

year; to stand in a car forming part of a swaying, rushing train, surround-ed by open-mouthed sacks and pigeon holes, shuffling letters and papers at the rate of 2,500 per hour; knowing that every error goes against your record; to work sometimes sixteen to twenty-four hours at a stretch, often sleepy and hungry—these are some of the daily experiences of the railway mail clerks. Then add to these the constant possibility of being knocked into eternity or crippled for life in a

Yet they are a contented lot, these railway mail clerks, happy only when "on the road." But it is not the environment for a comestic man, nor for him who has passed the top of the hill of life and is jogging down into the dark valley beyond. Thus a majority of the clerks are young men; these are preferred by the Post Office Department, for they have fewer cares, are more active, and can work faster and with greater accuracy.

Uncle Sam is proud of the person-nel of this expert force and takes every precaution for their safety and Their hours are fixed, and overtime is required only in cases of absolute necessity.

A Traveling Postoffice.

A railway macar is technically an "R. P. O." or Railway Post Office. It runs between stated points, receiving and distributing mail through post offices along the line. It is a government post office on wheels, and is United States territory, though owned by the railroad. It is as well built and as completely equipped for its purpose as a Pullman. Iron racks for mail sacks extend along each side. Above are tiers of open boxes and bigeon holes. "Work tables" si e on the racks. There is neither plush nor mahogany. It is built for work and is the abode of workers.

Let us imagine that this car is the "R. P. O." leaving Pittsburg, Pa., for Cleveland, Ohlo, over the Pennsylvania road. The l'ittsburg city post office delivers to the car mail for points east of Cleveland (called "local mail") and "through mail" for Cleveland and points west. The train rushes out of from the station just passed. Some of it is for the next office, some for Cieveland, some for the for west. The mail is dumped on a table and a clerk pounces on it like a wolf on a lamb. He tosses letters in all directions. He throws papers and packages hither and yon, this way and that, as fast as an expert eard player can distribute a deck. But every piece of mail finds its mark in a particular sack or box. The sacks and boxes are labeled; but the labels are unnecessary; his quick eye catches only the personnel in the station just passed. Some of the office, some for the next office, some for the for west. There are all little affection as the world's sugar product being in 1840 but 4.3 per cent, in 1850 63.7 per cent, while 1900 showed for beets the highest proportion in the world's production of sugar, for intelligence, are evidently about the supidest things with wings—merely animated acquisitiveness, indeed working as hard as an American millionaire to pile up wealth far beyond any possible needs, without a single taient of the addressee. Though the work personnel, the addressee. Though the work personnel, the addressee. Though the work personnel, the addressee of training. Note the marvel-than a single blow against any of their degree of training. Note the marvel-than a single blow against any of their degree of training. Note the marvel-than a single blow against any of their decembers unpolied to the world's sugar product being in 1840 but 4.3 per cent, in 1850 63.7 per cent, while 1890 63.7 per cent, in 1890 63.7 degree of training.

Skill Needed to Throw Sacks.

Throwing off sacks calls for another kind of skill. The expert knows from the weight of sack, speed of train and pressure of wind just when and how to let the sack go. He can drop it on a mark. If a platform be crowded or littered with baggage be must pick a clear spot lest his cannon bail of leather and mail form up against some unsuspecting traveler. I sense to see that between toil to-day and hunger to-morrow there is so little have seen a mail clerk drop a sixty and hunger to-morrow there is so little pound sack from a train going a mile to choose that differences of opinion a minute, landing it lightly on a truck on the subject are entirely permissible. twenty feet from the track. Of course there are accidents, and

danger is always present. Yet in ten years past but 96 clerks have been killed on the road—an average of ten

The mail car is usuafly next the tender and runs a greater risk in accidents than a passenger car. But the position is sometimes advantation to build a name. But in India there are several ways of promoting this industry. When a woman comes to the hospital carrying her nose in a napkin you may fairly assume that her husband suspects a breach of the Seventh Commandment. When a man appears

To be one of an army of 10,000; to the wide. The comparatively travel by railroa 1 23,000 miles every tender and mail car responded instantly, while the heavy baggage and home are increasing their output of passenger coaches constituted a drag both cane and beet sugar, but even that broke the coupling. Relieved of this burden the engine, t nder and not keeping pace with the increasing mail car shot ahead and leaped the home demand, and as a consequence twenty-foot draw, landing on the oth-

The New York Times reprinted from Montreal paper-which doubtless lifted it from one in London—a most 600,000 tons in 1905. amiable story to the effect that when bees are taken to Australia they learn ing honey for a winter that never this country is not as great as in the comes and that they thereafter aban- United Kingdom. The total consump-

lar's worth of merchandise brought in to the United States during the last year more than 150 million dollar's worth was sugar. Sugar formed by far the largest single item in this largest importation which the United States has ever made in any single The U ited States is increasing

steadily and rapidly its consumption of sugar. The sugar producers at twenty-foot draw, landing of the engine called engine called and side-wiped the iron bridge work, tearing its jacket to tatters and while population meantime increased while population meantime increased but 50 per cent. The annual average importation during the five-year period ending with 1885 was 1,031,149 tons, and during the five-year period ending the results of supply and demand can with 1905 the annual average was 2,106, hardly be changed by law to any beneficial extent. 176,035 tons in 1885 to approximately

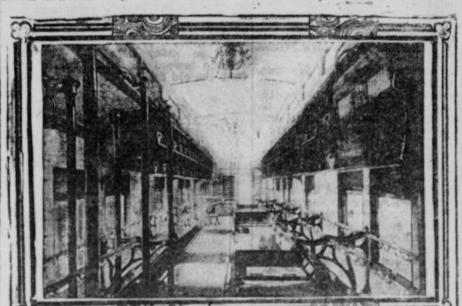
OUR SUGAR CONSUMPTION.

Beet Sugar Now More Than Half the

World's Total Production.

Of the more than 1,200 million dol

The United States is the largest sugar-consuming country in the world, No man desires this : ore earnestly in a single year the uselessness of stor- though the per capita consumption in



INTERIOR OF A MAIL CAR.

station. No stop here. A "helper," sport or idieness all of their time exopens a side door, swings out the mail
catcher" and picks up a mail sack
"catcher" and picks up a mail sack
that day's hunger. No doubt this tale
from a crane by the track. Now the
will shock and grieve a large number
of the world's sugar production,
from the station just passed. Some of
part, says the Times, it very considerthe percentage which beets supplied
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the percentage will be percentage with the percentage which beets supplied
that day's hunger. The percentage will be percentage with the percentage will be percentage with the percentage will be percentage will be percentage.

Note the marvel- than a single blow against any of their lous accuracy—less than two per cent. more dangerous foes, dying themselves of errors in the work of the whole as a result of it, while the foes, after force for a given year.

The whistle blows for another way station. The door is opened, a sack is thrown off, and the catcher yanks another sack about for distribution. And carried to an absurd extreme only for the profit of human robbers should be whose scheme is so arranged that whole scheme is so arranged that the profit of human robbers should be whole scheme is so arranged that there is just time, working with the utmost speed and accuracy, to make connections.

There Sectors the profit of human robbers should be able so quickly to draw an inference able so quickly to draw an inference able from the failure of winter to appear when expected. "Almost" is not "quite," however, and we, too, can be used to be able to a what we want to believe. So we lieve what we want to believe. So we Throwing off sacks calls for anoth-kind of skill. The expert knows tralia-where everything is possible,

Famous for Artificial Noses.

The city of Indore is modern and ugly and uninteresting. Apart from being the prosperous capital of a rich killed on the road—an average of ten a year, with a force numbering up to 11,000. The legal representative of each clerk so killed receives \$1,000 from the government. Arrangements are contemplated for payment of an annuity to every clerk permanently disabled in line of duty.

Seem a very limited industry on which to build a name. But in India there



A PECULIAR WRECK

the engineer saw that the draw was in the same plight you may set him open. His speed was such that he down as a usurer who has fallen into could not stop. But he was a quick the hands of his clients, and has had no Portia to plead his cause. Indore moment he suddenly threw the throt- is the Mecca of these unfortunates.

don their dear-bought fame as models tion in 1904 aggregated 3,767,000 tons,

of ashes in the yard."

"Ah." laughed the big husband, speak of them with more reverence." "Reverence, Why should I?

"TOO MUCH LAW-MAKING."

REPRESENTATIVE BOWERSOCK, OF KANSAS CITY, CRITICISES BILL MAKERS.

Says Selfishness and Ambition Lead them through a Wilderness of Folly and Buncomb and Valuable Time is Wasted.

"I have long criticised and seriously objected to the making of so many laws, and I have long contended that men are not made good and honest by statute." remarked Representative Justin D. Bowersock, of Kansas, re-

"The comparatively indiscriminate enactment of legislation on all subjects

"Corporate greed, cupidity, and corruption can be, ought to be, and will be modified, curtailed, and brought within decent limits, to say the least. than I do; no man will go further along any reasonable lines in any legitimate and practicable effort to bring this about, whether it be in connection with railroad rates, Standard Oil rebates, beef trust, unlawful combination, watered stocks, or whatever or whoever may burden the consumer or producer, unduly or unjustly, for extortionate gain.

"'Equal rights to all, special privileges to none' will not come through impracticable, non-enforceable laws drawn on the theory that we have reached the millennium.

"The ordinary legislator, and his name is legion, has a legal panacea for every ill. If he had as much honesty as assurance, the title of his bills would be:

"'An act to make men do business on earth as it is done in heaven,' a consummation devoutly to be wished; but let us not forget the effect of the Pope's bull against a comet and the beating of tom-toms by the aborigines on an eclipse."

A Two-Foot Rat.

A warehouseman at the Oriental dock, in Baltimore, had the distinction the other day of killing the larg-Pittsburg. The whistle blows for a station. No stop here. A "helper," sport or idleness all of their time exseven pounds, and from the tip of his

was killed and measurements proved that he was the biggest ever seen in port.

The animal is supposed to be a sp cles found in South America and it is "Why, they are the ashes of the de- believed he came here in a ship, all of which carry many rodents.



SENATOR LODGE DOES NOT RECOGNIZE HIS AMENDED BILL

IN IRONICAL VEIN.

objectionable section: to fill such vacancy,"

to deprive national ta-makers of their can not be ignored. Are these to be

If the Committee on Foreign Relations had permitted this section to stand, it would have been an abject capitulation to the force that are surreptitiously robbing Congress of its patronage powers. The idea that young consuls that have made good records should be promoted and that

Senator Lodge's bill providing for prominent citizens recommended by the reorganization of the consular service has been shorn by the Committee at the foot of the list was intensely on Foreign Relations of its most in repugnant to the Senatorial sense. As cendiary and detestable features-the statesmen representing watchful and exprovision for examining candidates pectant constituents, many of whom exfor appointment, and this still more ercise valuable influence in behalf of their party, they could not consent to "That whenever a vacancy shall closing the door of hope. Every Con-occur in the office of consul general, gressional di-trict has its share of or consul above the sixth (\$4,000) class, elderly and highminded students of the nembers of the two classes next below world's affairs, men who may have been that in which the vacancy occurred rudely buffeted by fortune and who shall be deemed eligible to be selecte? the fill such vacancy." cruel strokes by landing in a pleasant This was a palpable attempt to engraft the merit and promotion system done yeoman service for their party, upon the consular service, and thereby ancient sacred right to assist the President in selecting consuls general and high-salarted consuls. A majority of the committee regard it as the sordid injection of commercialism into a purely political matter, on the flimsy pretence that the consular service is a business institution.

If the Committee on Foreign Relations and thrust aside by populations and thrust aside by populations and thrust aside by populations. Superseded and thrust aside by populations and thrust

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