The Secret Service of the United States.

Secrecy is so closely shadowed by wrongdoing, is so often allied with acts mankind abhors, that instinctively men shrink from all concealment save their own. The mere fact that a thing must be hidden, that it must be kept in a twilight zone, and is afraid of sunlight and inspection, presupposes that which is evil and shameful. Yet secret service is an ancient and a necessary institution. Since Moses sent twelve men into Canaan to investigate conditions and to bring him a report concerning the land, every government has made use of the service of informers. In war time the necessity is recognized.

Early in the history of the American republic Congress appropriated $30,000 to be expended for secret service abroad. This was drawn from the treasury by the direction of the President, without any voucher except the certificate of the Secretary of State. During the Mexican war $50,000 was appropriated to be spent under the direction of the President. Much of it was expended for the "hire of interpreters, spies and guides for the army." In a suspended account of General Butler's during the civil war an item for $50 paid for a hand organ and monkey was disallowed until he explained that they were purchased to enable a young officer, who was a linguist, to work his way into Washington disguised as an Italian organ grinder.

When the civil war broke out it found Washington filled with Southern sympathizers. Among them were women of wealth and position, who had various avenues of access to the plans of the government. Just before the first battle of Bull Run one of these, Mrs. Rose Greenhow, obtained from a United States Senator information concerning the strength of the federal troops, which she sent to General Beauregard. As reward she received from the Confederate adjutant the message: "Our President and our General direct me to thank you. We rely upon you for further information. The Confederacy owes you a debt."

Women haunted the doors of official departments in the Capitol, stole maps and plans, burned signal lights, and when captured beguiled the officers placed in charge. It became necessary to organize a special detective system of espionage at Washington for the protection of the government against disloyalty. The methods of these war-time detectives led to bitter criticism. Even so staunch a Northerner as Senator Sumner wrote a letter to the President remonstrating against the treatment of one of his friends and constituents, Franklin W. Smith of New York.

Before the employment of these war-time detectives the government had recognized the fact that it must maintain a corps of trained investigators to cope with violators of the national laws—counterfeiters, smugglers, moonshiners. In 1860 $10,000 was appropriated for the suppression of counterfeiting, to be spent under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury. The large issues of government bills, made necessary by the war, offered fresh temptation to this especial crime. In July, 1864, the appropriation was increased to $100,000. The Solicitor of the Treasury was given the supervision and direction of the work of ferreting out the counterfeiters, and so gathered about him a corps of men experienced in criminal investigation. This led to the establishment of the work as a permanent bureau, and though other departments of the federal government employ experts for the detection of specific offenses and though the operations of the special agents of the Post Office Department, of the Internal Revenue Bureau and of the Inspectors of Customs are conducted in secret, the official designation "secret service" has been narrowed so that it is applied only to that branch or bureau of the Treasury Department charged primarily with the duty of protecting good Americans from bad money.

The scope of the work covered by the secret service of the Treasury Department gradually enlarged until, as shown by President Roosevelt's last annual message, it covered every form of inquiry set on foot to reach suspected wrongdoers. Soon after its organization as a bureau secret service operatives were intrusted with the duty of protecting the person of the President. They have been of use in exposing land frauds, in securing evidence to abolish lotteries, in preventing smuggling, in detecting illicit distilling, in exposing the cotton report leak in the Department of Agriculture, in investigating naval officers, and, if Dame Rumor be not a lying jade, in watching Congressmen. But, for the present, at least, the obnoxious provision which prohibits detailing men from the secret service restricts the work of the bureau to the apprehension of counterfeiters and the protection of the chief executive.

The headquarters of the secret service are in the Treasury building in Washington. Here are the private offices of the chief of the division, John E. Wilkie, and his assistant, William Herman Moran. Mr. Wilkie is an Illinois man. In February, 1898, he was appointed chief of the secret service by Lyman J. Gage. Almost immediately he organized a special emergency force of men to checkmate Spanish spies during the Spanish-American war. Through his efforts Spanish emissaries were driven from this country and some of their spies arrested.

The personnel of the secret service must for obvious reasons be unknown to the public. The United States is divided into twenty-eight secret service districts, each in charge of an operative who has assistants. In addition to the men thus detailed to indicated geographical divisions there are a number of trained detectives who operate from the central office in Washington and who may be sent to any place at any time. Others are stationed in foreign countries. The chief guides and directs the work, but the Solicitor of the Treasury must approve his acts to make them valid. From each operative a daily report covering his work for twenty-four hours is required. These reports, coming from all parts of the country, keep the chief informed as to the activities not only of his own men but of those of the under world. Every large city has a branch office of the secret service, but every important movement of the work must be submited to Mr. Wilkie. To his office in Washington are sent the exhaustive daily reports which give him a view of the country as a whole, and all articles taken by the agents of the bureau, such as counterfeiters' outfits, spurious coins, disguises.

In the course of the years a large collection of photographs has developed into a complete rogues' gallery, which, used in connection with the measurements obtained through the Bertillon system, simplifies identification of the foolhardy criminals who continue their practices after a first arrest.

MENACE OF THE AIRSHIP.

LATEST ENEMY THAT WARSHIPS MUST FACE.

England is having all sorts of military scares. After having the possibility of an invasion by sea held before the people by their soldier idol, Lord Roberts, and others, with an inadequate home force to defend the land, comes the menace of the airship which may destroy their mighty warships, and this is giving inhabitants of the "tight little island" another fit of fear.

The airship is a factor to be reckoned with at any modern naval conference, says a writer in the Sphere, for since the exploits of Wright and Farman the idea of aerial navies "grappling in the blue" seems to be in a fair way of realization. Before very long it is possible that in time of war the lookouts on board a man-of-war will not only have to "keep their eyes skinned" for the first glimpse of a torpedo boat or the diminutive periscope of a submarine, but will also have to direct their attention to the sky above, into which at any moment a hostile aerodrome might sweep up from the horizon, prepared to drop her deadly cargo of high-explosive bombs upon the leviathan of the sea. Possibly at night special men chosen for their acuteness of hearing might be placed aloft at the mastheads as far as practicable from the noises of the sea and engines to listen for the first whirr and rattle of an approaching airship's motors and propellers. Light guns so mounted as to be fired almost vertically and provided with specially-designed projectiles will doubtless form a part of the warship's equipment, and with their muzzles trained aloft and their crews sleeping beside them will be ready to belch fire and destruction at the hovering aeroplane, whether seen coming up by daylight or suddenly discovered by the sweeping beams of the searchlights. And it is by no means certain that the battleship would come off second best. She is built to take punishment—which the aeroplane is not—and though she may be badly damaged she may still bring down her opponent flaming and headlong into the sea.

MANY TOWNS SWEPT BY TERRIFIC STORM

Wabash, Ind., Massillon and Toledo, Ohio, Struck by Tornado and Lives and Property Lost.

MANY HOUSES ARE IN RUINS

Northern Mississippi Visited by Gale Which Causes Death of at Least Nine Persons in One Place.

Death and destruction were wrought by tornadoes which swept the Mississippi Valley States, the States in the great lake region, and the lower portion of Canada Monday, Monday night, and early Tuesday.

The storm struck northern Mississippi Monday night in a tornado that attained a velocity estimated at from seventy-five to 100 miles an hour. Nine persons are reported killed, fifteen were injured, some of them fatally, and thousands of dollars' worth of damage done to buildings and crops.

Great Losses in Tennessee.

This tornado, passing north into Tennessee and Kentucky, caused heavy damage to buildings, wrecking a school house at Buntyn, Tenn., and imperiling the lives of 300 children. Meager reports as to fatalities come from these sections, owing to the wrecking of telegraph wires, but several deaths are reported, not verified.

Passing into Indiana and Ohio Tuesday the cyclone destroyed factories and other large buildings in its pathway. At Massillon, Ohio, the high wind, tearing the roof from a foundry, menaced the lives of 400 employes, killing one. At Wabash, Ind., the havoc was widespread, the loss being estimated at from $100,000 to $200,000. Two dozen dwellings were demolished, while their inmates fled for their lives. A woman, with her children, was pinned under the wreckage of her home, which caught fire, and she will die from burns. The city's electric service was wrecked and the toyn was in darkness throughout Tuesday night. The wind was followed by a cloudburst, and many bridges are washed away. Many families are homeless. Fifteen are injured, two fatally, in Toledo.

Northern Indiana Suffers.

In northern Indiana the storm late Tuesday night killed one man at Albion. Two hundred houses were destroyed in small villages.

At Cleveland the fishing tug George Floyd with seven men aboard and the sandsucker Mary H. with a crew of nine men are missing, while the barge Norman Kelley, with a crew of four persons, three men and a woman, near Sandusky, was rescued after a desperate struggle as a result of a fierce wind storm which raged on Lake Erie.

In Michigan a boy was killed by the flying roof of a house at Brighton, two boys were drowned in a small boat in the Detroit River, and three fishermen were drowned by the capsizing of their boat near Wyandotte. Lightning killed a child at Ionia and set fire to thousands of dollars' worth of farm houses and barns. A child was probably fatally injured in Detroit by flying debris.

At Jennings, Mich., three young men were killed by being caught under a wall that was blown down by the wind. The damage to roofs, chimneys, plate glass, etc., probably will reach $75,000 in Detroit.

Wisconsin Is Wind Swept.

A terrific wind storm swept Wisconsin Wednesday. Many boats were reported overdue at various ports along Lake Michigan and at Milwaukee, while the northern Michigan copper country reports from five inches to two and a half feet of snow.

Southern Canada was a heavy sufferer from the storm, incomplete and unverified reports showing that the loss in small towns will reach the hundred thousands. Six persons were injured and one young child fatally hurt and property loss of $75,000 entailed at New London, Ont.

At Buffalo, N. Y., the gale reached a velocity of seventy-five miles an hour. Four persons, badly injured by flying bricks and debris, are in hospitals, and several ships have been beached, while a dredge was sunk. One man was crushed to death by a falling cornice.

The wind reached a velocity of sixty-eight miles per hour in Pittsburg. It is estimated that damage done throughout the city will be in excess of $100,000. About thirty persons were hurt, and two of them are so badly injured that they may die.

An airship owned by the Eagle Aeroplane Company of Pittsburg was about ready for flight when the gale struck the tent it was kept in and blew both tent and airship away, demolishing both.

FAIL TO REACH A MINERS' PACT

Anthracite Workers and Operators Have Adjourned Finally.

The anthracite miners and operators who have been in conference in Philadelphia considering wage conditions in the coal fields of Pennsylvania have failed to reach an agreement. The conference adjourned finally Friday. The operators having headquarters in New York City departed for that place over the Reading Railway. They promised to give out a statement after their arrival there. The officials of the United Mine Workers of the three anthracite districts met later to decide on a course of action.

EXPLOSION KILLS SIX MEN.

One Hundred Cottages Wrecked at Powder Works in New Jersey.

A series of explosions in the Wayne, N. J., works of the DuPont Powder Company killed six men, wrecked a hundred cottages in Wayne and shook the country like an earthquake in a radius of fifteen miles. Nine of the twenty buildings at the works went up, one after another, with terrific explosions. Jerome T. Marsh, who was in the building first wrecked, was killed. He alone could know what caused the disaster.

Two Fight for Girl's Love.

With bare fists and in the presence of invited friends, Samuel Hazlett of Avalon and C. P. Reynolds of Bellevue, both well known, fought in an open lot in Pittsburg for the favor of a girl. The young woman, it is reported, has cast them both adrift.

Farmers Dig for Hidden Gems.

Farmers near New Carlisle, Ohio, have dug over several acres in an effort to find gems said to have been buried many years ago following a robbery. The story of the hidden gems was told by Ben Williams, a paroled prisoner.

Science AND Invention

The German military authorities are experimenting with the application of wireless telegraphy to balloons carrying self-registering apparatus. One object is to make the balloons descend at any desired moment. This is effected by placing in the balloon a receiver of electric waves connected with mechanism controlling a valve. When a wireless message is received the valve opens and the balloon descends.

The recent proclamations setting aside the Ocala National Forest in Florida and the Dakota National Forest in North Dakota bring the number of states possessing such forests belonging to the United States up to 20, if Alaska be included. Of these forests, Arkansas has two, but all the others, except the new ones in Florida and North Dakota, are in the Rocky Mountain or Pacific coast states. It is expected that the Ocala Forest area, which covers 201,480 acres, will become densely covered with the sand pine. No part of the area rises more than 150 feet above sea-level. The Dakota Forest is in the Bad Lands region, and much is expected from its influence, since North Dakota is the least forested state in the Union. The new forest covers 14,080 acres.

In many European cities extensive use is being made of high-pressure gas-lamps for street-lighting, and to some extent the lamps are displacing electricity. They are furnished with inverted mantle burners, and in Berlin the gas is supplied through Mannesheim steel pipe. In some of the systems the air is compressed, and in one case pure oxygen is supplied to the consumers. In London a type of lamp called "self-intensifying" is employed, the air being compressed by utilizing the heat of the products of combustion to operate a heat engine. In Vienna arc-lights are used to illuminate a park above the trees, and gas-lamps are employed below. In connection with these lamps, various automatic lighting and extinguishing devices are in use, and much taste is displayed in the forms and arrangement of their supports.

Commenting on the round-the-world telegraph experiment recently made by a newspaper in Copenhagen, Ferdinand Wagner says in a Berlin paper: "There was nothing wonderful in the result. Two messages were sent by the editor to himself at Copenhagen. One went via Shanghai, New York and London and the other via London, Shanghai and New York. The first to arrive at its destination was the one which was sent by way of Shanghai. It had to be retransmitted eight times, and was received at the Copenhagen office in three hours and twenty-three minutes after it had been sent away. The time seems short to circle the globe, but if the various stations had received notice in advance, and if the trial dispatch had been given the right of way, the time would have been reduced almost to the Shakespearean limit."

WHAT IS PEWTER?

Its Composition Regulated in England But Never in America.

You will often hear enthusiasts declare that this jug or that jug is of "old English pewter." Of course, this may be true, but it is a fact that large quantities of pewter ware were made in this country and it was not until about 1840 that its making practically ceased, says the Circle magazine. In the first place, are you sure that you know pewter when you see it? Hundreds of pieces of "pewter" have been shown to me which in reality were "white metal" or Britannia ware. All of the delicately shaped pieces marked "Dixon & Sons" or "Vickers" and dozens of other pieces unmarked and which are proudly cherished, are not pewter. Neither Dixon nor Vickers ever made pewter; they were makes of "white ware" and thousands of pieces of their ware were sent here from England.

The composition of pewter in England, the best quality, which usually is marked with a double X, was arranged by law, and contained 100 parts tin, eight parts of antimony and four parts of copper. In America there was no standard to which the quality of pewter had to conform, so that our makers took advantage and put in as much lead as they could, in many instances the proportion being one-fifth lead to four-fifths English block tin for their best quality, and more lead and less tin in their poorer wares.

There are many opinions as to the best method of cleaning pewter, but only one as to the perfect folly of having it "buffed." If you like everything to shine, then treat your pewter as follows:

Take a piece of fine woolen cloth, upon this put as much sweet oil as will prevent its rubbing dry; with this rub them well in every part; then wipe them smartly with a soft, dry linen rag, and then rub them off with a soft wash leather and whiting. N. B.—If convenient, wash them in boiling water and soap just before they are rubbed with wash leather and whiting. This would take off the oil more effectually and make the engraving look brighter.

DARK DOINGS.

The Reason One Woman Is Disgusted with the Voting Proposition.

When any one asked little Mrs. Pratt her opinion on the question of equal suffrage she had her answer ready. "I don't want to hear anything about it," she would say pleasantly, but firmly, "and I'd just as soon tell you why. It's because there's got to be a concealment and mystery about voting, and I like things open and aboveboard. It's the way I was brought up and the way I shall always feel if I live to be a hundred.

"I've had one experience, and that's all I want. A friend of mine talked and talked to me about voting on the educational question till at last I said I would, because I was brought up to think a great deal of education, and I always shall. So I gave up an engagement to go to the polls and register (and the dress was almost spoiled on account of my missing that trying on, too, because she didn't wait to see whether it fitted or not, but stitched the seams right up), and then I took the greatest pains to go and vote just as they'd told me to, and what do you suppose Henry Pratt told me afterward? My vote was thrown out because I had the frankness to write my full name and address on it!

"I told Henry that nothing would surprise me after that—nothing."

He Got His Wish.

Prof. Edgar L. Larkin, the noted astronomer, was discussing marriage at a dinner in San Francisco. Prof. Larkin believes that it is criminal to continue for life marriages that are unhappy. "Why condemn," he said, with a grim laugh, "men and women to such misery as afflicts our mutual friends, the Blanks? We all have mutual friends in the Blanks' position. At the height of their nightly quarrel the other day Mrs. Blank choked back a sob and said, reproachfully: 'I was reading one of your old letters to-day, James, and you said in it that you would rather live in endless torment with me than in bliss by yourself.' 'Well, I got my wish,' Blank growled."

Lots of women would make secret gifts to charity if they could only keep the secret.

GULF WATERS OF GAY HUE.

Streaks of Blue and Green Half a Mile Wide Light Up Ship at Night.

A most remarkable marine phenomena was observed by the steamship Dover, Capt. Yon A. Carlson, as that vessel steamed to Tampa from Mobile. When at a point thirty-five miles from Mobile light at 7 o'clock on the evening of the 24th the ship ran suddenly in a streak of light coming from the water which alternated blue and green, the colors being so brilliant that the vessel was lighted up as if she was covered with arc lights with colored globes, says the Tampa Times.

A half mile streak of dark water, and a blackness that settled like a pall over the ship followed and a second streak of the same brilliant hued waters was encountered. The second streak was about as wide as the first one, and when the ship ran out of it the same black waters and a night of exceptional blackness was also encountered. A. D. Montmollian, traveling freight agent of the line, was on board the vessel, and he and Chief Engineer T. J. Cole fully substantiated Capt. Carlson's statement regarding the phenomena.

"I have sailed the high seas for twenty-two years," declared Capt. Carlson, "and have seen interesting phenomena, both meteorological and otherwise, in the waters of every known ocean, but I never saw anything that approached this blue and green light from the water phenomena. The night was dark, but clear, and we ran into the streaks without any seeming warning. I was in the pilot house when we struck it, and I ran on deck, thinking that something was on fire.

"The crew tumbled out to witness it, also, and it was magnificent. It was so light that it was remarked by the chief engineer that it could be read by, and to make sure I grabbed a paper and the finest print that I could find was easily discernible. We ran out of the streak into a streak of black water, and the darkness of the night seemed to increase as we did so.

"From the streak of blackness we ran into the second streak of lighted waters. Each of the streaks and the intermediate streak of black water was about half a mile wide. The wind at the time was a light northwest. The sea was smooth and we were bearing southeast by east half east, thirty-five miles from Mobile light."

It is thought that perhaps a phosphorescent condition of the waters on the bottom of the sea at that point suddenly mingling may have formed a condition which brought about the lights in question.

Cruel Religious Custom.

There is a cruel custom prevailing in many parts of the Telugu country in India in connection with the worship of the village deities. At the end of a sacrifice a small cart, with four, five or nine pointed stakes standing upright at the corners and sides is brought to the image. Pigs, lambs and fowls are then impaled alive upon these stakes. The cart is dragged in a procession to the boundary of the village. The animals die in agony on the way and are taken off the stakes when the cart reaches its destination.

Reduction in Steel Production.

There was a reduction of 12 per cent in the production of iron and steel in the north of England in the last two months, and wages were reduced for the first time science February, 1905. In the Manchester coton industry the production is 15 per cent less than a year ago.

You probably know you talk too much, but are you doing anything to overcome the habit?

Aid is never satisfactory. The best way is not to need it.

SOME MARRIED MEDITATIONS.

By Clarence L. Cullen.

What most women think they know: That men are crazy over widows.

She'll laugh gayly with you about those new cabriolet or peach-basket hats but she'll sting you for the price of one of them, all the same.

The modern woman's idea of an "allowance" for herself is this: All that is left of the roll after the rent and household expenses have been paid.

No woman ever becomes so outlandishly fat that she doesn't imagine that her husband takes ecstatic delight in having her plump herself into his lap.

Some women have a sufficient sense of humor to chortle inwardly when their lovers or husbands—synonymous terms in this case—place them on pedestals.

A woman imagines that she's the dandy little homemaker all right, all right, when she buys her husband a new green velour Morris chair on the installment plan.

The reason why she reads aloud to you the list of the wealthy bride's lingerie trousseau is to show you what a tightwad you are for not getting her the same kind of stuff.

Every woman ought to know that there are plenty of husbands—not necessarily prigs, either—who distinctly dislike to hear their wives tell off-color stories, even if they don't say so.

"Trial marriages," that new time-will-tell matrimonial scheme, sounds all right, but the idea is lacking in novelty. Anybody who has tried it knows that the average marriage is a trial.

Often, when a woman fondly imagines that she is making a man her slave with her languishing glances and subtle flattery, his inner self is riotously, raucously laughing at her vain imaginings.

When a man's little old carefully concealed dreams and illusions are all warped out of shape through constant contiguity to the selfishness and greed of his home, his wife calls him "callous."

A married woman hates to think of getting to be 45 years old because she feels that at that age she'll look middle-aged, whereas her husband will be just a young fellow and still keenly in the game, looks and all.

The wife says to her women friends, "Land sakes alive, I'd hate to have a man tied to my apron strings," generally is the one who fights like a wildcat when her husband intimates that he'd like to carry a latchkey.

When a woman's gray hairs can no longer be pushed underneath, combed over, or otherwise hidden, she says, nonchalantly: "Oh, I've been as gray as a badger ever since I was 19—a family trait, you know."

It makes no difference how artfully and resolutely she led you to the hymeneal altar, she is bound to twist it around, after a few years, to make it appear as if you had threatened to commit suicide if she rejected you.

Although most of the royal princesses of Europe are taught in their girlhood how to cook, many a $15-a-week young fellow on this side marries an American princess whose knowledge of cooking is confined exclusively to fudge.

Man is such an unreasonable brute that he's bound to become a bit thoughtful when, upon arriving home in the evening, he finds his wife (still wearing the crumpled kimono he saw her in at breakfast and her hair yet undone) huddled up on the couch "telling her fortune" with a dog's eared deck of cards.

BOXING FOR SCIENCE.

London Medical Students Demonstrate the Value of Oxygen.

Dr. Leonard Hill's lecture on "The Use of Oxygen" the other evening at the London Institution was made doubly interesting by the introduction of a real boxing bout, the object being to prove how valuable oxygen is in athletics.

The boxers were both from the London hospital and one was an expert with the gloves, the other a novice, says a New York correspondent. The first round, lasting two minutes, was fought by the latter without oxygen. The young medicos hit, dodged, feinted and hit again. The novice banged out right and left, but could not get through the expert's guard, while the latter got many blows home, so that he had his opponent panting when "time" was called.

A second round was called after an interval and the novice started well. In one minute, however, he was "all in," while the expert was hardly distressed. Then, as the novice sat panting, the bag of oxygen was brought and the mouthpiece placed between his lips.

The third round was a very brisk one. The novice actually forced the pace for a few seconds. When "time" was called the men were on an equality as regarded conditions. The expert boxer later declared that his opponent hit harder and "stayed" better after taking the oxygen, while the novice said that he did not know the round would end so soon.

CHINA'S WHISTLING PIGEONS.

Musical Instruments Attached to Tails of Flying Birds.

One of the most curious expressions of emotional life is the application of whistles to a flock of pigeons. These whistles, very light, weighing but a few drams, are attached to the tails of young pigeons soon after their birth by means of fine copper wire, so that when the birds fly the wind blowing through the whistles sets them vibrating and thus produces an open air concert, for the instruments in one and the same flock are tuned differently. On a serene day in Pekin, where these instruments are manufactured with great cleverness and ingenuity, it is possible to enjoy this aerial music while sitting in one's room, says the Scientific American.

There are two distinct types of whistles—those consisting of bamboo tubes placed side by side, and a type based on the principle of tubes attached to a gourd body or wind chest. They are lacquered in yellow, brown, red and black, to protect the material from the destructive influences of the atmosphere. The tube whistles have two, three or five tubes. In some specimens the five tubes are made of oxhorn instead of bamboo.

The gourd whistles are furnished with a mouthpiece and small apertures to the number of two, three, six, ten and even thirteen. Certain among them have, besides, a number of bamboo tubes, some on the principal mouthpiece, some arranged around it. These varieties are distinguished by different names. Thus a whistle with one mouthpiece and ten tubes is called "the eleven eyed one."

The explanation of the practice of this quaint custom which the Chinese offer is not very satisfactory. According to them these whistles are intended to keep the flock together and to protect the pigeons from attacks of birds of prey. There seems, however, little reason to believe that a hungry hawk could be induced by this innocent music to keep aloof from satisfying his appetite, and this doubtless savors of an afterthought which came up long after the introduction of this usage through the attempt to give a rational and practical interpretation of something that has no rational origin whatever, for it is not the pigeon that profits from this practice, but merely the human ear, which feasts on the wind blown tubes and derives aesthetic pleasure from this music.

Up to Him.

"Do you think you can manage with my salary of $12 a week, darling?" he asked after she had said yes.

"I'll try, Jack," replied she. "But what will you do?"—Union Leader.

When a woman is inclined to be disagreeable she is sure to make good.

Farm and Garden

The sheep need plenty of yard room into which they can be turned on pleasant days.

Better prices do not make better butter, but better butter will always tend to boost prices. Try it.

Guess-work methods are the greatest curse to the farm, and explain more failures than any one thing.

Remember, the best seed is none too good. It is a losing game to labor over seed of low germinating power.

The farmer is not looking for protection or charity, but he does want his rights, and he has a right to expect that he will get them.

Every time cream is added to the cream jar stir the whole contents, so that it will be well mixed and promote even ripening of the cream.

While sheep are growing wool and making mutton for you they are cleaning the fields of weeds and spreading valuable manure over the land.

There will be much cleaner milk if the udder is wiped off with a damp cloth, and the long hair clipped off of the udder and flanks and tail before milking.

"Stretches" in sheep are caused by too much dry feed. When the sheep are seen to spread their legs out and stretch give a bran mash and an ounce of raw linseed oil.

It never pays to become so everlastingly "stuck" on any make of machine that we can not see the good points about any other similar machine nor the weak points of our particular favorite.

Some of the dairymen were disposed to resent the hue and cry raised about dirty dairying, thinking that the makers of substitutes for dairy products were at the bottom of it all. If prices are an indication of the demand for dairy products the dairyman has no cause to worry.

The milk goat industry is occupying considerable attention in the East. Seventy-seven goats have been accepted for registration by the American Milch Goat Association during the year. One hundred and eighty-seven are now on record. Any goat yielding one quart or more of milk a day is eligible.

The Japanese are a progressive race. They are adopting methods and ways from all the civilized countries. A consular report says they are devoting careful attention to the improvement of their poultry. Experiments have shown that Minorcas and Andulusians are the best breeds suited to their purpose so birds from England as well as America have been selected and shipped to Tokio.

While environment often contributes to success or failure in life, the determining causes in nine cases out of ten lie in the man himself. There are men who are bound to rise regardless of obstacles that they may find in their way, while another class could not be lifted out of the rut in which they move with anything short of block and tackle. While traits of push or inertia may be in a measure inherited, it is well to remember that both may be measurably increased or diminished by persistent attention or by indifference and neglect.

Ohio has a stringent law in reference to the sale of milk products. It prohibits the sale of milk under the following conditions: 1. From cows fed on unhealthy feed. 2. From cows fed on wet distillery or starch waste. 3. From diseased or sick cows. 4. From cows kept in a place that is unclean or in an insanitary condition. 5. From cows kept in a cramped or unhealthy condition. 6. When water or other foreign substance has been added. 7. When it is unclean, impure, unhealthy or unwholesome.

Fowls Take Cold Easily.

On cold nights the fowls roost closely together and in this way keep warm. Should they crowd on the roost they are apt to sweat and in the morning when they get down on the floor of the pen are apt to feel chilly on account of the difference in temperature. If, however, there is litter on the floor and the night before grain was thrown among the litter it will not take the biddies long to understand that by scratching they will not only keep warmer, but there is a strong possibility of finding something to eat. Hens are not as dumb as they look.

The Horse Will Stay.

The horse was going to be driven out of existence by the locomotive, but instead thereof he multiplied exceedingly and increased in value, although his iron substitute was tearing all over the country in every direction. Then he was to be reduced to innocuous desuetude by the trolley car, and after that by the automobile. But the Department of Agriculture reports that in eleven years the number of horses in this country has increased from under fourteen to more than twenty millions, the aggregate farm value of them has advanced from less than half a billion to very nearly two billions, and the average value of the animal has advanced nearly three-fold, from $34.26 in 1898 to $95.64 in 1909. Perhaps some of our timid manufacturers who are in a panic lest they should be crushed if they were exposed to a little competition may take encouragement from the prosperity of the horse.—Exchange.

Care of Poultry.

The farmer must keep his poultry under the same conditions the poultryman does his, if he wishes to profit by the work and build up a reputation for reliable goods. Instead of the fowls having unlimited range, they should be confined to generous-sized runs—100 feet in length and as broad as the width of the house—and these pens must not be overcrowded. The farmer should build houses that will enable him to readily ventilate (like, for instance, the scratching shed house) and the manure should be gathered at least once a week. Nothing but the purest grains and meat scraps and green stuff should be fed. The eggs should be gathered one or more times a day, according to the condition of the weather. And no eggs should be held longer than one week; the enterprising poultryman ships twice a week.

An egg should never be sent to market unless its condition and age are known to the shipper and can be guaranteed. Under no circumstances should eggs found in the "hidden nest" be allowed to be palmed off on the innocent buyer.

In market language "fancy" eggs are guaranteed fresh—not over three days old. "Prime" eggs are those where the age is not known, they being from one to three weeks of age, in cool weather. "Fresh case" eggs are a class out of which it is possible at times to secure six good ones, three fair ones, and three that are demoralized, out of a dozen.

First Wild Horses.

The first horses of the western plains probably were brought there by the Spaniards. In 1545, more than fifty years before Jamestown was settled, Coronado, the Spanish captain, was roaming about the plains of New Mexico, and he tells of the dogs used by the Indians to haul their plunder on lodge poles, indicating that they had no horses at that date, says the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

In 1716 the Spanish again worked their way eastward across the plains and their letters tell of the astonishment of the Indians at seeing the horses they had with them. The expedition was constantly losing horses and there is little doubt that the first droves of western horses originated from these strays.

In the early days upon the plains they were as great a pest to travelers as they are to-day. Woe be unto the luckless camper who allowed a band of wild horses to get close enough to his gentle horses, turned out for the night, to sweep them off. It was almost useless to follow, for the call of the wild comes to the gentlest of horses when he is thrown with a band of this kind that have been born and raised free of all restraint. It is a well known fact that the hardest one to "cut out," the leader of them all in a mad race across the prairie, is the old, gentle, well-broken saddle or work horse, once he gets a taste of such freedom.

How to Treat the Work Team.

Horses employed for farm work should not be pampered but should be fed generously so as to sustain vigor and good spirits. A team ill fed and consequently in poor condition and feeble will not accomplish much real work and it is a waste of time to hire an expensive hand to drive such a team.

The work horses should be fed early in the morning and they should have a liberal feeding. The comfort and rest of the team will be vastly promoted if the harness is entirely removed at noon while they are feeding. Allow them plenty of time for a good meal and partial digestion before they are put to work for the afternoon. It is poor policy to put them to work right after eating a hearty meal or upon a full stomach.

If we would allow the teams more rest at noon we would accomplish more work than when they are only allowed time to swallow their food. At evening let them be well groomed and their legs, bellies and feet relieved from all mud and filth.

The practice of many farmers of driving a team through cold water to wash the filth off their feet and legs is dangerous, as it causes many diseases that they are subject to.

A warm or overheated team should not be put in a cold, airy place, but first exercised and then blanketed and put in a warm stable, and after the blankets are removed they should be wiped dry with straw or cloths.

When a team has been exposed to rains they should not be left to become dry, but should be rubbed dry, as chills, fevers and other ailments often result from allowing them to dry by the evaporation of the moisture from their bodies.

Hog Lice.

A good preparation for killing hog lice is made by melting three pints of lard and mixing it with one pint of coal oil. The lard may be rancid. Even meat frying will do, the salt being no objection.

When the grease has been melted, mix the coal oil well with it and apply with a rag or brush while warm, but not hot, to the backs and behind the ears of the animals. Rub the mixture well into the hair. Since hogs will not readily stand while the application is being made, give them an appetizing slop in a trough and apply while the animals are drinking. In this way one person can, by rapid manipulation, grease twenty to thirty hogs in about five minutes.

The benefit of putting the grease on the backs and behind the ears is that it will spread by gravity and finally cover all of the hog's body. There is no objection, however, to greasing the animal all over, for the more grease put on the more lice will be killed. It is preferable to make the application in the evening, at feeding time, so that one hog will grease another in rubbing against each other in the bed. Before the application is made, or immediately afterward, clean out and remove all bedding material and disinfect the hog house with coal oil and carbolic acid, or coal oil alone, for killing all lice that may be harboring there.

Repeat the hog greasing once or twice at intervals of about a week apart, spraying their sleeping quarters at the same time, and the lice will disappear.

In summer we kill lice on hogs by digging a wallow hole about two feet deep in their lot or pasture, filling it about half full of water, and pouring a gallon of coal oil on the water. When the weather is warm the hogs will wallow in the water covering themselves with mud at the same time, and the lice are killed through having to touch the animals. Oil and water will not mix, hence the pure coal oil comes in contact with the hide of the hogs, which is supposed to cause blistering or removing of hair, but in no case, with many experiments, have any such results followed from the use of pure coal oil. It is likely that wallowing in the muddy water tempers the action of the oil.