



AN ENCAMPMENT OF RUSSIAN SOLDIERS.

## CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNT OF THE RUSSO-JAPANESE SITUATION.

1890—Russia annexes extreme eastern part of Manchuria, thus securing the port of Vladivostock.

1881—Russia occupies more Manchurian territory.

1885—Russian colonies established in Manchuria.

1891—Czar Nicholas III. issues a rescript for the building of the trans-Siberian railroad.

1895—Treaty of Shimonoeki, making peace between China and Japan. France, Germany and Russia compel Japan to withdraw her claims as to portions of the Liaotung Peninsula, and Japan yields to superior force.

1896—Private treaty between China and Russia, the latter promising to defend China against the world; Manchurian railway agreement perfected.

1897—Germany gets possession of Kiau-Chow; Russia takes the opportunity to seize Port Arthur and Tallen-wan.

1900—Boxer rebellion gives further opportunity to Russia to fasten her grip on Manchuria.

1901—Protests by Japan and other powers to Russian encroachments on Chinese territory.

1902—Treaty of alliance between Great Britain and Japan is signed January 30. China-Russian treaty signed April 8 for the evacuation of Manchuria by Russia, and declaring the province to be an integral part of China; China's commercial treaty with Great Britain signed September 5.

1903—Russia fails to keep pledge to evacuate Manchuria, and April 23 demands new conditions as to the carrying out of the Manchurian treaty.

June—Japan and the United States object to the new conditions, and Russia begins movements on the Yalu River under pretence of taking up timber concessions.

July—Japan protests and presses Korea to open the port of Wiju to foreign trade. Great Britain and the United States concurring in the demand, Pavloff, Russian Minister to Korea, makes threats.

August—Japan proposes a modus vivendi the 12th, and negotiations are opened. Japan presses Russia for fulfillment of all treaty conditions.

September—Russia gives new pledge that New Chwang and Mukden would be evacuated October 8, but later demands grants for landing places and military post stations, and Japan evinces resentment.

October 8—China signs commercial treaties with Japan and the United States.

October 15—Japan agrees to recognize dominant interests of Russia in Manchuria, but wants Chinese sovereignty unimpaired. It also demands recognition of Japanese influence in Korea and the opening of Yongampho and other ports, besides a neutral zone, on both sides of the Yalu River.

October 30—Reoccupation of Mukden by Russia is reported.

December—Japanese Diet opens the 10th and the Government is censured for the inadequacy of its measures.

December 17—Russia makes reply to Japan's note, but it excludes Japan altogether from the Manchurian question.

December 21—Russia is asked to reconsider its reply.

December 28—Emergency ordinance is issued in Japan, giving the Government unlimited credit.

December 29—High court of war is held, with the Emperor in the chair. Admiral Togo is put in command of the fleet; he captured the Taku forts in 1900.

1904—January 5—Japan sends final note to Russia, intimating that her demands must be acceded to or war will result.

January 8—Review of troops is held at Tokio and great enthusiasm is shown.

January 15—Russia delays answer and Japan shows impatience.

January 30—Minister Kurino makes inquiries at St. Petersburg as to when a reply to Japan's last note may be expected.

February 3—Russia's reply is sent to Tokio, but proves unsatisfactory.

February 5—Baron de Rosen, Russian Minister, is notified at Tokio that Japan intends to sever diplomatic relations with Russia.

February 6—Minister Kurino, Japanese Envoy, demands his passports at St. Petersburg and receives them, and Baron de Rosen is notified to quit Tokio.

February 8—Japan declares she will take military and naval steps to protect her interests in the East; fires on Port Arthur and the war is on.

## The Blue Gnu.

AN exceedingly interesting animal now on exhibition at the Zoological Park, New York City, is the new blue gnu. It would be hard to imagine a more fantastic looking animal. It suggests to one coming unexpectedly upon it, and seeing it for the first time, a sort of impossible green creature, a cross perhaps between a buffalo and a nightmare. To the buffalo belong the neck and the horns, but the tail and the hindquarters are those of a horse. The legs are a deer's legs, but the head resembles that of no other living animal. The



THE BLUE GNU.

specimens at the park came from South Africa, where the species ranges from Orange River north to Victoria Nyanza. There seems to be no doubt that the wild grotesqueness of the appearance of the gnu is a provision of nature to protect the animal. When frightened or disturbed, these remarkable antelopes go through a series of strange evolutions and extraordinary postures, in order to enhance as much as possible the oddity and hideousness of their appearance, and to frighten away intruders.—Scientific American.

## HYGIENIC TELEPHONE.

A Guaranteed Solution of the Receiver Microbe Problem.

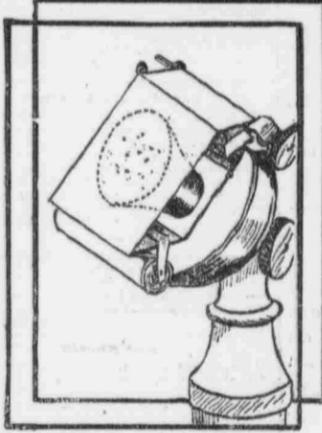
An ingenious young fellow out in California has contrived what he believes will be adopted as the solution to the problem of microbe dissemination by means of the telephone receiver.

In these days of grace, when the war on disease germs is being waged with ever increasing fury along all lines, it has remained for our California friend to step to the front with an apparatus which he confidently declares will aid a suffering public to avoid all danger of contagious diseases that may or may not be transmittable through the use of the telephone.

The picture shows the principle of the affair very clearly. A roll of specially prepared material is attached to a reel directly below the mouth of the telephone receiver. The material is drawn over the receiver and fastened to a second reel above.

A person using the 'phone talks

through the material into the receiver, and when he has finished his conversation any germs which may have escaped from his system are captured in the meshes of the material. It is a very simple proceeding then to give a little thumbscrew on the upper reel



THE MICROBE ELIMINATOR.

a couple of turns, whereupon material and captive germs are rolled up carefully, and the next talker has a new piece of microbe-catching material to talk through.

It is simple enough when you understand it.

## COFFEE-TEA POT.

A Combination Utensil That Should Find Considerable Favor.

There used to be a magician who



THE COFFEE-TEA POT.

hardly necessary after one has glanced at the accompanying illustration.

A vertical partition extends from the bottom to the top of the pot, separating it into two compartments, one of which is designed to be occupied by each of the beverages. Each compartment is provided with a spout, these being directly opposite sides. Circling each spout is a coil of strong wire forming handles for lifting the pot and pouring the contents,

## The Funny Side of Life.

**WAIST A LA WASP.**  
There was a young lady of Lynn,  
Whose waist was so charmingly thin,  
The dressmaker needed  
A microscope, she did,  
To fit this young lady of Lynn.

**ENOUGH FOR HER.**  
"Young Faddlethwaite doesn't seem to have any moral courage," said her father.  
"I don't know anything about that," she answered; "but he has splendidly fitting clothes and three automobiles."  
—Chicago Record-Herald.

**IN DOUBT.**  
"Children don't seem to have as much respect for their parents as formerly."  
"No," answered the critic; "and I have never been quite able to make up my mind whether this is because modern children are less dutiful or more discerning."  
—Washington Star.

**MUTUAL AFFECTION.**  
"I understand they are very happy together."  
"Yes, I understand they are both jealous of each other."  
—Cleveland Leader.

**VERY LIKELY.**  
"I wonder what the poet meant when he said 'a little knowledge is a dangerous thing.'"  
"Perhaps he meant that if you know you're going to get \$5 for a poem on publication you'll go out and spend \$10."  
—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

**UNDOUBTEDLY.**  
"The horse may be a noble animal, as you say," remarked the pessimistic person, "but I fail to see it."  
"Still," rejoined the optimistical one, "you must admit there is something elevating about the mule."  
—Chicago News.



**WISE TEACHER**  
Teacher—"Why didn't you come to school yesterday?"  
Scholar—"I strained my foot."  
Teacher—"That's a lame excuse."

**SEQUEL.**  
"Flasher used to buy too many diamonds for a young man of his salary."  
"Yes, the stones broke him. Then he began to alter checks."  
"What is he doing now?"  
"Breaking stones."  
—Chicago News.

**NOT INVITING.**  
He—"Really, I hardly know what to order."  
She—"Yes, that's the way sometimes. A menu merely reminds you of a number of things you don't want to eat."  
—Puck.

**HOW SHE FOUND OUT.**  
"Yes, for a year and a half she was in doubt as to whether she loved him enough to marry him or not."  
"And how did she succeed in finding out?"  
"There was another girl who got to acting as if she wanted him."  
—Chicago Record-Herald.

**A MEAN SLAP.**  
Miss Oldum (cooly)—"When he proposed I kept him in suspense for at least ten minutes."  
Miss Sharp—"Oh, I guess not! I suppose it merely seemed that long to you."  
—Philadelphia Ledger.

**ONE WAY TO DO IT.**  
"The problem is this," said the teacher. "I have fifteen apples, which I am to divide among twelve boys. Now, how shall I distribute the apples?"  
After considerable chewing of pencils and scratching of paper, the little Wise boy raised his hand. "Well, Johnny?"  
"You should give one apple to three-fifths of a boy."

## HOUSEHOLD TOPICS

**RUGS OUT OF SHOES.**  
The thrifty housewife has discovered a new use for old shoes. She makes rugs out of them.

As fast as the shoes are discarded it will be a good plan to cut the tops off, and after cleaning them lay them carefully away in a box for future use.

The first step is to cut a pattern—diamond, star, square, oblong or right angle triangle. If the latter is desired it should measure four inches along the straight sides. Two triangles can be cut from each shoe top, to make a rug twenty-two by thirty-six inches will require the uppers from eighteen pairs of shoes.

For the centre of the rug purchase a piece of leather about fourteen inches square from the cobbler or harness maker. On this outline the words, "What is Home Without a Rug?" three words to the top line, one to the second and the remaining two to the last line. Then proceed to cut out the letters. It will be a good plan to draw the letters on paper, basting this guide down to the leather and cutting through both the paper and leather with a sharp knife. Care must be taken to leave slits of the leather uncut at intervals, or nothing except a hole will be left when the cutting is finished.

To lace the leather together purchase eyelets like those used in shoes for twenty-five cents a box. One box contains several hundred eyelets. By means of an awl punch holes in the leather strips and fasten the eyelets at the same time. Or if eyelets are not desired, merely punch holes with an awl and lace the strips together with shoestrings. Finish with a fringe of shoestrings. Line the entire rug with bright red broadcloth or flannel, slashing all the edges to the depth of three inches for an under fringe. The red will look pretty under the laces and letters, and the rug will last a lifetime.

## HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS.

Use a little ammonia in the dishwasher when washing glasses.

In laying a range be sure that it has an asbestos lined oven. The asbestos means a cool kitchen and a hot stove.

Milk rinses off bottles and glasses, easily if these are dipped in water as soon as emptied. They are not clean, but they will clean all the easier when the time comes.

A good way to prevent a teapot from getting musty is to put a lump of sugar inside. This will absorb all dampness and insure a fresh cup of tea the next time the pot is used.

Do not leave the dripping pan over which meat has been broiled covered with fat in the bottom of the lower oven. It will be forgotten, and when the oven burners are lighted there will surely be a blaze of burning fat.

To remove pastry suddenly from a hot oven to a cold pantry will inevitably make it heavy. It should be cooled off gradually in a warm room.

Plaster casts and statuettes can be satisfactorily cleaned by rubbing them thoroughly with cornmeal. Use a soft old toothbrush or nail brush to get into the creases, being very careful not to chip or nick the surface.

See that plenty of fresh air is admitted to the pantry and fruit closet to prevent fermentation and remember that all cupboards and wardrobes where clothes are kept need frequent airing. Choose a sunny day and leave the doors wide open for several hours.



**Hermits**—Three eggs; one cup butter; one and one-half cups sugar, not granulated; one teaspoonful soda; one teaspoonful cinnamon; one teaspoonful cloves; one cup chopped and seeded raisins. Flour enough to roll out, not too stiff. Better to drop from the spoon and let them run together.

**Creamed Celery**—After the heart of the celery has been used on the table the outside may be stewed so as to make a delicious side dish for luncheon or supper. Cut the stalks into pieces about an inch long and cover well with hot water. Add salt and cook until very tender. Then add half a teaspoonful of cream to a pint of the cooked celery.

**Mince Meat**—One pound suet; three pounds brown sugar; one-quarter peck apples; two pounds raisins; one and one-half pounds currants; one pound citron; one nutmeg, grated; one teaspoonful each of cinnamon and cloves. Chop raisins, apples and citron fine and mix all thoroughly with a quart of sweet cider. Let stand a week before using.

The German Empire is divided into 145 chambers of commerce districts. Each chamber of commerce has control of its own finances and is compelled by law to appoint an able and experienced secretary.