

## CHOCOLATE PLANT IS NATIVE

Has Been Cultivated in Many Countries, But It Undoubtedly Originated in America.

The chocolate plant is a native of America. When first introduced into Europe chocolate was used only as a luxury, but it speedily advanced in popularity. It is now cultivated in countries far from its original home. The chocolate plant, as well as tea and coffee, has been cultivated from time immemorial. Chocolate as a beverage rapidly made its way in Europe, beginning in Spain, where it was first brought.

The seeds of the chocolate plant are in pods. In preparing the seeds for market there has been but little change since early times. First the seeds are allowed to ferment, and then they are dried, and in this condition they are transported. In manufacturing the seeds or beans are roasted, by which process the shell of the seed becomes detachable from the kernel, which is the part used. Next the roasted kernels are ground.

In early times the Mexicans used the flat stones on which their maize was ground for the grinding of the roasted seeds of chocolate. Chocolate consists of the roasted, shelled and ground seeds. Sweet chocolate is the same with the addition of sugar and flavoring extracts. Cocoa consists of the roasted and ground seeds from which the oil has been removed. Experiments have shown that if the seeds are properly treated from the first to the last stage of manufacture no objection can be urged against the beverage produced from them. It is of importance that these seeds should be grown and selected with the greatest care and should, after reaching the factory, receive the most careful and skillful treatment.—Harper's Weekly.

## Profitable Bunko Scheme.

Among the extraordinary frauds which have been perpetrated was one put into operation by a company of schemers who told a confiding public that many fortunes were to be made by importing into England compressed grapes from Spain, Italy and elsewhere, then saturating them with English water, and making wine from them. It was stated in the prospectus that dried grapes could be imported at a much cheaper rate than wine, and that it was possible to produce an equal quantity of wine of equal quality to that made abroad. Thousands of pounds were subscribed by the British public, who firmly believed in the idea until the scheme collapsed.

## Middle Verse of Bible.

The middle verse of the Bible is the eighth verse of the 118th Psalm. The twenty-first verse of the seventh chapter of Ezra contains all the letters of the alphabet except the letter J. The longest verse is the ninth verse of the eighth chapter of Esther. The shortest verse is the ninth verse of the eleventh chapter of St. John.

## BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS HANDKERCHIEFS HERE

where you can choose from the largest and most attractive assortment in the city. Prices range from a good pure linen handkerchief at 5c up to the more expensive kind that are real hand made. Be sure to visit our Xmas Handkerchief booth.

J. K. HOYT.

## FINE BOY.

W. L. Sumner, the popular steward at Hotel Louise, is today receiving the congratulations of his friends upon the fact that he is a happy father today. The little stranger discovered America as a youngster and is a budding boy.

## VISITING MRS. ODEN.

Mrs. Travis Hooker, of Greenville, N. C., is the guest of Mrs. John William Oden, on East Main street.

## Unlimited Absorption.

The capacity of the United States for the absorption of objects of virtue would seem to be unlimited. The value of American imports of this character increases yearly by leaps and bounds. The latest figures for 1912 show an increase of 60 per cent. upon those for 1911. In 1910 objects of art of the value of \$23,000,000 were imported. The figures for 1911 are \$26,000,000. The distribution of the amount among the various European countries is instructive. First comes France, from which America takes \$17,000,000 worth; next England, with \$18,000,000. There is a drop of over \$18,000,000 to the \$1,254,088 of Germany. The efficacy of the stringent Italian regulations is shown by the fact that only \$740,692 worth comes from Italy—or not quite so much as comes from Canada. The imports of modern works of art into the United States in 1912 only reached the comparatively insignificant total of \$1,042,036, 35 per cent. less than the corresponding figures for the previous year.

## CLEAN CLOTHES CLEANER

than any other cleaner cleans them clean. Wright's. 12-9-tue&fri

## HUMBLE "BIDDY" BEST

IN THE END, MORE PROFITABLE THAN THE OSTRICH.

Figures Would Seem to Show That Bird of Prized Plumage is Prime Investment, but There Are Drawbacks.

No, she is not one of the \$10,000 biddies we sometimes read about, especially when it comes to laying eggs. She is any one of the several thousand ostrich hens that may now be found in some of our western states. You can figure it out for yourself. An ostrich hen, a "good" one, will lay about 100 eggs a year, and each egg contains as much food-material as 30 ordinary hen's eggs. That gives the ostrich credit for furnishing egg-food amounting to 3,000 hen's eggs per year.

But let's not all go into the ostrich business. There are several drawbacks. One of them is that it costs twenty dollars a year to keep an ostrich, or thereabouts, and they do not begin to lay until they are four years old. Then there is the first cost—no little item, as six-month-old chicks are worth \$100 each, while birds old enough to begin laying cost \$300 a pair. Rather, they are held to be worth that, as the ostrich breeders will seldom sell a bird at any price.

There is also the inconvenience of handling. The kick of an ostrich will discount any exercise of a mule's hind legs about 100 per cent, and they are said to be far from sweet-tempered, especially during the plucking season. Being eight feet tall, an ostrich that got really out of patience at a person would be rather more difficult to handle than a "mad" sitting hen, and most of us find the latter lady all we want to tackle. On the whole, perhaps we could be wiser to stick to the barnyard biddy for ordinary purposes, though the beauty of the aristocratic Mr. Ostrich should prove a great temptation to desert our first love.

Then, too, the Lady of the Plumage is, if the truth were told, rather lazy. She does not even lay her eggs in the past her mate has carefully prepared for her half the time. She leaves them scattered about just as it happens, and her patient consort has to roll them into the nest himself. Then, too, he gets most of the sitting to do, as his proud wife refuses to do nest duty except for a little while in the daytime.

Often incubators are used for hatching the ostrich chicks, and then there need be no family quarrels on the subject. The incubators used must be peculiar in construction, as one of the eggs is five inches long. Machines holding about fifty eggs are generally employed.

## Hens as Barometers.

A poultry raiser in Bohemia has produced curious results by altering and alternating the food given to his flocks.

It is known to many who have raised canaries for the market that Cayenne pepper put into their food results in a notable difference in the character and shade of their plumage, giving the feathers a smoothness and reddish tinge which adds very much to the sum for which the birds may ordinarily be sold. If the same ingredient be added to the diet, especially of white hens which have been hatched from carefully selected eggs, their feathers become pale rose, and they flash to a brilliant red when the weather is damp and a storm is approaching. These hens thus become veritable barometers, and the progression of color from pale to brilliant is so exact that a canary hen stalking about the barnyard is regarded as certain prophecy of a storm which may be as much as twelve hours distant.—Harper's Weekly.

## In Time of Peace.

The new "best," or under-class man, at West Point had never heard a heavy sledge gun fired. The first-class man was solicitous.

"You have never been close when one of these guns was fired, eh?" he inquired.

"No," commented the first-class man.

"Yes, sir. No, sir," replied the "best."

"Um-m. It's liable to bust your eardrums for life. See here, don't tell him I told you, but go to the commandant and ask him for—" The upper-class man was so solicitous that he whispered the rest of his communication.

A few minutes later the raw cadet presented himself before the commandant.

"Please, sir," he said, "I want some gun-cotton for my ears."—New York Evening Post.

## Ties Herself to a Man.

The motion-picture theater was well filled the other afternoon when a stout woman entered and wedged herself in next to a slender man.—For a time both appeared extremely interested in the pictures. Then the woman noticed that one of her shoe-laces was undone. After something of a struggle she bent over and finally succeeded in bringing both the laces together. A few minutes later the man arose and though he started for the door, down he went in the aisle and the woman gave vent to an exclamation. The audience turned from the flickering to the real catastrophe. She had knotted her shoe-lace with his. It was several minutes before the pair untangled and untied.—Florals (A.M.) News.

## NEW PASTOR ASSIGNED TO WASHINGTON

The appointments of the North Carolina Conference of the M. E. Church, South, were read Monday by Bishop McCoy at Oxford, N. C., where the conference has been in session for the past week. Preachers well known in this city have been assigned to the following places:

- Tar River circuit, C. R. Canipe; M. T. Pyle, presiding elder Elizabeth City district; J. E. Underwood, presiding elder New Bern district; Oriental, E. C. Glenn; A. McCullan, presiding elder Rockingham district; Conference Missionary Evangelist, L. L. Nash, R. C. Beaman, Henderson; Warrenton circuit, R. H. Broom; L. E. Thompson, presiding elder Wilmington district; C. C. Brothers, Montgomery circuit. The following is the appointments for Washington district:

- Washington District, J. T. Gibbs, presiding elder.
- Aurora Circuit, W. E. Trotman.
- Ayden Circuit, Daniel Lane, Jr.
- Bath Circuit, C. E. Durham.
- Bethel Circuit, H. E. Tripp.
- Elm City, J. M. Ashby.
- Farmville Circuit, H. E. Lance.
- Fairfield, John P. Bross.
- Fremont Circuit, R. R. Grant.
- Greenville—Jarvis Memorial, J. M. Daniel.
- Mattamuskeet Circuit, J. W. Aury.
- McKendree Circuit, W. J. Covington.
- Mt. Pleasant Circuit, J. J. Lewis.
- Nashville Circuit, J. L. Rumley.
- Rocky Mount—First Church, C. L. Reed; South Rocky Mount, Marvin and Clark street, J. B. Thompson.
- Stantonsburg Circuit, D. A. Futrell.
- Spring Hope Circuit, B. F. Watson, (supply).
- Swan Quarter Circuit, W. T. Phipps.
- Tarboro, L. B. Jones.
- Vanceboro Circuit, T. E. Wyche, (supply).
- Washington, E. M. Salpes.
- Wilson, M. Bradshaw.

## THEATER PARTY.

Mrs. John H. Small will give a theater party this evening at the N. W. Theater in honor of her house guests, Mrs. Foley and Mrs. LaMar, of Washington, D. C.

## Greatest of Problems.

Living, as we do, from day to day, we do not appreciate the great oscillations of thought, unless some shining moment marks them. Such a moment is marked by Sir Oliver Lodge's address before the British association, on immortality. Nearly two generations ago, men of science discovered the principle of evolution, and triumphantly proclaimed that material evolution would solve all the problems of the universe. Now at last is coming the swing the other way, and even science is beginning to recognize the vast possibilities of spiritual mystery.—Youth's Companion.

## Wages of Women.

The report of the bureau of labor on the conditions of woman and child wage-earners deals with data obtained from between 50,000 and 60,000 women and girls in twenty-three different manufacturing industries. Half of them are under twenty years of age and a fourth twenty-five or over. One-eighth of the group were married. Of the 38,182 women eighteen years and over for whom the facts as to age and earnings were gained, one-eighth received under \$4 a week and two-fifths under \$6. Practically only one-tenth reached or passed \$10.

## They Had Studied English.

The editor at the Wisconsin experiment station, desiring a complete reference library of the resources of the state, sent a circular letter to the horticultural, dairying and other agricultural organizations of Wisconsin asking for copies of their "last reports." Most of them came all right, but one organization wrote: "Our last report, we hope, is not yet published, but we take pleasure in sending under separate cover a copy of our latest report."

## Predicts Another Flood.

Segundo Sanchez, a native of Panama, is prophesying another Noachian flood and the destruction of humanity by it, having apparently been unshaken by the magnitude of the operations which joined the Atlantic and the Pacific. He has, it is reported, produced such an impression by his exhortations that his followers have built an ark and are engaged in collecting animals, "two by two," for preservation when the deluge comes.

## REPAIRING LINO TYPE

A machinist from the Mergenthaler Linotype factory, of New York, is now here engaged in thoroughly overhauling the Daily News machine and in order to place it in first class condition it had to be taken apart. Since the storm of September 3rd the machine has been badly handicapped. We ask our readers pardon for this issue but expect to greet them tomorrow in a more presentable appearance. From now on we trust nothing unforeseen will occur causing us to render excuses.

## SOCIAL NEWS.

Mrs. John K. Hoyt charmingly entertained at a luncheon yesterday at 1 o'clock in honor of Mrs. Foley and Mrs. LaMar, of Washington, D. C., who are the guests of Mrs. John H. Small. The color scheme was pink, being carried out handsomely in flowers and favors. The prizes presented to the guests by the hostess were pink. Mrs. Hoyt always entertains lavishly and on yesterday she proved no exception. The occasion was greatly enjoyed by the large number present.

On last evening Mrs. John G. Blount entertained at bridge in honor of Mrs. Foley and Mrs. LaMar. The color scheme consisted of all the Christmas colors and favors. Handsome prizes were presented to the guests. The entire evening was one of pleasure and Mrs. Blount sustained her graciousness as a hostess.

We want you to see those good strong hand-made shoes for boys—the kind that will give the very best of wear. We have these in lace or button gun metal. The best boys shoe offered in Washington for the price. J. K. HOYT.

## IMPORTS ITS PAVING STONES

Peculiar Condition of Affairs Existing in Brazil Is Due to Savage Indians.

Street paving in the towns of the Brazilian seaboard and of the Amazon river region is not the simple matter it becomes in this country. Because of the lack of accessible quarries from which paving material might be obtained, it is necessary to import cobblestones from Portugal for this purpose. Stone quarries in the lower Amazon basin are non-existent, and the headwaters of this great river, where it would doubtless be possible to locate quarries—are not only practically unexplored, but are also guarded by many tribes of hostile Indians. No one has yet been found who will brave these dangers for the sake of the despoiled cobblestones. Asphalt or crude oil is unsuitable for paving the thoroughfares of tropical cities because of the intense heat. The city of Para, situated near the mouth of the Amazon, is the largest user of Portuguese paving stones. This metropolitan lies almost on the equator, and is the chief "rubber port" of Brazil.

## Snipe, Bird of Mystery.

Very little is really known about the snipe. That he is extremely interesting, both naturalists and sportsmen agree; that he is mysterious, nobody who has attempted to make the slightest study of his ways and habits will deny. For, like the wind, one cannot tell "whence he cometh, or whether he goeth," neither can one say why he comes or why he goes, says a writer in Country Life. On a given bog one may find plenty of snipe today, and yet tomorrow hunt in vain for a single bird, and this even when no atmospheric change has occurred. The more one studies this bird the more one realizes how very little one really knows about him. The snipe is unique in his habit of drumming, or bleating, as it is sometimes called. The means by which the sound is produced is one of the most discussed subjects in ornithology.

## FOR UNIFORM ROAD LAWS

Canada to Join Hands With the United States if Premier Borden Approves the Idea.

Canada will be represented with the United States in an endeavor to obtain uniform laws pertaining to road building, if the proposition meets the approval of Premier Borden, according to an announcement made at the American Road congress by A. W. Campbell, deputy minister of railways and canals for the Canadian government. Mr. Campbell said that he would use his influence in urging the premier to consent to the appointment of a committee to confer with a committee representing the American Highway association and the American Bar association to evolve a plan for uniform road laws.

## Equalizing Things.

Two Irishmen arranged to fight a duel with pistols. One of them was distinctly stout and when he saw his lean adversary facing him he raised an objection.

"Bedad," he said, "I'm twice as big a target as he is, so I ought to stand twice as far away from him as he is from me."

"He aisy now," replied his second. "I'll soon put that right."

Taking a piece of chalk from his pocket he drew two lines down the stout man's coat, leaving a space between.

"Now," he said, turning to the other man, "fire away, ye spalpeen, and remember that any hit outside that chalk line don't count."

## TROUSERS PRESSED 12 1-2c

leg. Seats free. Wright's. 12-9-tue&fri

## TRY OUR NEW CORNED HAMS.

They are nice. E. K. Willis. 12-6-tue

## EVIDENTLY JOHNNY WAS NOT

Barber's Customer Took Somewhat Astonishing Question Literal and There Was Trouble.

Port Jervis had a big revival meeting, and among the converted was a barber, who had been a bad actor in his day. Once he put some home-made sea foam on a young man's hair, which turned the hair red, and the color didn't come out for a year.

The barber confessed to this and other crimes. It was a hard-won conversion, and the evangelist was elated. He saw a chance for passing religion on to a host of Port Jervis citizens, utilizing the barber shop as a gateway.

Over in a corner of the revival hall he talked to the knight of the striped pole.

"Now, Mr. Scissors," said the evangelist, "you have it in your power to do great good in the world. You're a man of impressive personality, and by reason of your position you meet men in all walks of life.

"Instead of discussing baseball or fishing with a patron, why not say a few words calculated to turn him into a cleaner path? Remember, each, as you have been reminded, that while he is large in life he must get ready for the end, which comes to all men."

The barber thought that was a fine idea, and pledged himself. Then he went back to his shop.

Little old Johnny Looseleaf came in from his day's work at the perfume factory. Johnny was afraid of ghosts and green horses and his wife. He wanted his whiskers taken off.

The barber got through with the lathering and half of the shave with brief remarks about the fog and the movement to fill up the abandoned canal. He was just poising the razor over the patron's throat when it occurred to him to address a few words of inquiry to Looseleaf concerning the state of his soul.

"Johnny," said the barber slowly, "are you prepared to die?"

The man in the chair opened his eyes and saw the razor, then the high light in the eye of the other.

"What's that?" he shouted.

With which he did a lightning leap from the chair, wretches that gentleman through his own plate-glass window.

## San Francisco's Founder.

The two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Father Francis J. Serra, the founder of San Francisco, will be celebrated in that city and by many Catholic societies throughout the nation on November 24. Father Serra, a Franciscan, was born in the Spanish island of Mallorca, in the Mediterranean, November 24, 1713. He first went to Mexico, and reached the palace of the Montezumas on New Year's day, 1750. His first labors were among the Indians of the Sierra Gorda. He was afterward superior of a band of priests in Lower California. He accompanied the military expedition of Galvez into what is now the state of California, and established the first mission at San Diego. At the time the Declaration of Independence was being drafted in Philadelphia, Father Serra and the three priests accompanying him were, on June 7, 1776, founding a mission three thousand miles away on the present site of San Francisco, which was named by them in honor of their order. He died on the 29th of August, 1784, at the age of seventy-one.

## Had the Desired Result

Preacher's Parable Extremely Effective in Filling the Depleted Coffers of the Church.

The collections at the negro church had been far from satisfactory, and the pastor had racked his brains to find a source to enlarge it. Finally he hit upon a plan.

The following Sunday, at church, he got up and said: "Brethren, here's been a most unfortunate occurrence here last night. A friend of mine has told me that his chickens was stolen last night. Now, he's done got his suspicious ob who done it, and he tells me that the guilty persons is in de habit ob giving sparingly at church. Bredder, pass de plate."

## Lammas Day in England.

Lammas, as August 1 is popularly called, was formerly our national festival. It remains an important date not only in Scotland, where this is a quarter day, but in many parts of rural England, where the pasture of "Lammas lands" belongs after August 1 to all parishioners who draw smoke, not through pipes, but chimneys. The word "Lammas" is a corruption of Loaf Mass, so-called because on this day it was once customary to present at church a loaf made from the new corn. Perhaps some relic of this custom still lingers among Sussex farmers, who try to get a loaf baked from the new wheat before the end of Goodwood week. During the eighteenth century the Dissenters of London kept high festival on Lammas day to commemorate the death of Queen Anne. If she had lived they would have been deprived by the "Schism Bill" of the liberty of educating their own children.—London Chronicle.

## BLOOD FEUD IN UPPER EGYPT

Natives Will Go to Almost Any Length in the Desire to Wreak Private Vengeance.

A romance of an innocent man being condemned to death for murder and having his innocence proved almost at the foot of the gallows is reported from Upper Egypt.

A very rich land owner was found dead on his doorstep. An inquiry was opened and his two brothers accused a certain Omran Mahmoud and his son of the crime, which they swore they saw them commit.

The accused men declared their innocence, but, despite the desperate and eloquent efforts of their advocate, Omran Mahmoud was sentenced to death and his son to imprisonment for life, and the date of the execution was fixed.

The advocate sent in a petition for the commutation of the death sentence to the khedive.

Time passed and he heard nothing as to the fate of his petition. The day before that fixed for the execution the advocate determined to approach higher quarters. Just as he was about to proceed on the errand two men were shown into his office. They were the brothers of the murdered man.

They had come to confess to him that their evidence had been false, and that Omran Mahmoud and his son were innocent of the murder of their brother. They had merely accused them of the crime because they wanted to keep the authorities from suspecting the true murderer, on whom they intended themselves to take vengeance.

The real criminal was at once arrested and on the eve of the execution Omran Mahmoud and his son were advised of what had happened.

This incident is illustrative of the lengths to which the native desire for revenge will go. It is, of course, not unusual for one man to accuse another of a crime to avenge some long-agoed grudge, but it is surely unique for innocent men to be accused of a murder because the family of the murdered person wish to avenge their loss themselves of the murderer.

## Wasting Time Over Details

Writer Points Out Mistake Made by Many Men Who Occupy Executive Positions.

Many a man in a high executive position impairs his efficiency by trying to do work that a low priced subordinate could accomplish just as well. "Some managers are proud of calling themselves masters of details when really the details have nearly mastered them," says a writer in System. "I remember the treasurer of a bank, note company, who was rather indolent, but he could do their work than they could. One day the president of the concern took him by the shoulder, backed him into his private office, rolled an armchair to the window, and said solemnly: 'Your business is to see office hours is to sit in this chair and think. That is what you are paid for—so do it!'

## Robson on the Rampage.

A baboon which comes from a show at Dudley, Warwick, England, swayed these people in the main street of the town as a great light with an iron shaft and a chain, which he had to be shut. The animal had been conveyed on the day of the escape from the barracks at Lichfield, the soldiers there having with their regimental pet, which had traveled with them from Gibraltar. At the show it was chained to the wall, but during the evening wrenched itself free, and knocking an attendant down, rushed into the street, which was filled with people. A boy was severely bitten on the leg, and had to be taken to the hospital, and a woman and a girl received lesser injuries. The animal, after being followed by an excited crowd, reached the roof of a house, and although it eagerly devoured the fruit that was thrown, it showed fight when its capture was attempted.

## Most Beautiful Thing.

A newspaper recently invited its readers to state in a few words what they considered the most beautiful thing in the world.

The first prize was awarded to the sender of the answer: "The eyes of my mother."

"The dream of that which we know to be impossible," suggested an imaginative person, and this brought him second prize.

But the most amusing thing was that which read: "The most beautiful thing in the world is to see a man carrying his mother-in-law across a dangerous river without making any attempt to drop her in."

## New Eastern Customhouse.

Among public buildings in America is the new customhouse which is being erected in Boston. It is to be a tower, 265 feet high, and in design is virtually a monument to crown the pyramidal skyline of the city. The old pyramidal shape of the city with the golden dome of the statehouse at its apex has been destroyed by the building of skyscrapers. Boston's building laws now forbid the erection of private structures more than 125 feet high, and the new customhouse is designed to rise above its surroundings and form the dominating feature in any view of the city.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

## COTTON MARKET.

Seed cotton, \$4.50.  
Lint cotton, 12 1-2c.  
Cotton seed, \$31.00 per ton.