

IMPROVEMENTS IN IGNORANCE.

General Barry's report concerning the deficient education of many candidates examined for admission to West Point Military Academy is interesting from more than one point of view. These young men were not taken at hazard from the mass of the youth, nor were they merely young men of average ability. Each of them had been selected and chosen as a cadetship. Each of them had presumably prepared for the examination he knew awaited him says the New York World. Yet many of them disclosed a degree of ignorance concerning history and literature that could hardly be surpassed among illiterates. One of these aspirants for West Point stated that Lee and Stonewall Jackson had fought at Princeton and Trenton, another that the battle of Waterloo was fought between "Napoleon" and "Wellington." Of Mason and Dixon's line it was said it "divides Maryland from Georgia." Among the "most important writers of the nineteenth century" were included "Eller Wheeler Wilcox, Gilbert Huggard, Jack London and Dorothy Dix." These young men are graduates of American schools. To them have been open from their boyhood all the advantages of public libraries and an incessant and well-kept stream of magazines and newspapers. They surely are not dull boys nor unambitious. Their ignorance, therefore, is as discreditable to their teachers as to themselves.

The idea of reclaiming Russian swamp lands is not new. Like many other valuable ideas it sprang up in the fertile mind of Peter the Great, who built his capital in a swamp, because it was the only place he could find affording access to the sea. Peter selected the Holmogori district in the province of Archangel for raising Dutch cattle because he noticed the resemblance between the grass of Holland and that of the Holmogori district. It is now pointed out that at small expense the vast swamps in the province of Archangel can be turned into lands covered with the Holmogori grass, and that after a few years a large portion of it will be fit for raising cereals and vegetables. A systematic reclamation movement is now planned by the Russian department of agriculture.

Germany is fast becoming Americanized, according to the reports of the British consul at Munich, who notes the symptoms in altered trade methods, the greater use of advertising by business houses and the growth of luxury and restlessness in private life, says the New York World. But what will strike Americans themselves as the best evidence of American tendencies in Germany is contained in the mounting cost of living in Germany and in the imperial chancellor's suggestion that it must be accepted as part of the new conditions.

Geologists are claiming that the greatest underground river in the world flows from the Rocky mountains underneath New Mexico and Texas, emptying itself in the Gulf of Mexico. This river is thought to be in places several miles wide, and it is believed that it feeds rivers that flow upon the surface. The artesian well belt of Texas is pointed to as the up-lifting of the water from this river, often from eight hundred feet below.

A Chicago man who was arrested for kissing a girl made a plea for mercy by explaining that he was so badly under the influence of intoxicants that he didn't know whether he was kissing a girl or a horse. The judge, being unwilling to accept intoxication as an excuse, fined the tender \$25 and costs. Things are not as they used to be.

Massachusetts is preparing to put in force a law which will compel the retirement of state employees on age limit, but with a pension. Inasmuch as part of the pension fund is to be obtained from enforced contributions from these employees, based on certain percentages of their salaries, there cannot be so much objection to the plan as there might otherwise be.

Music is said to increase a cow's output of milk, but farmers who subject their cows to phonograph concerts are lacking in the milk of human kindness.

New York officials prohibit flying on Sunday, but Newport authorities place no restriction whatever on the high "Rigby game."

Another American heiress has decided to cut herself adrift from her humble spouse, but the market price of Wabash and earls is as high as ever.

The size of women's hats appear to increase as the sense of woman's importance grows.

Thomas A. Edison tells us that four shears daily is enough sleep, but the average American citizen is not losing any sleep over the remark.

A medical comedy star who is using the straws accuses her husband of insanity. Why should anyone be cruel to a medical comedy star?

Another we know several women who have already started their Christmas shopping.

WHO'S WHO - AND WHY

AMERICAN POPULAR IN CHINA



On account of present conditions and also for the sake of broadening his education the infant Emperor of China, Pu Yi, may be sent to America. In the event of this happening the important mission of caring for the royal babe may be entrusted to Dr. John C. Ferguson, the eminent American, who is adviser to the Chinese board of communication. Mr. Ferguson, although an American, is one of the most trusted officials of the Chinese government and enjoys the special favor of the royal family. For years Dr. Ferguson has studied China—its problems and its people. He has spent the best years of his life among them and has gained great prestige in the land of the celestial. He is looked up to and admired throughout the country and in this instance, when the safety and welfare of the most sacred person in their empire is at stake the Chinese seem to know no one whom they can better trust than Dr. Ferguson. During his career in China Dr. Ferguson has been sent on some very important missions by the Chinese government. In 1901 he was sent on a special mission to investigate the commercial schools of the United States and Europe. In 1902 he was chosen secretary of the Chinese ministry of commerce and since 1903 he has been chief secretary to the imperial Chinese railway administration. He has also filled the important office of foreign adviser to Chinese viceroys. Several times Dr. Ferguson was sent as special representative from China to the United States. No foreigner in history has been more popular with the Chinese than Dr. Ferguson. On various occasions he has received honorary decorations from the emperor. The greatest honor he received was when the emperor decorated him with the Order of the Double Dragon.

WU FAVORS REVOLUTIONISTS

Dr. Wu Ting Fang, former Chinese minister to the United States, has accepted the post of secretary of foreign affairs in the new Chinese cabinet, throwing the weight of his vast experience in statecraft to the revolutionary cause. Wen Tsung Yao, another prominent Chinese, has joined the rebel cause. News of the action of these statesmen caused a sensation in Washington. The weight of Minister Wu's immense influence thrown to the revolutionary movement has startled the Peking government. It means to a great extent the Americanization of China.



While representing his country in America he took a vital interest in all things American. He was a close student of the United States republican form of government and its institutions and was thoroughly imbued with American ideas. The Chinese are demanding a republican government with every chance of success. Under the leadership of Mr. Wu his American training is bound to have a tremendous influence on the new Chinese institutions. It spells progress for China, for Mr. Wu's ideals are far in advance of the vast majority in his own country.

Mr. Wu traveled all over the United States, interrogating every one, even his interviewers, about the country, picking up a vast amount of information. He undoubtedly is the best known Chinaman in America and came closest to the hearts of the people there through his remarkable wit and wisdom. His action has stirred the United States to a keen interest in the success of the revolutionists.

LEISHMAN DONS A UNIFORM



The American colony in Berlin has been mildly excited over Ambassador Leishman's revival of the custom of wearing a uniform when appearing before the Kaiser. This custom was introduced by Ambassador Tower, who wore a uniform with the permission of President Roosevelt. Mr. Leishman has provided uniforms for all the members of the embassy staff who may appear before the emperor. Inquiry is being made everywhere to find out if Mr. Leishman enjoys a military or naval title which would warrant him in departing so far from the custom prevailing among American diplomats for many years. It is recalled that Charles Page Bryan, erstwhile minister to Brazil and Portugal, and now minister to Japan, was once a colonel on the staff of the governor of Illinois and appeared at court functions in a colonel's full dress uniform.

Ambassador Reid at London makes his appearance at court functions clad in knee breeches and silk stockings, and Ambassador Reid occupies a post where fastidious dress is required. The same custom prevails in Russia, and hitherto it has been in vogue in Berlin.

Ambassador Tower, when stationed at Berlin, ventured to appear in a uniform a few times, but the innovation was not popular. David Jayne Hill declined to follow the precedent.

Mr. Leishman was formerly minister to Turkey, and later ambassador to Italy. While he was in Turkey he received a good deal of publicity on a charge made by Mrs. William Warkentin of Kansas, who accused him of lethargy for not taking an active hand in obtaining the punishment of the man who murdered her husband.

YOUTHFUL SHAH OF PERSIA

The 13-year-old shah of Persia, Sultan Ahmed, has a troubled time since his accession in July, 1909. His father, Shah Muhammad Ali, had granted his people a parliament to avert threatening symptoms of rebellion. It was, however, endowed with only nominal powers and the shah soon had another uprising on his hands. He had almost crushed it when the powerful Bakhtiari tribe, practically independent brigands of southern Persia, helped the revolutionists to snatch victory out of defeat and force the monarch's abdication. Since that time the ex-shah has been constantly intriguing to regain his throne, but was completely routed last month and his principal general was executed by the Persian government.



The youthful sultan is a pathetic figure, powerless in the hands of his advisers and unable to gratify his natural affection for his father, for whom he cried bitterly at their forced separation. Judging from his manly appearance he would be more at home in an American playground romping with companions of his own age than in the seclusion of the lonely splendor of the "King of Kings."

Nothing is Runtier Male. There is little hope for the farmer who prefers to buy runtier male, and considers that breeders of purchased stock are robbing their customers. If he succeeds it will be in spite of his methods, not because of them.

Stun at Hotel "Music." A Seattle woman who wrote to the Gotham the other day reserving rooms must have nerves. She said she wanted quarters so far away from the city that she could not hear the music. The orchestra leader prides himself on being an artist too.—New York Sun.

Daily Thought. To live our lives, to get out what is in us, to do our share of the world's work and live brotherly with our fellows—that is what we are here for. If riches are an incident of that course of life, they are a good incident.—Howard S. Martin.

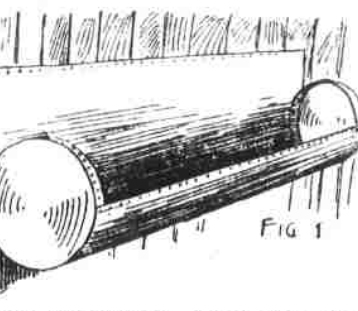
Live Stock

RATION FOR THE BROOD SOW

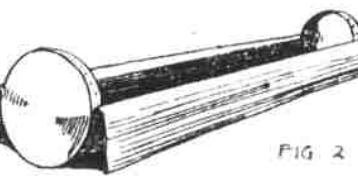
Hog Breeder Tells How He Obtains Satisfactory Results—Feed is Increased in Winter. The following ration for brood sows has given as good results as I could ask for, says a writer in the Breeders' Gazette. While it might not prove to be the best under all conditions, it has given very satisfactory results under my conditions. Four of my sows were purchased when seven months of age, then weighing 150 pounds apiece. They were kept another month, then bred. Now they are 17 months old, have farrowed their second litters and will weigh from 300 to 400 pounds in good, thrifty breeding condition. They have been fed somewhat near the following each day per head in addition to whatever they pick up in 15 acres of woods pasture, a portion of which contains a good stand of bluegrass and white clover: Shelled corn, four pounds; shorts, one pound; bran, six pounds; tankage, one-fourth pound. During the winter months, when the weather is cold and the ground bare, the amount of feed is increased as it is also when the litters become large enough to take all of the milk that the sow can supply. Just a few days before the sows are due to farrow I add a handful of oil meal per sow to their feed each day, which relieves any tendency toward constipation and causes the pigs to arrive in good shape. Cracklings would answer the same purpose.

OLD TANK FOR FEED TROUGH

Abandoned Kitchen Boiler Put to Practical Use by Texas Farmer—Cost is Merely Nominal. The writer lately saw the two feeding devices herewith illustrated on the farm of a Texas onion grower, and



upon investigating found that they were two old abandoned kitchen range boilers, bought for twenty-five cents each from an old scrap pile, says a writer in the Homestead. Many farmers have one of the old boilers on the farm and in case you do not



have one they will be found in the scrap pile at any blacksmith's. The manner of using them is so clearly defined in the drawings that further elaboration is unnecessary. Fig. 1 shows how the old boiler was used for making a feed manger and Fig. 2 shows how a second boiler was used for making a hog trough.

Treatment Before Planting. Just as soon as the trees are received from the nursery they should be well watered in, in moist soil, even though they are to be planted within a few days.

Do not stand the trees up in the original bunches and throw some loose earth against them, but cut the bunches open, spread the trees freely in trenches extending east and west, that are deep enough and wide enough to hold the roots, and lean the tops toward the south at an angle of about 45 degrees.

Thoroughly cover the roots, and from sixteen to twenty inches of the stems, tramp the earth firmly around the roots, and the trees will not suffer. In heading in large quantities use a series of short trenches, using the earth from one to cover the trees of the preceding row, and let the top overlap, all leaning in the same direction.

Selecting the Best Heifers. In fall and winter as the cows come fresh in milk will be just the time to select the most promising heifer calf to raise for the dairy. With good feeding, comfortable quarters and proper care they should do finely through the winter and be ready to turn to pasture another spring.

Dry Shed for Sheep. Sheep should have a good dry shed to sleep and rest in during the fall of the year and preferably should be shut in in such shed over night to assure against their not straying out during rains, as they often do if they are not shut in.

Attention to Colt's Feet. A horse with four absolutely sound legs is worth in the market almost what for the owner chooses to ask for him. This being the case, attention to the colt's feet and in the shoeing later is well worth while.

Nothing is Runtier Male. There is little hope for the farmer who prefers to buy runtier male, and considers that breeders of purchased stock are robbing their customers. If he succeeds it will be in spite of his methods, not because of them.

Feeding Two Much Corn. Hogs will make from 15 to 18 pounds of most live weight for each bushel of corn eaten, but because of this too many farmers feed too much corn.

FEED FOR INCREASED WEIGHT

Where it is intended to place sheep on Market Following Spring Grain Should Be Corn and Oats.

If the sheep keeper is feeding to increase weight, that is, feeding to place the sheep on the market the following spring, writes an Iowa breeder in an exchange, the grain ration should be corn and oats, when alfalfa or clover are provided as the roughage. If the roughage is corn fodder and straw, considerable bran should be added to the supply of rations.

Usually about a month or so after harvest, if there is a good crop of wheat, the price of bran is lower than at any other time of the year, and it is then that I lay in my supply.

If the breeder has none but breeding ewes, then the ration should be oats and bran, or bran, oats and peas at the rate of two parts oats, one part bran and one part peas. If fodder is to be the principal part of the forage a small supply of oil meal should be laid in.

FORM FOR A CONCRETE TANK

One Shown in Illustration That Will Not Break and Will Come Out Easily.

I have found an inside form for building concrete tanks that is a great improvement on anything that I have yet seen. You cannot possibly break it, and it comes out easily 24 hours after the tank is poured, says a writer in Farm and Home. The form is made



in four pieces, but instead of being cut at the corners, the cut is made just around the corner in each case, as shown in the illustration.

The best way to make it is to build it of the required size, then take a saw and cut down the sides a few inches from each corner, as at A. Make these cuts diagonal, so the form will pull apart easily. Then nail a board, B, securely over each cut, and allow the nail heads to project slightly, so that they can easily be pulled with a hammer.

Merits of Cows. Each breed of cows has some peculiarly distinctive merits all its own. While the question of "which breed" may puzzle some, it is really of less importance than "which cows in the breed." If the Jerseys give richer milk, the Holsteins give more, and the Ayrshires produce a better type of beef animal in case part of the calf crop must be made into steers.

Good Rack for Fodder. While fodder when given out of doors should be fed in feed racks and not on the ground, it is imperative for the ground surrounding the racks to slope away in all directions, and often it would be better still if the drained.

Weaning a Foal. When the foal is first weaned, milk a part of the mare's milk out twice each day for about a week to prevent a fevered condition of the udder. Bathing the udder with warm milk as milked out is good.

Brood Mare Profitable. There is no more profitable investment for the average farmer or business man, nor one which will bring more pleasure to the household than one or more high bred brood mares.

Hog's Thin Covering. It should be remembered that a hog's coat of hair is not heavy nor of the kind to keep out extreme cold. Consequently it feels the change in temperature most keenly.

Kindness is Best. Kindness is one of the cheapest and best ration you can feed to your stock. They relish it more than the most succulent thing you can put before them.

LIVE STOCK NOTES

Barley sprouts are a good feed, but not very palatable.

The coarse hog, like the elephantine steer, is a relic of the past.

Coarseness indicates low vitality slow feeding qualities and sluggishness.

It is surprising how fast a pig can be made to grow when it is properly fed and cared for.

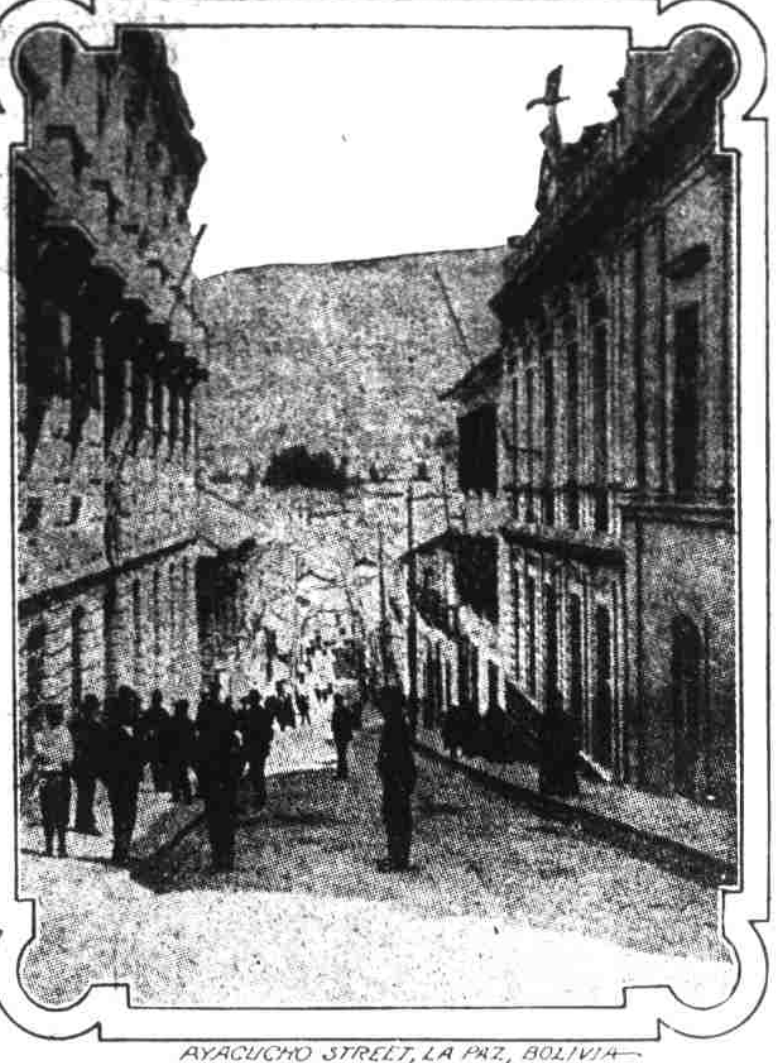
There is now more hog cholera in the country, if reports are to be relied upon, than ever before.

Lack of exercise and too much carbohydrate food will necessitate an early market for the young porkers.

A good boy to feed the herd is used to a great disadvantage if the breeding sows be not well selected.

As soon as the pigs begin to suck from the trough, give them some skim milk and cracked corn as a side dish.

REPUBLIC OF BOLIVIA



AYACUCHO STREET, LA PAZ, BOLIVIA

THE republic of Bolivia, the third largest of the South American republics, is one of the two countries of the American continent which possesses no seacoast. It extends over an area of 788,155 square miles, and has a population of 2,267,935, or 3.2 per square mile, being the most sparsely populated of any of the American republics.

The vast plateau, which includes over 40,000 miles, at an average altitude of 12,000 feet above sea level, and on which are situated most of the larger cities of the republic, is the most notable topographical feature of the country.

The mountains abound in mineral wealth. Tin, silver, copper and bismuth, with rubber, are the principal exports. Coffee, cacao, tobacco, sugar cane and other products of the tropical as well as many of the temperate zone are successfully cultivated, coca, from which cocaine is derived, is raised and exported in large quantities, and the forests contain numerous species of valuable woods, including rubber and cinchona trees, the bark of the latter being used for the manufacture of quinine.

Under the constitution which was promulgated on October 17, 1880, the republic has a democratic representative form of government. Government powers are delegated to three distinct and co-ordinate branches—legislative, executive and judicial.

The legislature consists of two houses, the senate and chamber of deputies, the former consisting of 16 and the latter of 75 members, both houses being elected by popular vote, the former for six and the latter for four years. Every male citizen over twenty-one years of age, whose name appears on the electoral register, may read and write, and who has a fixed independent income, has the right to vote. The senate is renewed by thirds every two years and one-half of the chamber of deputies is renewed every four years. Congress meets annually at La Paz, the actual capital, on August 6, the session lasting for a period of 60 days, which may be extended in extraordinary session by the president of the republic.

The president and two vice-presidents are elected for a term of four years and may not be re-elected for the term immediately following. The annual salary of the president is 18,000 bolivianos (\$7,200).

The republic is divided into eight departments, which are again divided into provinces, the latter into cantons or districts, and these again into municipalities. Congress at the close of 1910 authorized the creation of an additional department to be known as the "Departamento de los Chiquitos," the capital of which will be Puerto Suarez on the Paraguay river. The departments are governed by prefects, appointed by the president for a term of four years, while the provinces are governed by subprefects, also appointed by the president.

Products and Industries. It is upon her mineral wealth that the republic mainly depends, and present conditions all point to increased activity in the exploitation of these resources through the constantly increasing foreign demand for the mineral products of the country.

The mineral wealth of Bolivia, including nearly all known metals, is widely distributed and very rich and abundant. Great veins of one containing precious metals are found in the mountains of the republic, and while their exploitation is carried on to a considerable scale, yet, due to the lack of labor, capital and adequate transportation facilities, they are not fully developed, and in many instances remain entirely virgin. The tin, copper and bismuth mines of the republic are among the richest in the world.

Bolivia produces one-quarter of the total tin output of the world. Recently tin sold for \$1,000 a ton. The wealth accruing to the Andean republic from this source would be a simple arithmetical problem if this price was constant. Fortunately, during the past few years the value of a ton of tin has never gone much below \$750, and at the price the Bolivian tin miner is assured a good profit despite the difficulties of transportation. Tin, as a component of bronze, had its use as a metal thousands of years prior to the most remote history. As to when it

first assumed a separated characteristic composition we have no information. Certain economic factors operate against the highest exploitation of tin in Bolivia, namely, the necessarily heavy freight charges, the dependence on the price of Straits tin, the export duty and the fluctuation of the Bolivian money. In times these handicaps will be overcome and the proceeds of the tin mines of Bolivia proportionately increased. The 1910 production reached 530 long tons, valued at 50,000,000 bolivianos, or 12,000,000 American gold dollars.

Next to tin the most important product of Bolivia is rubber, the annual export value of which is estimated at \$1,000,000. The exploitation of the rubber lands is regulated by law through an annual export tax.

Cacao and coffee are cultivated in the departments of La Paz and Cochabamba, while other valuable vegetable products are produced in the departments of Beni and Santa Cruz. Coca, from the leaves of which the alkaloid of cocaine is produced, is one of the most valuable products of Bolivia.

The present government, impressed with the importance of stimulating agriculture in the republic, has imported wheat of superior quality from the United States and Argentina for the purpose of supplying a high grade of seed to home growers. Cattle, sheep and llamas are abundant, and to encourage the live stock industry of the country there is a national veterinary institute and a recently established agricultural school. There are several breweries in the country and a shoe factory, also many minor industrial establishments.

Radium Breezes for Gout. Radium-laden breezes are the very latest things in the treatment of gout. One of the papers read at the German Medical congress, which has just been held at Wiesbaden, was on the application of radium in the aerial state. Radium "emanation" has been established in Berlin and at Bad Homburg, and now Eins is to have one. A special apparatus from which radium is transported in a current of fresh, cool air, is fixed in a room, and the patients have merely to sit in the room and talk or read; the radium in solution in the air does the rest, and affects the blood through the lungs. This treatment is especially recommended for all gouty ailments. During the last hot summer it has afforded to gouty subjects something more than an amelioration—amounting almost to a pleasurable compensation for their aches and pains.

French Revolutionary Anniversary. Today being the anniversary of the massacre of the Carmelite priests of September, 1792, the crypt of their church in the Rue de Vaugrand was thrown open to visitors, and those who liked might gaze on the piled up bones and skulls that are arranged so neatly in the red draped chapel beneath the great jet black crown of thorns. Much of the beautiful garden of the Carmelite convent still remains, and the building itself has not been altered. Its picturesque facade looks upon the pleasant orchard where apples and pears are ripening in the sun and where white and yellow water lilies grow freely in the small circular pool.—Paris correspondence London Evening Standard.

Power of Human Nature. After all, whatever is an element of power, if it is properly extracted and applied, is at his command, without question, who can successfully use it. But in trying to influence people, to human nature under what you do. Remembering what we ourselves, like and want is to foresee fairly well what the great public will respond to. And there can be little guesswork in getting at this.

Poor Conversationalist. "Is your husband a good after-dinner talker?" "No, indeed. As soon as he's had dinner he lies down on the couch and falls asleep and I never get a word out of him."

Sounds Like It. "Pop, will you tell me one thing?" "Yes, Willie."

"If a man makes soda water fountain water isn't engaged in social conversation?"