



JAPANESE HARVESTING CELERY IN CALIFORNIA.



JAPANESE GATHERING OLIVES IN CALIFORNIA.

JAPANESE WORK HARD.

Ambitious to Become All That White Men Are in This Country.

Whatever may be the wrong or the right in the anti-Japanese sentiment on the Pacific Coast, there is no question at all about the aggressiveness of these people in the Far West. Unlike the Chinaman, the native of Nippon on settling in America becomes ambitious to be all that the white man is. He is not content to be a mere laborer. On his arrival he may for a time work for a white man, digging sewers, building railroads, picking fruit or doing housework, but all this time he considers himself merely going to school. He is simply preparing for something better. And when he has learned a bit of the language and the customs of his American employer he bids him goodby, starts a farm of his own or opens a shop.

The Japanese believes that he is every bit as versatile, as quick witted and as intelligent as the white man, and in whatever business the Caucasian may prosper, in that he thinks he, too, can make money. And it would seem that his belief is well founded. In some lines of business he has even shown his superiority to the Caucasian and has crowded him aside. In the metropolitan district around the Golden Gate, for example, Japanese florists have almost a monopoly. In San Francisco, Oakland and Alameda nearly all the flower shops are run by Japanese. They have big hothouses near Stanford University which vie with that institution in attraction for tourists. They seem to be born gardeners, particularly skilled in the use of fertilizers, and can make their flowers grow larger and more brilliant than many a white man who calls himself a floriculturist.

Japanese farm laborers are also going into the fruit business in nearly all the Pacific Coast cities, much as the Italian has done in the East. He may be seen at the street corner beside his stand, and always busy. When not attending to customers he is hard at work rubbing his oranges to make them look still more golden, or delicately adjusting a pyramidal display of silver prunes. As a tailor he has even crowded many a skilled and thrifty Jew out of business. One-tenth of the Japanese in skilled occupations in California are tailors. They are particularly popular with women customers. The reason is that a Japanese tailor seems much more conscientious about making a fit than a white man. Though frequently charged with trying to work off shoddy for "all wool," yet few deny that he is especially solicitous about shaping his garments so that they hang without a wrinkle.

A characteristic of the Japanese which has contributed to his success in business is his proverbial neatness. It is shown in any number of ways. It is to be seen in his own personal appearance, in the arrangement of the goods on the shelves of his store, in the extra coats of varnish on his delivery wagons, and in the careful grooming of his horses. Even if he is a humble cobbler, with a shop down under the sidewalk, he is likely to show this trait more than many a native of Europe who has become an American citizen and boasts of a plate glass front store. For example, instead of wrapping the shoes he has mended in an old newspaper, like his Italian competitor, he puts them in a white pasteboard box, ties the cover with a piece of ribbon, and then, to give an artistic touch to the package, he will paste on it a little picture of a tea garden.

And not only on the coast, but in the Middle West, the Japanese are forging to the front. In Ogden, Utah, for example, one of the leading dry and fancy goods stores in the town is run by a Japanese firm. There, too, are Japanese watchmakers, Japanese pool parlors, Japanese tobacco stores and Japanese barber shops.

In Nebraska there has been a recent invasion of Japanese who are eager to develop the heretofore arid lands of the North Platte region, now being turned into gardens with water from a government irrigation ditch. About three hundred of the Occidentals have secured three thousand acres of land, on which they are raising sugar beets and potatoes. And they have prospered. One Japanese laborer who took a farm of forty acres in this region sold his crop

of potatoes last year for \$1,385. Several Japanese colonies have been founded in the marshy part of Texas skirting the Gulf of Mexico. There they have laid out rice fields and cultivated them, just as they would do at home.

News of the prosperity of the Japanese in America has had its natural effect upon those at home. The immigration of these people to this country has recently been increasing at a faster rate than that of any other aliens. In 1890 there were only 2,039 Japanese in the United States, exclusive of 12,360 in Hawaii. Ten years later there were 24,326 in the United States and 64,111 in Hawaii. At the present time it is estimated that there are 80,000 in the

THE ASTI COLONY.

Success of Experiment in Wine Making in California.

By Atherton Brownell.

In these days, when so much of practical thought is being given to the solution of the difficulties between capital and labor, it is surprising that the work of the Asti Colony in California has been so largely overlooked. For here is the result of an experiment in philan-



JAPANESE PREPARING OSTRICH FEATHERS ON AN OSTRICH FARM IN CALIFORNIA.

United States and about 70,000 in the Sandwich islands. In California alone there are 40,000, of whom about one-third are living around San Francisco Bay. And they are coming in through the Golden Gate faster now than ever. In the first quarter of 1906 2,160 arrived; the second quarter, 3,606; the third, 4,500, and by the end of the present quarter it is expected that 7,000 will have come. Next to California the Japanese prefer the State of Oregon. According to the last immigration report, the Japanese who came in the year ended June 30, 1905, distributed themselves as follows: California, 2,022; Washington, 1,200; Oregon, 279; New York, 256; Missouri, 165; Texas, 88; Arizona, 70; Illinois, 56.

thropy and co-operation that failed on its initial lines, but succeeded on new ones.

About twenty years ago a condition was found in San Francisco which demanded of the warm hearted Italian residents an effort to aid a number of their more unfortunate countrymen, who had been lured thither by promises of plenty. The plight of these wanderers in a strange land led to the establishment of what is now known as the Italian-Swiss Colony at Asti by a handful of Italian business men of that city on a tract of fifteen hundred acres in Sonoma County. The character of the land was ideal for the cultivation primarily of grapes, but also of olives,

lemons, oranges and the huge Italian chestnuts that flourish in profusion under the bright Italian sky. From the Old World were brought cuttings from the choicest vines, which were planted after the initial labor of clearing the ground, and the cultivation of the grape has grown until it is a large factor in an industry that is one of the greatest in the United States.

Under the original plan of the colony, each one of the laborers was to receive from \$30 to \$40 a month as wages, with board, meals and a house to live in, but he was to take also five shares in stock, the cost of which should be deducted from his wages at the rate of \$5 a month. But this feature did not appeal to the workmen and they declined to become stockholders. The original promoters, therefore, continued their work without the co-operative factor, but retained all of the other liberally conceived features of the enterprise. Great wineries were erected and experts were brought from France and Italy, and a selling agency was also established, and to-day such is the success of the enterprise that had any of the laborers deducted the necessary \$5 a month to pay for their five shares they would now be receiving \$12 a month in addition to their wages in the place of it.

Throughout the acres of the colony, where the vines are growing in profusion, the language of Italy is to be heard from the parents, but English is spoken by the children, who live in vine-covered and rose-embowered cottages, growing up to be good Americans. For them has been furnished church and school. Each married man has his own cottage and his own life piece of ground, which he cultivates for himself. Fences are unknown, but where it is necessary to make a division there will be found hedges of roses and morning glories. There also are large dormitory buildings and dining rooms for the single men of the colony. Asti is a town in itself, with its own postoffice, telegraph office and telephone exchange, its own railroad station and electric light plant, which gets its power from the geysers twenty miles away and furnishes light to the neighboring towns.

If there is any serpent in the Garden of Eden it is not one that is to be found in the wine glass. Where wine is free one might expect intemperance to be the rule, but drunkenness is never known at Asti, and among the town's modern improvements there is no police station.

One of the notable sights of Asti is the famous tank capable of holding half a million gallons of wine. No such great receptacle for wine exists elsewhere in the world, and in its interior, cut out of the solid rock, a hundred couples have danced. Another sight is the beautiful villa, a reproduction of the famous Casa de Vetti discovered in 1885 in the ruins of Pompeii. This is the country residence of Andrea Sbarboro, the projector of the enterprise.

WHAT PRESIDENT SAW.

Will Be Set Forth in His Panama Message, with Illustrations.

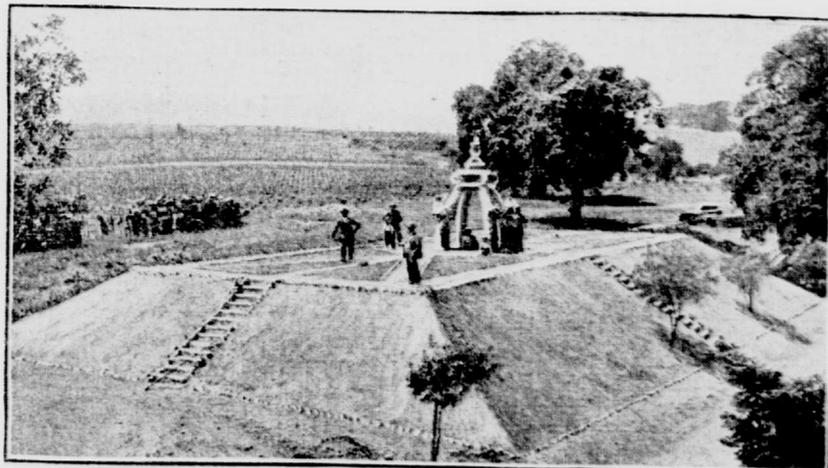
[From the Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 15.—President Roosevelt has just completed and will send to Congress Monday, one of the most unusual messages ever prepared by a President of the United States. In a communication nearly fifteen thousand words in length, exclusive of appendices, the President relates the conditions as he found them along the line of the Panama Canal, and illustrates this remarkable state paper with twenty-six full page halftone reproductions of photographs taken on the spot. The reading matter will appear in two columns on each page, while opposite the reading matter will be found the illustrations, each the size of two columns of the text.

Those who have been permitted to read advance proofs of the message describe it as one of the most interesting travel tales they ever read. With that graphic force and picturesque expression which have made him so much in demand as a magazine writer, the President describes the conditions on the isthmus, the great work accomplished, the few defects, the prospects and the men who are constructing the canal. He makes recommendations to Congress regarding the legislation needed, and illustrates the whole with a comprehensive series of photographs.

There was no place of importance on the canal zone to which the President did not go. He eschewed, in so far as possible, all social functions, absolutely refused to spend his time visiting "the sights," inspected mess rooms, laborers' cabins, and sanitary arrangements with the thoroughness of an army inspector; ate at unexpected places the same meals that are given the laborers, examined the plans, the machinery and the personnel of the force, and came away well pleased with what he saw.

This interesting story will be told in the President's own words in The Tribune of Tuesday, December 18, which issue will contain the full text of the message and illustrations.



THE 500,000 GALLON WINE TANK OF AN ITALIAN-SWISS COLONY IN CALIFORNIA.

One hundred couples danced inside this tank when it was completed.

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