

AN EVIL IN FOOD THE LAW SHOULD REACH.

In reference to the use of alum baking powders Prof. Schwetzer, of the State University of Missouri, says: "The deleterious effects of alum and the soluble salts of alumina upon the human system, even when used in small quantities, are too well known to need relating; their use in baking powder is dangerous, and should be restricted."

"The effects of the continuous use of alum baking powders are thus summed up in a medical publication:— "Alum taken into the stomach retards the digestion of the food."

"It is an irritant which inflames and irritates the stomach and intestinal canal. "It is an astringent and tends to constipate the bowels, which interferes with digestion."

"It renders the albumen of the food partially insoluble, and therefore takes away from its nutritive value."

"It is absorbed into the blood, which it tends to thicken and coagulate. The free flow of the blood through the organs of the heart is thus retarded."

"Its continued absorption into the system causes some forms of nervous prostrations and many of those affections of the nerves from which both women and men suffer."

"Fourteen grains of alum have caused the death of a child. Larger doses have frequently resulted fatally in the case of adults."

"No drug so powerful and deadly, no matter in what proportions it may be employed, can safely be used in any article of food."

Sold by the Shock.

A farmer went on a visit to a friend. After dinner the husbandman requested to be shown round the town.

After visiting several places, they finally reached the electric lighting works.

"What, d'ye call this place, Dan?" queried the farmer.

"This is called the electric plant," was the reply.

"Plant! What do they grow?"

"They grow currents."

"How do they sell 'em—by the bushel?"

"They don't sell 'em by the bushel; they sell 'em by the shock."—Stray Stories.

In the west the farmer, stock-raiser, merchant and manufacturer are busy, their products are bringing good prices, and the great agricultural belt of the Upper Mississippi Valley is enjoying a degree of prosperity that is probably unequalled in history.

The crops this year have been good, the acreage larger than ever before known, and the beneficent results of the harvest far-reaching enough to have a favorable effect on every man, woman and child in the region.

Several expressions of opinion on the subject are being published by the passenger department of the North-Western Line, among them the following concerning Nebraska's outlook:

Governor Meeker says: "Nebraska will produce 200,000,000 bushels of corn and over 40,000,000 bushels of wheat this year. Her total crop acreage is 15,000,000 acres and the value of live stock is over \$150,000,000. Our state banks show an increase in deposits since June 9th of \$1,016,200 and their reserve is 35.13 per cent, where the legal requirement is only 15 per cent."

"Nebraska's outlook is indeed promising. The state holds an enviable position in this great country of ours and her name is no longer synonymous with drought and poverty."

Senator Millard says: "This being an agricultural region, it is most gratifying to see the farmers are very prosperous; the merchants have been doing an excellent business this year, and the outlook for all kinds of business is good."

Mr. Rosewater, publisher of the Omaha Bee, says: "During my residence of forty years west of the Missouri I have witnessed marvelous strides of progress, but at no period within my memory have the people of this section been more generally prosperous and contented with existing conditions than they are at this time. The prosperity we are enjoying is not confined to any one class, but embraces the farmer, the stock-raiser, the merchant, the manufacturer and the wage-worker alike."

In bragging of the seed don't forget the soil.—Judge.

EVERY WALK IN LIFE.

A. A. Boyce, a farmer, living three and a half miles from Trenton, Mo., says:

"A severe cold settled in my kidneys and developed so quickly that I was obliged to lay off work on account of the aching in my back and sides. For a time I was unable to walk at all, and every makeshift I tried and all the medicine I took had not the slightest effect. My back continued to grow weaker until I began taking Doan's Kidney Pills, and I must say I was more than surprised and gratified to notice the backache disappearing gradually until it finally stopped."

Doan's Kidney Pills sold by all dealers or by mail on receipt of price, 50 cents per box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.



Cures Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Croup, Influenza, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Asthma. A certain cure for Consumption in first stages, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use at once, or will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Sold by druggists everywhere. Large bottles 50 cents and 60 cents.

WISCONSIN CURE FOR CONSUMPTION. Cures all kinds of Lung Disease. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.

TASK WAS TOO BIG.

Colombian Invasion of Panama Proved a Failure.

Soldiers, Instructed to Build a Road to Panama, Endure Great Hardships, Have Their Provisions Spoiled and are Obligated to Give Up the Job.

Colon, Dec. 12.—The French steamer Fournel arrived here Friday from Savannah and Cartagena. She was the first vessel to reach this port since the decree closing those ports to vessels to and from Colon was cancelled. The Fournel brought passengers and mails. The authorities of the department of Bolivar are still unreconciled to the loss of the isthmus, which they do not regard as hopeless, as they issued clearance papers not for the republic of Panama but for "Colon, Department de Panama."

Gov. Melendez, in an interview Friday, said: "I have just learned unofficially, through passengers on the Fournel, that the Colombian warships General Pinzon and Cartagena left Cartagena at the beginning of December, having on board the same 450 troops which Gen. Tovar brought to Colon. These were landed at the Rio Atrato, with instructions to build a road towards Panama. But after terrible suffering for four days in their efforts to go up the river in small boats and canoes, and being in want of provisions of all kinds, their supplies having been soaked with water and completely spoiled, the troops resolved not to go any further. The passengers also affirm that the troops have since returned to Cartagena."

News has been received here from the interior to the effect that 4,000 Colombian troops left Bogota a fortnight ago to go down the Magdalena river, but on reaching Honda they received orders countermanding the movement and returned to Bogota on December 2. It is believed that Gen. Reyes is responsible for the countermanding of the order.

Gen. Melendez further said that he had sent commissioners to the chiefs in the Indian territory requesting them to come to Colon and interview the officials of the government on important matters concerning their interests. One chief from the Indian settlement at Point Diablo has already accepted this invitation and arrived here. He gives assurance that Colombian troops have not been seen in this territory and further that they could not be allowed to cross the country.

DUN'S REPORT.

Better Conditions in the Iron and Steel Industry are Apparent. New York, Dec. 12.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Developments are not encouraging as to cotton spinning, but there is evidence of better conditions in the iron and steel industry, while retail trade feels the usual impetus as the holidays approach. Idleness among New England lumber mills is offset by increased activity in the south. Owing to pressure of grain there is still delay in handling freight promptly at a few western points, but as a rule traffic facilities are adequate, and railway earnings for November show an average gain of 4 per cent, over last year.

It is significant evidence of the attitude of consumers that while output of pig iron declined to about one million tons in November, the lowest point in several years, furnace stocks rose to 658,107 tons, far exceeding all records. Such a striking discrepancy indicates clearly the extent of contraction in this leading branch of manufacture. From present indications it seems almost certain that the situation will show some improvement by the end of this month.

Quotations of cotton goods are now practically nominal. In the woolen goods division new lines of overcoats have been opened at a slight decline below last season's prices, and there is no improvement in other branches of the industry. Failures this week numbered 331 in the United States, against 269 last year, and 29 in Canada, compared with 39 a year ago.

A Mysterious Murder.

Washington, Dec. 12.—With six bullet wounds in various parts of her body, almost any one of which would have caused death, Mrs. Rachel Ann Beall was found murdered in her home Friday. Many mysterious features surround the case. The police have two men and a woman under arrest on suspicion of knowing something about the crime. All of them are members of the murdered woman's family and evidence points to a long standing dispute as the motive of the murder. Those in custody are Andrew Weedon, husband of Mrs. Beall's stepdaughter, and Charles Oelrich and his wife Jessie, son-in-law and daughter.

Situation at Butler Improves.

Butler, Pa., Dec. 12.—But one death from typhoid fever and four new cases were reported Friday. The doctors of the city are all taking a more hopeful view of the situation and several stated yesterday that they believed the backbone of the epidemic had been broken. Treasurer Shufflin has received over \$21,000 and there is enough money on hand to maintain expenses for 10 or 12 days.

A Disastrous Explosion.

Pittsburg, Dec. 12.—Seven persons were seriously burned and a number of others sustained slight injuries yesterday in a fire and explosion at Armstrong's cork factory. One man is missing. The fire started in the grinding room on the second floor and gained such rapid headway that many of the 600 employes narrowly escaped from the building with their lives. Over 100 girls were carried by the police and firemen from the second floor by means of ladders. The explosion was due to a motor and boiler and partly wrecked the building. Loss \$40,000.

A BLOODLESS SKIRMISH.

It Occurred Near Tobasco, Col. Between Miners and Deputies—Military Force Reduced at Cripple Creek.

Trinidad, Col., Dec. 10.—While a number of deputies and clerks were driving from Berwind to Tobasco Wednesday afternoon, they were fired upon by several men hid behind rocks and brush. The deputies and clerks jumped from the wagon and returned the fire. The shooting continued at intervals for 30 minutes, though no one was injured. Sheriff Clark and posse were preparing to leave for the scene on a special train when word was received that reinforcements of guards had arrived from Tobasco, half a mile away, and the ambush party fled. No arrests were made.

The trouble is said to have originated in the morning when a miner came into the mine office at Berwind and became very abusive. He was kicked out by a deputy and it is thought that he stirred up his friends to start the difficulty.

The double funeral of Velano and Band, the miners killed by guards in the battle at Segundo Monday night, will be held in Trinidad, from the Catholic church, this afternoon under the auspices of the "Miners' union. This being the first blood shed since the strike began, great preparations are being made for a demonstration.

Denver, Col., Dec. 10.—Orders were issued at the capitol yesterday for the withdrawal of 150 soldiers from Cripple Creek, reducing the military force there to 500 men.

A BIG MERGER.

More than 4,000 Telephone Companies are to be Combined.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Final arrangements were made Thursday for the incorporation of the Inter-State Telephone association into one company. This means the amalgamation of over 4,000 independent telephone companies in Illinois, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Nebraska, Minnesota, Ohio and Michigan, involving property valued at more than \$200,000,000. This action was taken at the closing session here of the association. A permanent committee was appointed to work upon plans of action for the company.

"One of the first things to be done by the new company will be to form a connection with the Illinois Telephone and Telegraph Co. in Chicago, bringing our company in direct competition with the Bell lines in Chicago," said President Hull, of the association. "The Illinois Telephone and Telephone Co., which is now operating lines in the down town district in Chicago will connect its wires with those of our company at Hyde Park, early in the spring. The two companies will then build lines to the Chicago city limits, where they will be connected with those of the independent telephone companies."

WOULD CHECK DIVORCES.

Ohio Commission on Uniform Laws Reports to Gov. Nash.

Columbus, O., Dec. 10.—The Ohio commission on uniform laws has filed its report with the governor. The commission recommends an act to establish a law uniform with the law of other states relative to migratory divorce. It provides that "no divorce shall be granted for any cause arising prior to the residence of the complainant or defendant in this state, which was not ground for divorce in the state where the cause arose."

No person shall have a divorce on any ground arising in this state who has not resided in Ohio for one year, with bona fide intention of making Ohio a permanent home. No one shall be entitled to a divorce unless the defendant shall have had personal notice. No divorce shall be granted except on actual hearing.

More Pay for Miners.

Hazleton, Pa., Dec. 10.—William Dettrey, president of the United Mine Workers of the seventh district, was notified yesterday by Commissioner Neill, who was appointed to compute the rate of wages due the miners each month under the operation of the sliding scale, that the men are entitled to a 7 per cent. advance on November earnings, the selling price of coal at tidewater now being \$4.85 per ton. This is 1 per cent. higher than the rate paid the previous month.

Reducing the Force.

Sharon, Pa., Dec. 12.—The Carnegie Steel Co. has again reduced its office force at South Sharon and after January 1 there will be but five or six of an original force of 50 or 60 clerks left. Notice has been served on a large number of clerks, heads of departments and mill superintendents that after the first of the coming year their services will be dispensed with.

Four Children Burn to Death.

Manchester, Conn., Dec. 10.—A message from North Coventry, a small village 16 miles from here, states that while Fred Olds, a farmer, and his wife were visiting friends last night, his house caught fire and four small children, who had been left in bed, were burned to death.

Jones Issues a Call.

Washington, Dec. 10.—James K. Jones, chairman of the democratic national committee, has issued a call for the committee to meet at the Shoreham Hotel in this city, January 12, for the purpose of deciding upon the time and place of holding the democratic national convention.

To Prevent Extortion.

Boston, Dec. 10.—As a test case and in the hope of putting a stop to a system of extortion said to be practiced by foundry foremen to make ignorant men pay for their positions, a bill in equity has been filed in the United States circuit court against Alexander Mattson and Robert Gill, of Lynn, two foremen in the General Electric Co.'s works. The suit was begun at the instigation of the International Iron Molders' union. The plaintiffs in the action are several Russians, all members of the Iron Molders' union.

LEADERS MEET.

The Republican National Committee Assembles at Washington.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The national republican committee, presided over by Senator M. A. Hanna, met at the Arlington Hotel Friday for the purpose of deciding the time and place for the next national republican convention.

After a brief session, at which Senator Hanna congratulated the committee on its past achievements and predicted future success, the committee paid its respects to President Roosevelt at the White House. The exchange of greetings between the president and the committee was most cordial. A group picture of the committee was taken on the White House portico, in which the president and Senator Hanna occupied the foreground.

A small amount of routine business was laid before the committee by Secretary Perry S. Heath, the most of which was referred to the executive session to be held today.

Gen. C. R. Braxton, of Rhode Island, who had announced that he would present a resolution for revision of the basis of membership in the national convention, stated that on conferring with members since his arrival in Washington he had decided not to bring up the question at this time.

St. Louis and Chicago, which seem to be the chief rival cities for the convention, are maintaining headquarters at the Arlington, and will be given an opportunity to present their claims at the session today.

MUST KEEP PLEDGES.

Minister Powell Informs the New Government of San Domingo that Agreements Made by Former Government Must Be Honored.

San Domingo, Dec. 12.—United States Minister Powell has been officially informed that the provisional government is not disposed to accept as final the settlements of American claims made with the late government of President Wos y Gil. Minister Powell has replied that the government of the United States considers the cases of the San Domingo Co., the rights of the Clyde Steamship Co. under its concessions and the claims of J. Sala & Co. as having been finally settled and that discussion of these claims will not be reopened.

The minister has also informed the provisional government that his government expects a full compliance with all the agreements entered into by the United States government with the former governments of Gen. Wos y Gil and Gen. Vasquez and that his government will not recognize the provisional government until it acknowledges all the agreements made with preceding administrations. The British, French, German and Belgian ministers have refused to recognize the provisional government and will not give it formal recognition until similar action is taken by the United States.

Quiet prevails here, though the financial condition of the provisional government is a desperate one.

CONCESSIONS.

Russia and Japan are Said to Have Made Them—The Japanese Parliament is Dissolved.

Tokio, Dec. 12.—The diet has been dissolved. Hope had been entertained in official circles that in view of the extraordinary nature of the step taken by the lower house in its reply to the speech from the throne the vote on the reply would be reversed. The allied parties, however, at a meeting held outside the diet decided the action taken should not be reversed and the dissolution followed.

It is reported in official circles that the reply of the Russian government to the Japanese demands is on its way here, and it is forecasted that the final proposals of Japan are considerable modifications of the claims made in the last note. It is also said that Russia has made concessions regarding the difficulties in Manchuria.

Will Ask for Wood's Presence.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Senator Hanna has decided to request the senate committee on military affairs to subpoena Gen. Wood to answer some of the charges made against him by opponents of his confirmation as major general. The committee expected to close its hearing December 16, but it is now believed that at least two weeks more will be required. Should Gen. Wood be subpoenaed an adjournment will be taken to give him time to return from the Philippines.

Says Councilman Demanded a Bribe.

Kansas City, Dec. 12.—Before the grand jury at Kansas City, Kan., yesterday W. N. Woodward, a brick paving promoter, testified that a member of the city council came to him after he finished paving a street and demanded \$1,000 before he (the councilman) would consent to allow the engineer's estimate and appropriation in payment for the work.

Kronfeld is Sentenced.

New York, Dec. 12.—Max Kronfeld, the insurance adjuster who made a sensational confession of dishonest methods employed by public insurance adjusters, was yesterday sentenced to not less than three years nor more than three years and nine months in state's prison for the presentation of a false claim to an insurance company.

Bonier is Held for Murder.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 12.—Charles Bonier, 74 years old, was held Friday on the charge of having murdered Franz and Johanna Ehrhr, the aged couple who disappeared on November 19 and whose mutilated bodies were found on December 3, buried in their own yard. The inquest on the deaths was held yesterday before Police Judge Murphy. Not all the evidence in the hand of the authorities was brought out at the inquest. Just enough to secure an indictment was presented. Judge Murphy announced his verdict without leaving the bench.



Another club woman, Mrs. Haule, of Edgerton, Wis., tells how she was cured of irregularities and uterine trouble, terrible pains and backache, by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—A while ago my health began to fail because of female troubles. The doctor did not help me. I remembered that my mother had used Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound on many occasions for irregularities and uterine troubles, and I felt sure that it could not harm me at any rate to give it a trial. "I was certainly glad to find that within a week I felt much better. The terrible pains in the back and side were beginning to cease, and at the time of menstruation I did not have nearly as serious a time as heretofore, so I continued its use for two months, and at the end of that time I was like a new woman. I really have never felt better in my life, have not had a sick headache since, and weigh 20 pounds more than I ever did, so I unhesitatingly recommend your medicine."—Mrs. MAY HAULE, Edgerton, Wis., Pres. Household Economics Club.

FREE MEDICAL ADVICE TO WOMEN. Don't hesitate to write to Mrs. Pinkham. She will understand your case perfectly, and will treat you with kindness. Her advice is free, and the address is Lynn, Mass. No woman ever regretted having written her, and she has helped thousands.

When women are troubled with irregularities, suppressed or painful menstruation, weakness, indigestion, leucorrhoea, displacement or ulceration of the womb, inflammation of the ovaries, general debility, and nervous prostration, or are beset with such symptoms as dizziness, faintness, lassitude, excitability, irritability, nervousness, sleeplessness, melancholy, "all-gone" and "want-to-be-left-alone" feelings, blues, and hopelessness, they should remember there is one tried and true remedy. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound at once removes such troubles. Refuse to buy any other medicine, for you need the best.

Frances Cook, Box 670, Kane, Pa., says: "DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I suffered for ten years with leucorrhoea, but am glad to say that through the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and her Sanative Wash I am cured, for which I am very thankful."

\$5000 FORFEIT if we cannot forthwith produce the original letters and signatures of above testimonials, which will prove their absolute genuineness. Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass.

Advertisement for Cascarets Candy Cathartic. Includes text: 'BEST FOR THE BOWELS', 'CANDY CATHARTIC', and 'THEY WORK WHILE YOU SLEEP'. Also includes a testimonial and a list of ailments cured.

THIS ELEGANT SOLID GOLD SELF-FILLING FOUNTAIN PEN FREE! Sent by mail on receipt of price. No postal certificate required. STRATFORD PEN CO., STRATFORD BLDG., WALNUT ST., CINCINNATI, O.

Advertisement for Pommel Slicker. Includes text: 'THE GENUINE TOWER'S POMMEL SLICKER', 'HAS BEEN ADVERTISED AND SOLD FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTURY', 'LIKE ALL TOWER'S WATERPROOF CLOTHING, it is made of the best materials, in black or yellow, fully guaranteed, and sold by reliable dealers everywhere. STICK TO THE SIGN OF THE FISH.'

Advertisement for Daxtine Toilet Antiseptic. Includes text: 'DAXTINE TOILET ANTISEPTIC', 'FOR WOMEN', 'A Boston physician's discovery which cleanses and heals all inflammation of the mucous membrane wherever located. In local treatment of female ills Daxtine is invaluable. Used as a douche it is a revelation in cleansing and healing power; it kills all disease germs which cause inflammation and discharges. Thousands of letters from women prove that it is the greatest cure for leucorrhoea ever discovered. Daxtine never fails to cure pelvic catarrh, nasal catarrh, sore throat, sore mouth and sore eyes, because these diseases are all caused by inflammation of the mucous membrane. For cleansing, whitening and preserving the teeth we challenge the world to produce its equal. Physicians and specialists everywhere prescribe and endorse Daxtine, and thousands of testimonials prove its value. At druggists, or sent postpaid 50 cts. A large trial package and book of instructions absolutely free. Write The R. Paxton Co., Dept. A, Boston, Mass.'

Advertisement for Winter Tours. Includes text: 'WINTER TOURS TEXAS, ARIZONA, OLD MEXICO and CALIFORNIA', 'Are most inviting during the winter months. The rates are reasonable. Mention where you want to go and we'll gladly send Tour Book and particulars. Address GEORGE MORTON, 10 KATY BLDG., ST. LOUIS, MO.'

Advertisement for Patents. Includes text: 'PATENTS 48-page book FREE, 1000 list references. FITZGERALD & CO., Box 8, Washington, D. C.'

Advertisement for Gold Filled Watch. Includes text: '\$15 Gold Filled Watch for 50 cts. Send no money. Write for particulars. HARRIS, P. O. Box 218, BOSTON, MASS. CALIFORNIA FARMS. Catalogue sent free. C. M. Wooster Co., San Francisco.'