

THE TOY INVENTOR.

His Hardest Task Is to Catch the Fancy of the Public.

The small inventor is an important factor in the mechanical toy business, and he earns all of the living he gets in thinking up devices. He is most concerned with the small mechanical toys, and, in addition to the prime requisite of putting forth something novel, he must get something which costs as little as possible and which catches the fancy of the multitude. This last point is one which is most difficult to cover. No student of the subject has ever yet been able to discover or deduce the cycle in which the public taste moves, and it is still hit or miss as to whether a figure which walks on its hands, an airship with wings or an acrobat who works by gravity will be the best seller. Then, when the invention has been achieved, the inventor has still the problem of finding the maker who will buy it and pay a fair price. The inventor and maker are in much the same position as the writer and publisher; both go through the same mental turmoil as to the timeliness of the output and both take the same risks.

The inventor who has been in the business long learns at last the best places at which to offer his wares and has more or less of an idea of what they ought to bring him, and once he has acquired this knowledge his entire energy is devoted to keeping up with the demand for newness. Something absolutely different from anything else previously offered is in general better than an improvement of an old idea, and that is why in mechanical toys the same device is seldom seen two seasons in succession.—Philadelphia Record.

A MUSICAL LEGEND.

The Chinese Story of the Eight Primitive Hidden Sounds.

The Chinese have some extraordinary superstitions relating to music. According to their queer notions, the creator of the universe hid eight sounds in the earth for the express purpose of compelling man to find them out. On the same principle, it is presumed, Jupiter, according to Virgil, hides fire in flint and honey in trees in order to whet the ardor of man's industry to persevere in his efforts to rediscover the hidden treasures.

According to the Celestial idea, the eight primitive sounds are hidden in stones, silks, woods of various kinds, the bamboo plant, pumpkins, in the skins of animals, in certain earths and in the air itself. Any one who has ever had the pleasure (?) of seeing and listening to a Chinese orchestra will remember that their musical instruments were made of all these materials except the last and that the combined efforts of the other seven seemed better calculated to drive the ethereal sound away than to coax it from the air, which is really the object of all Chinese musical efforts. When the bands play, the naive credulity of the people, both old and young, hears in the thuds of the gongs and the whistling of the pipes the tones of the eternal sounds of nature that were originally deposited in the various animate and inanimate objects by the all-wise Father.—Exchange.

What "Hamir" Meant.

Though the Scottish guard of France had long lost its natural character, it jealously retained until the crash of 1789 all its curious old privileges, which, though they led to constant wrangles with other regiments, had been duly allowed by Louis XIV. He was actually obliged to intervene at his own wedding to compose a dispute as to the precedence of the Scots guards and the Cent gentilshommes. "Proud as a Scotchman" was an old

proverb in France, and their successors in the bodyguard did their best to justify it. But the most curious survival, long after a word of Scotch had been heard in the corps, was the practice of answering "hamir" (a corruption for "I am here") when the roll was called, which was religiously maintained, at all events, down to the revolution.—Macmillan's Magazine.

Distances in Venezuela.

In traveling in Venezuela it is not enough to ask how far distant a place is, but also how far up or down—in other words, what its altitude is, and, no less important, what hills and valleys have to be crossed. Thus it is not only necessary to know that Caracas is six miles distant in a straight line from La Guayra, its seaport, but that it lies at an elevation of nearly half a mile above sea level and that to reach it one has to cross a mountain wall rising far above the clouds. This, to the experienced traveler, means that he must prepare for an entirely different climate.—George M. L. Brown in St. Nicholas.

GLASS OF THE ANCIENTS.

The Blowers of Thebes Were Experts Many Centuries Ago.

The glassblowers of ancient Thebes are known to have been as proficient in that particular art as is the most scientific craftsman of the same trade of the present day after a lapse of forty centuries of so called "progress." They are well acquainted with the art of staining glass and are known to have produced that commodity in great profusion and perfection. Rosellini gives an illustration of a piece of stained glass known to be 4,000 years old, both in tint and design. In this case the color is struck through the vitrified structure, and he mentions designs struck entirely in pieces from a half inch to three-quarters of an inch thick, the color being perfectly incorporated with the structure of the piece and exactly the same on both the obverse and reverse sides.

The priests of Ptah at Memphis were adepts in the glassmaker's art, and not only did they have factories for manufacturing the common crystal variety, but they had learned the vitrifying of the different colors and the imitation of precious stones to perfection. Their imitations of the amethyst and of the various other colored gems were so true to nature that even now, after they have lain in the desert sands from 2,000 to 4,000 years, it takes an expert to distinguish the genuine article from the spurious. It has been shown that, besides being experts in glassmaking and glass coloring, they used the diamond in cutting and engraving glass. In the British museum there is a beautiful piece of stained glass, with an engraved embelishment of the monarch Thothmes III., who lived 3,400 years ago.

Champion Liniment For Rheumatism

Chas. Drake, a mail carrier at Chapinville, Conn., says: "Chamberlain's Pain Balm is the champion of all liniments. The past year I was troubled a great deal with rheumatism in my shoulder. After trying several cures the storekeeper here recommended this remedy and it completely cured me." There is no use of anyone suffering from that painful ailment when this liniment can be obtained for a small sum. One application gives prompt relief and its continued use for a short time will produce a permanent cure. For sale by all dealers.

160 acres with water stock. 80 acres has been in crop. 3 1-2 miles from Imperial, and the same distance from El Centro; \$22.50 an acre. F. N. Chaplin & Son.

Yuma to Holtville by Water

Rev. Frank Lea returned home Friday night, having accompanied the Wharton James expedition as far as Holtville. Mr. Lea found the trip a most delightful outing and would have accompanied the expedition to the end of the journey but for his desire to get back in time to hold his regular Sunday services at the mission.

The expedition floated along smoothly until they reached a point about fifteen miles below where the river turns down the Imperial. Here the narrow channel changes to a broad, shallow lake filled with a dense grove of large mesquite trees, through which they were obliged to make their way in a tortuous course, often having to cut away the thorny branches to clear a passage. They were all of one day and a good part of another in making passage through this lake, being obliged to camp over night in their boats, and of course were unable to make fires and had to be satisfied with cold meals.

After passing the mesquite the river again narrows and they floated along without interruption till they reached Sharp's heading, a short distance this side of Calexico, where the stream flows through check gates built to divert the water into the branch canals of the Imperial Valley. A portage had to be made here and they then floated along, stopping here and there at the towns and ranches as convenience or fancy made desirable. At Holtville Mr. Lea and one other left the party, to return to Yuma by railroad, and Professor James with the rest continued on down the river.—Yuma Sun.

320 acres, 3 1-2 miles from El Centro, 160 acres in alfalfa, 80 acres in barley, 15 acres in cantaloupes, all fenced in forty acre fields, 2 1-2 miles hog fence, house. There is enough feed here to keep 800 hogs all summer. Don't let this go by without looking into it. Bert R. Chaplin.

A Chicago Alderman Owes His Election to Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

I can heartily and conscientiously recommend Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for affections of the throat and lungs," says Hon. John Shenick, 220, So. Peoria St., Chicago. "Two years ago during a political campaign, I caught cold after being overheated, which irritated my throat and I was finally compelled to stop, as I could not speak aloud. In my extremity a friend advised me to use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I took two doses that afternoon and could not believe my senses when I found the next morning the inflammation had largely subsided. I took several doses that day, kept right on talking through the campaign, and I thank this medicine that I won my seat in the Council." This remedy is for sale by all dealers.

See Wilson About it

TO TRADE FOR

I

14 2-3 acres orange grove in Corona, with two shares of water to each acre, eleven year old Washington Navels. In the frostless belt.

M

Wilson says he will sell the Deering 12-foot Header for \$235.00 and make the farmer able to pay for the machine. As for the quality they can't be beat. Mr. Farmer, take the machine out and if you don't find it as above stated, I will come and get it at my expense. Yours as ever—

SEE WILSON ABOUT IT.

P

20-acre fruit ranch in Toluca. Toluca is twelve miles from Los Angeles. Ranch set to Kelsey plums and peaches.

E

To trade for Imperial Lands Chicken Ranch and New Modern 5 Room House in Riverside.

R

80 acres of good grain or grape land, with a \$2,000.00 house. This ranch is two miles from Fallbrook. Fallbrook is at the terminus of the railroad running from Fallbrook to Oceanside. Price, \$4,000.00.

I

FOR SALE

320 acres of the choicest sandy land in Imperial Valley, all in a first-class state of cultivation. Two hundred and eighty acres fenced in blocks of forty acres each. Fifteen acres of alfalfa. A small house. Mr. Reader, now is the time to speculate on the other man's money. A small cash payment down, balance on good terms.

A

Now is another chance to speculate on the other man's money. A hundred and sixty-acre improved ranch at \$25 per acre. \$1,000.00 down, balance five years at 6 per cent.

L

It will pay you to see Wilson for the best sales or trades in the Imperial Valley. City lots, houses, and water stock.

Valley Lands

I also have a good assortment of relinquishments, or assignments. Land under a good state of cultivation for rent, and the use of lands for leveling.

Town property in Las Vegas for trade. Write for a list. I can put you on a good filing in Las Vegas.

Farm Implements

I have them, a good complete stock, at reduced prices. Farmers, it will be hard for you to tell what these implements will go at if you don't get prices.

I also keep a hotel, commonly known as The Commercial Hotel. You will see the electric sign just north on Imperial avenue. Wilson will be there to tell you all about the Imperial lands, and will offset his time against yours to go out and look them over with you.

"See WILSON About it"

Office, Commercial Hotel, Imperial, Cal.

See Wilson About it

IMPERIAL LUMBER & COMMERCIAL CO.

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Fence Posts
See us for prices on all kinds of Lumber,
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Lime, Cement and Plaster

Imperial Lumber & Commercial Co.

H. E. PARK, Manager

Yards at Brawley, Heber and Imperial

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