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Wednesday, December 27, 1911

**BUYING AND SELLING NITROGEN.**

According to the statistics of the department of commerce and labor, we exported from this country last year \$15,000,000 worth of cottonseed and linseed meal and bought \$17,000,000 worth of nitrate of soda, \$10,000,000 worth of guano, and \$5,000,000 worth of sulphate of ammonia. "That is," Prof. Massey points out, in the Raleigh Progressive Farmer, "we sold \$15,000,000 worth of materials containing nitrogen and bought back \$32,000,000 worth of materials containing nitrogen as a chief material. If the cottonseed meal had been used on American farms for feed and manure, there would have been no need so far as the farms are concerned, for the importation of so much of the other materials. We are, in fact, buying immense amounts of nitrogen for the purpose of selling it for less money than we pay for the imported article. And if the farmers, especially the cotton farmers, farmed right and kept their cottonseed meal at home, there would be no need at all for cotton farmers to buy an ounce of nitrogen. One importation that could be called a profit to the farmers was \$3,000,000 worth of clover seed. And even that should be saved by growing our own seed. Selling millions of dollars' worth of high protein feed and then buying back nitrogenous fertilizers in which the nitrogen costs far more than the feed sold for, or rather that contained in the feed, is not a profitable business matter for the American farmer.

"I would like to see the day when not a pound of cottonseed meal went away from the cotton-growing States."

It is folly and waste to sell anything from the soil except in the most valuable example mentioned by Prof. Massey, buying \$32,000,000 worth of nitrogen and selling \$15,000,000 worth sets forth this waste as it applies to the entire south, taking a broad view of the matter.

A case parallel in principle is that of the farmer who sells his hay and grain instead of feeding it to cattle and stock on the land.

**MADERO'S OPPORTUNITY.**

With the failure of the Reyes revolutionary movement in Mexico and the surrender of Gen. Bernardo Reyes, the probabilities are that Madero will be given an opportunity to demonstrate whether a government democratic in fact as in name can survive in Mexico. Gen. Reyes was the most notable pre-election rival of Madero and the present government has made no secret of its anxiety and apprehension over the evident dissatisfaction of the one-time idol of the Mexican army with the election result. Madero had hardly been seated when, with the active or tacit approval of Reyes, there were widespread manifestations of opposition to him, so that it seemed problematical whether the new administration would be given an opportunity to get on a working basis.

That now seems to be over with. The most formidable foe of the administration admits his defeat and further asserts that he was misled when he was made to believe there was popular dissatisfaction with Madero. This admission controverts allegations that Madero's election was not fairly conducted and that the Mexican people did not have a real opportunity to express their preference at the polls.

**THE MAGIC OF DYNAMITE.**

From information which has come under its observation, the Manufacturer's Record of Baltimore inclines to the view that we are on the eve of an agricultural revolution. The wonderful results claimed when dynamite is used in preparation of the soil may cause it, largely to supersede other means of land breaking. It is thought. The record notes one instance of apparently amazing results as follows:

We have before us a sworn statement of J. B. Johnson, of Blount, Ala., to the effect that he has been growing cotton since he was large enough to work; that he is now 37 years of age, and that during all that period the maximum yield that he ever secured was one bale to the acre until he commenced experimenting with dynamite. This year he sub-soiled one acre with dynamite, and though a bad storm reduced the yield below what it would otherwise have been, he raised 1767 pounds of lint cotton on one acre. He states that last year he raised 43 bales to the acre on another tract dynamited in the same way, and expresses his opinion that dynamited land, properly fertilized and cultivated, in a good crop year would yield five bales to the acre.

This achievement Mr. Johnson ascribes to the deep pulverization of the soil, enabling plant roots to penetrate deeply in search of food and so causing vegetation to become more drought-resisting. It has long been known that good results follow from blasting land in preparation for the setting, but should the Alabama man's experience be confirmed by fuller observation and more extensive experiments, the use of the explosive may become almost as general in agriculture as that of the plow.

Nine months ago the pure food board tackled the task of finding a definition of mince meat, and here it is: "Mince meat is a mixture of not less than 10 per cent of cooked, comminuted meat, with chopped suet, apple and other fruits, salt and spices, and with sugar syrup or molasses, and with or without vinegar, fresh concentrated or fermented fruit juices or spirituous liquors." Everybody is much beholden to the pure food board.

"If Roosevelt is put in the White House in 1912 we will never get him out again except feet foremost," is the way Col. Watterson puts it. Note that he says "will never"—although it is more than possible he means "shall never."

A mere handful of Christmas drinks in "dry" towns, where the law is enforced and scores of arrests in "wet" towns—that is the inexcusable logic of facts.

Some of the sororities in the colleges are being voluntarily broken up—a movement, whatever other explanation may be offered, toward democracy.

Some few people in this community still hold erroneous ideas as to the way to make merry at Christmas, but the record as a whole is most creditable.

The Chinaman makes it a rule to leave no obligation unsettled at New Year. This heathen notion is not a bad notion.

Reyes seems to have definitely and conclusively fallen.

Now is the time to get into the corn contests.

The danger of infection from drinking cups was noted at least 250 years ago and probably before that time.

**TO PROTECT THE DRY STATES.**  
 bill to Prevent the Nullification of State Laws.

New York Sun.

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The Kenyon bill is a well considered measure. It is the legitimate successor of the Hepburn-Doolittle bill, which attracted so much attention a few years ago and was the last serious attempt in congress to remedy an evil of which the prohibition and local option states have constantly complained. The judiciary committee of the senate considered the matter at some length about four years ago, and the nearest solution of the problem at that time was a suggestion that when a common carrier accepted a consignment of intoxicating liquors to be shipped into prohibition territory it should be required to make certain that the shipment was to an actual consignee and not fictitious.

This was intended to prevent railroads and express companies from shipping liquors into prohibition states in various quantities of commercial size consigned to "John Doe" or other fictitious persons to whom might call for it accompanied by a thirst and the price.

Senator Tillman pointed out to the judiciary committee that this was the favorite method of sending liquors to the southern states in violation of local option laws. The state of Oklahoma tried a new method to put a stop to the shipment of liquors into that state by having their local officers seize the property on the ground that it had been brought into the state in violation of its law, but the railroads and express companies promptly checked this move by going into the federal courts and obtaining injunctions against the state officers restraining them from interfering with interstate commerce.

After being blocked in this way Oklahoma tried an unusual remedy. The state applied to the United States Supreme court for the extraordinary writ of prohibition to prevent the federal courts from interfering with the sovereign state of Oklahoma in the exercise of her police powers. The Supreme court denied the writ.

The whole question has turned upon the conflict between federal and state authority. It began when the state of Iowa sought through her prohibition laws to prevent shipment of liquors into that state. The Supreme court in the original package decision held that the state legislation could not be effective in interfering with the interstate shipments so long as the original package in which the liquor was shipped was not broken in interstate commerce before reaching the consignee.

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**SAYS CHINESE REPUBLIC WOULD BE A CALAMITY**  
 People Not Fit for Self-Government, Declares American Refugee.

Palo Alto, Cal., Dec. 27.—A republican form of government in China would be a calamity to the Chinese nation, according to Prof. W. G. Bateman of the imperial university at Tien-Tsin, who arrived yesterday at his home here, after being driven out of China as a result of the revolution. "The people in China are more ignorant than we Americans realize," said Prof. Bateman. "Their condition is awful. They are in no condition to govern themselves."

**May Reject Yuan's Plan.**  
 Peking, Dec. 27.—Yuan Shi-Kai's proposal to decide the form of government which shall prevail under China's new regime by a convention of delegates from all over the empire is regarded as a shrewd move, but opinion is divided as to whether it can be successfully done well informed men here believe the revolutionists are too impatient to await the outcome of the convention and, being aware of the Peking government's helplessness, may insist upon a refusal of Yuan's proposal.

**THE MARKETS**

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Atchafalpa	100	101
Amer. Smelting	731	725
Atlantic Coast Line	1841	1841
Brooklyn Rapid Transit	762	762
Baltimore & Ohio	403	403
Amal. Copper	661	661
Canadian Pacific	2411	2411
N. Y. Central	106	106
Colorado Fuel & Iron	27	27
Cosapeake & Ohio	745	745
Erie	32	31 1/2
Great Northern pfd.	127 1/2	127 1/2
Illinois Central	1404	1404
Mo., Kans. & Texas	29	29
Louisville & Nashville	155 1/2	155 1/2
National Lead	841	841
Missouri Pacific	39 1/2	39 1/2
Norfolk & Western	108	108
Northern Pacific	115	115
Pennsylvania	273	273
People's Gas	193 1/2	193 1/2
Rock Island	22 1/2	24
Rock Island pfd.	46 1/2	46 1/2
Reading	152 1/2	152 1/2
Amer. Sugar Refining	115 1/2	115 1/2
Southern Railway	112 1/2	112 1/2
St. Paul	110 1/2	110 1/2
Southern Railway pfd.	28 1/2	28 1/2
Tennessee Copper	71 1/2	71 1/2
Union Pacific	174 1/2	173 1/2
U. S. Steel	64 1/2	65
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Wabash	37	37
Wabash pfd.	61	61

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W. F. TOMLINSON,  
 The Inside, Washington, D. C.

**WE TRUST ALL THE PEOPLE**  
 GEORGE ASHBY  
 Spent a very Happy Christmas. Now get down to business and have your tired, strained eyes examined and glasses properly fitted.

**CHAS. H. HONEST**  
 Optometrist and Optician  
 54 Patton Avenue, opposite Postoffice  
 OUR CE-RITE TONIC LENSES ARE THE BEST.

**HOT WATER BOTTLES**  
 We are agents for the Kant-leek Water Bottles and Fountain Syringes. They are made of Para rubber and guaranteed for two years.

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The social season of the New Year bids fair to be a gay and lively one. Evening slippers will be in demand. We have a beautiful showing of unusually handsome evening slippers in white, pink, blue and black satin, priced at \$4.00.

**Brown-Miller Shoe Co.**

**Show Folks**

We carry a complete line of Steins make-ups, liners, greases, points, cold creams, etc. Take advantage of Seawell prices and Seawell skill when you have a prescription. Prescriptions sent for and delivered.

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