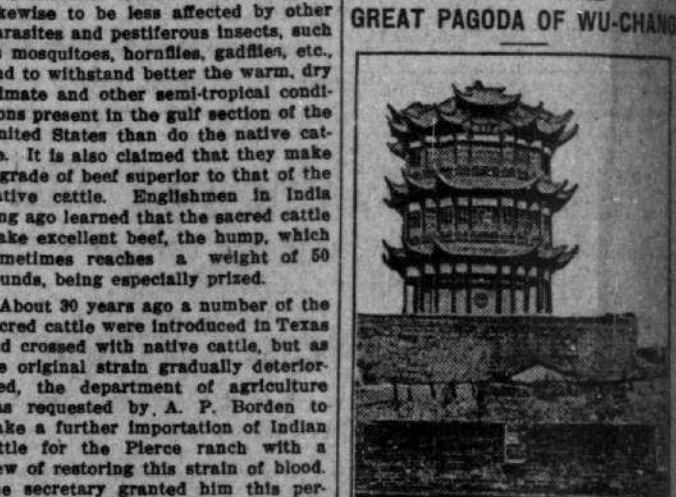
Simon De Montfort's Towers



Among the interesting structures in the old city of Carcassonne, in southern France, is that here pictured, known as Simon de Montfort's Towers. It is said these towers were designed to represent the bows of a ship in order to commemorate the builder's safe return from the crusades.

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GREAT PAGODA OF WU-CHANG



The immense pagoda, built in the best Chinese style of architecture, is one of the interesting sights in the great and progressive city of Wu-Chang, the capital of the province of Hu-poh.

SHEEP OF THE OCEAN

The sheep of the sea are the black fish. If one member of a flock or school of these gets headed into a coral reef, or shoal water, or a granite cliff for that matter, and gets a bit excited about it, he will rush headlong and all his fellows will follow him as though he were leading a Balaklava charge into the jaws of death while all the world looked on and applauded. And when the cohorts are withdrawn from one of these fighting squadrons charges and the roll is called there are usually great yawning gaps in the lines of the school, for fishermen take advantage of the folly of the big fish and slaughter them mercilessly when they get helplessly stranded in the shoal water, for this is an occasion of easy money surpassed only by the breaking up of pieces of a ship of rich cargo on a rockbound coast. The black fish is a member of the whale family and a sort of vest pocket edition of that great fish, or water mammal. The foolish fish ranges from ten to twenty feet in length, but is very bony, bodied for its inches. It is coarse of fiber and of little value other than as an oil producer, but for this purpose is an unerring source of revenue to the extent of \$15 to \$20 each. The North Atlantic is the playground of the black fish and the fishing grounds along Cape Cod is the section where they most frequently run amuck.

WARMING THE WORLD

Artificial warming of the world is one of the greatest of modern problems and yet the earth is itself a vast furnace, whose flames are sometimes aggressively active and destructive. Italians are planning to use some of this heat. A boiler is to be installed at some point where the internal heat of Vesuvius are accessible and hot water is to be piped to the neighboring towns.

QUEENSLAND'S RIFLE FISH

There is said to exist in the waters of northern Queensland a fish, measured about ten inches in length and averaging a pound and a half in weight, which possesses the remarkable power of "shooting" its prey. The "rifle-fish," as it is called, is alleged to swim leisurely about the stream a few inches below the surface, on the lookout for flies and other insects that settle on the floating leaves and twigs or on the surface of the water plants. When the "rifle fish" gets close enough for the purpose, it discharges at its victim a tiny jet or ball of water which, if shot straight, knocks the prey into the stream, where it is instantly gathered in by the shooter.

MOTHER GOOSE REAL PERSON

Mother Goose, the delight of children for many years past and probably the delight of many generations yet to come, was a real person. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Foster. She was born in old Charleston, S. C., and resided there until her marriage with Isaac Goose, when she became the mother of ten children and went to live in Boston. To entertain her charges, Mrs. Goose used to invent stories in prose and verse, and these were, in course of time, collected by a Boston printer who married one of her stepdaughters. They were published in 1719 with the title, "Songs for the Nursery, or Mother Goose's Melodies for Children." The book proved a huge success. Mrs. Goose died in 1757.

MORE SUGAR WANTED

The sugar crop, like many others of the great food crop of the world, is not keeping pace with the growth of population. The increased standard of living, the better scientific knowledge of the dietetic value of sugar and the facilities of rapid transportation have made of sugar an absolute necessity in our daily life. Not many generations ago sugar was a luxury. The peoples of countries outside of the nat-

SAN FRANCISCO'S SUICIDES

Official statistics show that more people take their own lives in San Francisco, in proportion to population, than in any other city on the coast.

NOTHING LIVES IN DEAD SEA

The Dead Sea in Syria is so called because nothing can live in its waters. Owing to its density fish could not sink in it, and some of its salts are powerful antiseptics, fatal to any form of life. The salt of the ocean is nearly all common table salt.

Tragedy still plays a leading part in the progress of aviation.