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The News solicits communications relating to the public welfare, but is not responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

Fernandina got its public building, and it's dollars to doughnuts that Frank Clark had as much to do with it as anybody. In fact, we do not believe any one of our delegation in Congress will say he did not have a big hand in securing it.—Lake City Index.

It will be gratifying to the people of the State to learn from the above that Clark did have a hand in some of the local legislation secured for Florida from the national government. Of course, no one would expect to give Malloy or Lamar any credit for their actions or their votes on matters of interest to the people of the State. They just go up there to watch, with mouths open, Taliaferro and Clark "do things."

The Ocala Banner rebukes THE NEWS on account of our article about Taggart's gambling paraphernalia, recently raided in French Lick Springs, and publishes Taggart's own version of the affair to offset our article. The Banner says:

The great need of the Democratic party is to get together. Let's do it.

There's where the rub comes. We try to tie the gamblers and such like, and for each corrupt voter we secure we lose two dozen upright voters. What we need is to turn out the rascals—let them go to the Republican party if they wish; we don't need them, and will never win with them.

The Times-Union is again using great gobs of printing ink in its patriotic effort to save the Everglades for the railroads. Just to bring the thing to a focus, why not the Times-Union tell a suffering public whether the above is true—the report that the people who own the stock of the Times-Union are the very people who own the stock of the railroads that are suing the trustees of the Board of Internal Improvements for the possession of the Everglades land.

Jerome, of New York, is making a tour of the South, delivering addresses to the different bar associations. Jerome is a representative of the faction of the Democratic party that is trying to knife Bryan. Jerome would have more influence if he would spend a little more time prosecuting the insurance grafters in his section of the country.

Let all good citizens oppose the open saloon, the monster evil, and the blind tiger, its contemptible, lawless but inferior substitute. No friend of law, peace and order can find in the jug trade an argument in favor of the open saloon.—Brooksville Argus.

If it is wicked for railroad companies to own coal mines and haul their own coal, how much more wicked is it for the same railroad companies to own the daily newspapers and toot their own bazoo?

The Char has seized three newspapers. Perhaps he intends to engage in yellow journalism.—Times Union.

Is it any worse for the Czar of Russia to own a newspaper than it is for the railroad companies of the United States to own the daily newspapers of the cities?

Orlando is building a brick school house at a cost of \$25,000; Palm Beach will erect a brick or stone school building to cost \$35,000.

MASSAGE BY THE BLIND.

In Japan They Alone May Give It—Are Taught in Special Schools.

All visitors to Japan will recall the sad, soft tones of the flutes at night, on the streets, in country lanes, in forest glades and on the mountain paths. It is a melodious and plaintive tune, always the same, and it is heard only when night has enveloped these places in her shadows.

It is the flute of the blind Amma San, the massage man and woman. For old men, hoary with age, to young girls in their teens, there they wander, the blind people of Japan. By law, strictly enforced, they must be blind, either from birth or through some fatality during their lives. Thus they gain an honorable living.

With perfect knowledge, gained by years of study in schools specially provided for them, they knead, twist and string every nerve, sinew and tendon in the human body. In two hours' time they will create a new being, masterly in their manipulation of the tried traveler, the exhausted debauchee and the nervous hypochondriac, of the woman suffering from neuralgia, sick headache or the weakness of a languid mind and body.

They will take charge of your body from the soles of your feet, and when their task is completed, they leave behind them a lingering sense of entire comfort, of placid well feeling, which makes you very soon call them back again. Some of these girls are pretty and attractive and their helplessness gives them an additional charm. Their usual charges are forty sen per hour, in rural districts much less.

Living Well on Nothing a Year.

The problem of how to live on almost nothing a year, so far as money is concerned, is one which has been successfully solved by about 1,000 Detroiters, who, according to an estimate based on the opinions of half a hundred of the city's merchants, manage to secure at least a quarter of the \$600,000 pounds of free samples distributed in this city each year. To the average person it seems almost inconceivable that a family could exist upon free samples for a week, much less a year, for, taken individually, sample packages contain such small quantities of the products which they advertise that, in the words of one skeptical Detroitier, "It would take a score of them to make a meal."

A few days ago one of the city's sample grafters confessed that in one day he had collected as high as 180 free samples, and that a bushel basket would not hold them. These scores of women and children each of whom collect from 50 to 300 free samples every week, and each package of foodstuff contains from one to four ounces. When it is taken into consideration that these samples represent almost every kind of food, it is not difficult to understand how a free-sample dinner might be quite a luxurious affair.—Detroit News-Tribune.

Future Starvation.

Coming generations, in order to avoid the starvation which actually threatens the world by the exhaustion of the earth's fertilizers, will probably burn the air to make their daily bread. Professor Robert Kennedy Duncan tells in the April number of Harper's how this will be done, and is already being done in considerable measure in Germany.

The effect of the new scientific fertilizers upon the growth of wheat and other food plants is strikingly shown in the illustrations to Professor Duncan's paper. It brings home to the reader a realization of how near pure science is coming to his daily life and all his industry. This silent but tremendous revolution has arisen in Germany, and is kept quiet among the new industrialists because, as Professor Duncan says, "It does not pay to tell."

In the next few years the small manufacturer will wonder why he is destroyed, and it will be because of his ignorance of the new conditions, of which the trusts are already aware.

Tobacco in New Guinea.

Beads and tobacco are the open sesame to the affections of a savage. The commonwealth secretary for external affairs has been visiting British New Guinea, and among the curios with which he returned to Melbourne was a gorgeous headdress made of the feathers of birds of paradise, the many-colored plumage of parrots, and various other of the brilliant birds of that region, all securely sewn together and bound with beautiful shells. Two axes and a pocket knife were at first offered for the treasure, but the Papuan owner shook his head. A strip of calico was added, with the like result, but the owner's eye glistened at the sight of a string of beads and a plug of tobacco, and the bargain was clinched.

Malta Fever From Goats.

A scientific commission which has been investigating the peculiarities of the Mediterranean or Malta fever has come upon evidence which shows that the infection of the disease may be transmitted by goats. Dr. Zammit and Major Horrocks found the specific organism of the fever in the milk of goats that were apparently healthy. The blood of several of the goats gave a reaction which is peculiar to the fever. This finding is not only important for Malta, but for many other places within the Mediterranean area. Gibraltar is one of those where this fever is very prevalent, and goats are almost the only source of the milk supply.

SHOOTING AN ELEPHANT.

Sensations of a Man Who Had Helped to Do It.

In the Globe Trotter of Nairobi, British East Africa, a traveler tells how he shot, but lost, an elephant: "The anthill we were trying to side behind was so small that we had to take our hats off to be out of sight. I took a look over the top and nearly lost my breath by discovering that the elephants were coming right toward us. The male was walking first, and holding his magnificent head high in the air, and spreading his enormous ears straight out as if to catch the wind, and looked for all the world like some pirate ship coming down with all sails set ready to put us out of existence. The female came behind in the same fashion. I turned to see shikari behind me and said, 'Good heavens! They are coming right down on us!' and at the same time looked round for a safer place, but there was none. The shikari motioned me to lie down and not to speak, and urged, 'Good shoot, good shoot.' I whispered to Marlow: 'If they come now I won't be able to shoot, my heart is beating too fast.' His answer did not tend to improve my condition much. He only replied, 'Back up, man; they are coming.' I had a double-barrel ten-bore and solid bullets with cordite behind. The shooting therefore was left with me, and I had never fired a ten-bore in my life before.

"If those blessed brutes would only sheer off a bit to the right or to the left instead of coming down to investigate that little innocent wart in front of us it would be some consolation. But not they, on they came, emitting the most uncomfortable sounds through their trunks and holding straight down on us. I began to wonder whether they would go round over the hill—it was only one step for that fellow anyhow—and if they were going round what side would they take? I dodged from one side to the other until they were within twenty yards of us, and then to my relief it was evident that they were going to pass on the right side, and it wasn't many seconds before the big fellow sauntered leisurely round the hill within five yards of me and apparently looked sleepily down on us. Fortunately an elephant's sight is very bad, and I really don't think he saw us. I lay flat on my stomach and had great difficulty in getting the gun elevated sufficiently to get a sight at his temple. I at last succeeded, however, and let fly. In my anxiety to kill at once I pulled both triggers.

"The report was like the boom from a cannon and the recoil simply doubled me up like a concertina, while the breech lever of the rifle struck the bridge of my nose and side of my face so powerfully that it made me insensible for a couple of seconds and made me bleed profusely. I staggered to my feet while Marlow and the shikari both emptied their guns into the brute's head. One would think this sufficient to kill half a dozen elephants, but this one stood dazed for a few moments and then, instead of toppling over as it ought to have done, it threw itself completely around and, taking its mate along, made off for the woods as fast as it could go, leaving much blood behind.

Returning to Nature.

In western New South Wales and western Queensland, Australia, kangaroo stockmen are common. Many of the landholders have interested themselves in the training of the young aborigines, teaching many of them to read and write and training them up side by side with the white children. The result has not been very encouraging. Says a writer: "I have known several instances where aboriginal tribes of both sexes were taken completely away from their people and brought up in a white family. They were taught various accomplishments and spoke English just as well as the white youngsters. But invariably, on the first opportunity, they relapsed into barbarism and soon the only trace of their upbringing that remained to them was their faultless English. One native whom I knew was kept in a refined white home until she was 18, then, getting word of a native camp a few miles away, she stole off to it and when found she was sitting in a 'mam-ma' (native hut), with her clothes all discarded and a possum rug wrapped around her.

"Undoubtedly the best black stockman that I ever knew fell away in the same fashion. He had been brought up from a baby in a white family and was noted for his scrupulous cleanliness and dandyish care for his clothes. On horseback he could hold his own easily with the best men on the station. He was dressed, from his wide-brimmed, soft felt hat to his long riding boots and spurs, exactly like the other stockmen. He spoke perfect English, took part in the various sports, and in fact, differed from the white stockmen apparently in one respect only, the color of his skin. He was at this time about 22 years old.

"I left the station just then, and, returning three years later, I pulled up at an old 'mama-ma' to question the occupants about the route. Beginning in the usual pigeon English, I was amazed when the half-raked, dirty and unkempt native who was sitting in the ashes replied in first-class English. As his voice seemed familiar I looked at him more closely. 'Why, surely you're not Harry from Yalcoo?' The same 'mam, boss,' he replied. 'Soon after you left I married a girl of my own color and took to the old life.' And he kept to it."

Every man would rather cut down a tree than plant one.

DOMESTICS IN AFRICA.

Notwithstanding Age They Are All Classified as Boys.

Most of the work is done by Kaffirs, who, like the southern negroes in slavery times, are called "boys," no matter what their age may be. When the Kaffir boys come from the kraals to one ever uses their native names. As soon as they are brought into contact with the whites they take a "white" name. This produces results which are not lacking in elements of humor.

Among the house boys "Knife," "Pork" and "Spoon," were common names. "Table," "Chair," "Carrage," "Watch," and "Matchbox," were other names that I had in my house at various times. One of my house boys took the utilitarian name of "Ham and Eggs."

The Kaffirs are very fond of rice, when they learn to eat it among the whites, and our stable boy thought he had found the finest name in the world in "Rice." But the Kaffirs have the same difficulty as the Chinese in pronouncing the letter "r," and so poor Rice always called himself "Lice."

The Kaffirs are the cleanest people in the world in some respects. They are always scrubbing themselves in hot water and anointing themselves with oil afterward, but the habit does not extend to their clothes. They will take an elaborate bath, and then put on clothes that never saw the wash tub.

Try a little KODOL FOR DYSPEPSIA after your meals. See the effect it will produce on your general feeling by digesting your food and helping your stomach to get itself into shape. Many stomachs are overworked to the point where they refuse to go further. Kodol digests your food and gives your stomach the rest it needs, while its reconstructive properties get the stomach back into working order. Kodol relieves flatulence, sour stomach, palpitation of the heart, belching, etc. Sold by G. W. Fisher.

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The government will lend the banks of San Francisco \$12,000,000, holding city bonds as security. The banks will lend this money to those who lost their little all in the "quake." I don't think. The worker gets his usual dose.

Old Chronic Sores.

As a dressing for old chronic sores there is nothing so good as Chamberlain's Salve. While it is not advisable to heal old sores entirely, they should be kept in a good condition for which this salve is especially valuable. For sale by all druggists.

Origin of "Hoodlum."

Somebody accounts for the singular but expressive word "hoodlum" in this way. A newspaper man in San Francisco, in attempting to coin a word to designate a gang of street Arabs under the leadership of one Muldoon, hit on the idea of dubbing them hoodlums; that is, simply reversing the leader's name. In writing the name the strokes of the "n" did not correspond in height, and the compositor took it for hoodlum. Hoodlum, it is, and probably ever will be.

Do Not Neglect Your Bowels. Many serious diseases arise from neglect of the bowels. Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets are a pleasant and agreeable laxative. They invigorate the liver and regulate the bowels. For sale by all druggists.

Education in Switzerland.

A notable departure in education is being made in Switzerland, where, at Zurich, an astronomical observatory for popular use is under construction, and will be opened this summer. The idea is to extend the knowledge of the noblest and most ancient of all the sciences by revealing the wonders of the heavens as seen through a high-power telescope to any person who pays a small fee, and it is expected that schools and societies will avail themselves fully of the privilege. The observatory, whose dome rises to a height of 150 feet over the town of Zurich, is well equipped, the largest telescope having a twelve-inch aperture.

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The humiliating lock-step has been discontinued at the Joliet penitentiary. So many bankers and society swells were being sent to the big Illinois prison that the etiquette of the place simply had to be reformed to suit their sensibilities.

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