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REFORM IMPOSSIBLE.

It is a waste of time and wind to undertake the reformation of the Missouri tight-wad. The only thing to do is to snaw him under.

LARGER AND BETTER THAN EVER.

We have it on unimpeachable testimony that the crop of New Year's resolutions will be larger and of better quality than ever before.

A RECORD BREAKING YEAR IN HOGS.

As a hog market St. Joseph has made an enviable showing during the past year. The number of hogs marketed here will reach 2,350,000. Compared with 1907 this shows an increase of almost a half million head.

IF YOU ARE NOT TOO PESSIMISTIC.

If you are not so wrapped up in pessimism that you are beyond hope you might find some encouragement for the future of the St. Joseph live stock market by comparison of receipts here and at outside points for 1908. Our cattle supply falls off, but the shortage is proportionally less than at any one of the outside points.

ILLS ALWAYS OVERESTIMATED.

Truly there is no great loss without some small gain. As Farm Journal says: "The damage by drought is almost always overestimated. Things are never quite so bad as they seem in the time of it."

SUGGESTIONS TO COMMISSION.

Kansas Farmer: Among the suggestions reported as having been made to the Country Life Commission in the state of Washington some contained appeals for aid in irrigation, some wanted highways built, some wanted government endowed schools, some protection from the trusts, the middleman and the railroads and some asked federal aid and co-operation in suppressing liquor selling.

GROWTH OF DRY FARM CONGRESS.

In January, 1906, a conference of dry farming experts and actual farmers in the arid districts of the West was called by the Governor of Colorado and the commercial bodies of Denver to discuss the problems then arising in the development of the dry farming districts.

ANOTHER BRAND OF TIGHT-WAD.

In feeling around for sentiment on the movement to establish a publicity bureau for Missouri and taking steps to get the state out of the wake of more western states, obstructions to progress are found that fully explain why this state is lagging behind.

It is but a few days since the project was put up to a St. Joseph citizen of more than ordinary prominence socially, financially and politically. This citizen (we are compelled by the laws of libel to accord him the dignity of a citizen) threw up his graft-hooks in holy horror.

That brand of citizen is the one and only reason it required seven years to build an auditorium in St. Joseph.

Another species of impediment to progress has been discovered in Missouri. And this species has by some queer dispensation of fate, broken into the state senate. He will be on hand in Jefferson City next week, loaded with forensics to hurl against any effort to drag the state out of the list of back numbers.

Just pause, gentle reader, and ponder upon the prospect for progress with that kind of talent in the halls of legislation. Some of these times Missouri will slip a cog and break away from that kind of influence and when she does there is apt to be an epidemic of suicide in the state that will stagger humanity.

IN WOMAN'S REALM

Chocolate Marshmallow Cake. Sift one and a half cups of flour with one heaping teaspoonful of baking powder. Stir four ounces of well washed butter with half pound of sugar to a light cream; add the yolks of three eggs and half a teaspoonful of vanilla; beat the whites of two eggs to a froth and add them alternately with flour and one gill of milk to the creamed butter; mix well and bake in two flly tins.

Three small potatoes, boiled and mashed; one cup warm milk, two eggs well beaten, one cake compressed yeast, one tablespoon lard, one tablespoon butter, one teaspoon salt, one cup potato water, Melt butter and lard in milk, mix well together, and pour into flour in mixing, take care not to use too much flour. Let rise and work down twice. Then cut with small biscuit cutter, dip tops in melted butter, fold and place in pans one-half inch apart. If wanted for 8 p. m. set about 10 a. m.

When cleaning walls with a steel shovel, then wipe with clean cloth after that, and you will have a brilliant mirror. Wax Steel Shovels. When cleaning walls with a steel shovel, then wipe with clean cloth after that, and you will have a brilliant mirror.

Get an ordinary mop handle, cut worn out underwear into strips about an inch wide; use enough of these strips to make the mop full and fluffy. If the strips ravel some, so much the better. Apply a little kerosene. Run this mop over the hardwood floors; taken up all the dust; saves sweeping and wiping up of floors.

That velvet can be washed successfully will probably surprise many persons. Make a lather of some pure white soap and hot water, souse the velvet up and down in it a number of times, then put it in two more hot lathers, and finally rinse thoroughly in clear, warm water. Do not wring it out, but hang it on the line and let remain until it is half dry. Remove it from the line and iron on the wrong side. The steam will raise the pile and make it look like new.

Instead of using rubber sheeting for the baby's crib or child's bed, a piece of good white oilcloth will serve just as well. The rubber sheeting is sometimes not impervious, however, much may be paid for it, and the oilcloth, costing only 10 or 15 cents a yard, proves more serviceable, wears twice as long, and is easier to keep clean.

When out of cold starch, a good substitute is cornstarch used in the same proportions as the cold starch. A girl who has theories on the evils planned shields, will not use the tiny safety ones sold for that purpose. She compromises by not sewing in her shields after each washing, but hooks them in. A small nonrustable hook is sewn on the corners to each shield and an eye to correspond on the proper place on the armband. The preliminary sewing takes only a few minutes and is much easier than fastening a shield with needles or thread each time it is changed.

Take large, shapely potatoes, bake, when done cut off top of each and scrape insides out carefully, do not break the skin. Mash insides, adding

FOREIGN TRADE

Continued from Page One.

ly following the financial depression of October and November, 1907, were continued several months, until the surplus stocks of manufactures and grain were, to a considerable extent, at least, disposed of. Then by the middle of the calendar year 1908 exports fell until they had made the lowest record since 1904, amounting in July to only 103 million dollars, but gradually increasing until they were 172 millions in October and 161 millions in November, and indicating that the exports of the calendar year 1908 will amount to about 1,750 million dollars, making the excess of exports over imports for the calendar year 1908 approximately 650 millions of dollars.

These marked reductions in the imports and exports of the United States during the calendar year 1908 are not entirely the result of a falling off in the quantity of merchandise moved into or out of the country. Doubtless there has been a marked decrease in the quantity of certain materials imported, especially in those required for use in manufacturing; but it is also doubtless true that a part, and in some cases a considerable part, of the reduction in value of imports is due to lower prices rather than smaller quantities of the articles in question. For example, the value of raw silk imports in the ten months ending with October, 1908, is quoted by the bureau of statistics records as but \$48,553,281, against \$59,571,928 in the corresponding months of 1907; yet the same statement shows that the quantity of raw silk imported in the ten months of 1908 exceeded by more than a million pounds the quantity imported at the higher valuation in the same months of 1907, the quantity of raw silk imported in the ten months ending with October, 1908, being 14,110,218 pounds, against 12,973,689 pounds in the corresponding period of 1907, when values were more than 11 millions in excess of those quoted for the larger quantity in 1908.

Fresh Air for Complexion. Tell a young woman that fresh air is good for her health and she may not take the trouble to try to have as much of it as possible, but tell her that it is good for her complexion and she will sleep on the roof rather than forego the pleasure of it. And that is just what it is good for as much as anything else, for the complexion is the outward sign of good running order of things within.

HOLDS TWO RECORDS

TEXAN HAS HAD SOMEWHAT REMARKABLE CAREER.

C. E. Whitmore is Only One-Footed Man That Ever Served in Uncle Sam's Army—is Champion Military Bugler.

Galveston, Tex.—The only one-footed man who ever served in the United States army is C. E. Whitmore, an employe of the Tremont hotel, this city, and he also enjoys the distinction of being the champion military bugler of the United States and of being the only one-footed man who ever served in the United States revenue cutter service.

Whitmore, during the Spanish-American war, had his foot shot off by the Spanish, but he was not injured, and was only temporarily disabled. It was cork.

His service in the army lasted two years, and he was in both the cavalry and artillery branches of the government's fighting force. He served in the revenue cutter service eleven years and two months, and retired only when more stringent regulations made it impossible for the authorities to further overlook the absence of his natural foot.

During the 32 years which he spent with the United States forces Whitmore saw service in almost every branch of the military and naval forces. His service began when he was 13 years of age. At that age he enlisted as an apprentice on the Philadelphia, and was first assigned to the gunboat Saratoga, under "Fighting Bob" Evans. He served under Evans four years, and rose to be chief bos'n mate.

Whitmore's title as champion bugler of the United States was won in 1900, when he was trumpeter at the West Point military academy. He blew 135 calls, ordered at random, in one hour and thirty-five minutes, winning the prize, a silver bugle. This he presented to the military academy, and it is there now among the institution's relics.

During the Spanish-American war Whitmore served under Gen. Shafter and Wood, and it was at Siboney, June 29, that his cork foot was shot off and he was ordered by Gen. Wood to report to the wheelwright for surgical attention.

Whitmore blew the last bugle call that President William McKinley ever heard. At that time he was a civilian attached to the military force at the Pan-American exposition, and as President McKinley entered the Temple of Music he sounded three flourishes, announcing the approach of a distinguished personage to the people gathered within. Hardly had the notes died away when a shot rang out, Whitmore was near enough to be an eyewitness of the assassination, and his testimony regarding the occurrence is on file in Washington.

Whitmore's foot was torn off in Galveston harbor when he was serving on the revenue cutter Galveston, in 1892. While a wire rope was being unreeled, it caught his foot and tore the member off. After several months in St. Mary's infirmary here he was able to get about, and devised a foot which enabled him to walk about almost as well as he formerly walked with his natural foot.

In 1895, despite the absent foot, Whitmore applied for admission into the army and was examined personally by Surgeon General Sternberg. This examination was supplemented by another in which experts of the Johns Hopkins hospital participated. They pronounced him capable of doing military duty, and he was permitted, on the authority of a special board, to continue his military career.

BROKE ALL PIANO RECORDS.

J. M. Waterbury Plays Twenty-Eight Hours Without Stopping.

Muncie, Ind.—Practically exhausted by 28 hours of continuous piano playing, not once stopping for any purpose and kept awake part of the time by the fumes of ammonia sprinkled on the floor and by stimulants, J. M. Waterbury broke the world's record for piano playing, according to his own statistics. He had a previous record of 27 hours.

He began playing the piano at eight o'clock in the evening and played continuously until next midnight. Just to see that he was fooling nobody, "night owls" dropped in upon him at the theater at various times, and all were convinced that the man was honest and was faithfully at work. In addition to food and water given to him at various times, Waterbury had two "rub downs" in order to keep him awake, but his fingers never left the piano keys.

Almost the entire repertoire of popular music was exhausted by his performance, and he repeated selections time after time when his memory of new things failed him.

Waterbury got a cash prize from the theater management for his performance.

Letters by Wire in France. Paris.—The ministry of posts and telegraphs has supplemented the existing special letter delivery system in France with what are termed "letter telegrams." This new system provides that letters may be telegraphed between any two points in France at night at a cost of one-fifth of a cent a word, and that they will be delivered the next morning.

Colorado Farm & Ranch Lands

COLORADO FRUIT LANDS.

WRITE TO F. D. ALLEE, Grand Junction, Colo. Ask him about Grand Valley Fruit Lands.

Advertisement for St. Joseph Stock Yards Company, St. Joseph, Mo. Includes details about market services, yardage rates, and contact information.

Advertisement for St. Joseph Stock Yards Bank, Live Stock Exchange Building, South St. Joseph, Mo. Promotes banking services for farmers and ranchers.

Advertisement for The First National Bank, St. Joseph, Mo. United States Depository. Features New Year Banking Plans and a capital surplus of \$800,000.00.

Advertisement for Hammond's "Mistletoe" Hams, Breakfast Bacon, Lard and Canned Meats. Hammond Packing Co., Chicago, Ill. and St. Joseph, Mo.

Advertisement for Shamrock Whiskey, Distilled for Medicinal Purposes. Imported from Rye and Barley Malt. St. Joseph, Mo.

Advertisement for C. F. Rock Plumbing & Heating Co. Modern Plumbing, Steam and Hot Water Heating. 115 North Third Street, St. Joseph, Mo.

