

JASPER WEEKLY COURIER

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SHOP



NOW



FARMING, A PROFESSION.

One of the greatest and most urgent economic problems pressing upon the people of the North American continent is how to make farm life attractive, and how to retain young people on the farm. With the ever-increasing drift to the cities, the world is threatened with starvation. We are told that the young people are being attracted to the "professions," which in some cases are being lamentably overcrowded. What is a profession? How distinguish it from a trade or an occupation? A recent writer specifies four marks which characterize it. A profession implies a special body of technical and scientific knowledge, an extended period of study and practice, a service rendered which is essential to public welfare, the recognition of definite moral obligations by its members to each other and to the community. Why should not farming be exalted as a profession? The day is long past when it can be classed with unskilled labor. Vastly more is required than being able to hoe potatoes. Our agricultural colleges are establishing a high standard. In the scientific, business, and political worlds farmers are taking high place by virtue of their education and practical training. That the largest welfare of the community is very dependent upon them needs no argument—the last five years has furnished practical demonstration—wheat had more to do with the winning of the war than any other single factor. As to professional ethics few have acted upon so high and unimpeachable moral standards as the tillers of the soil.

Rag Dolls



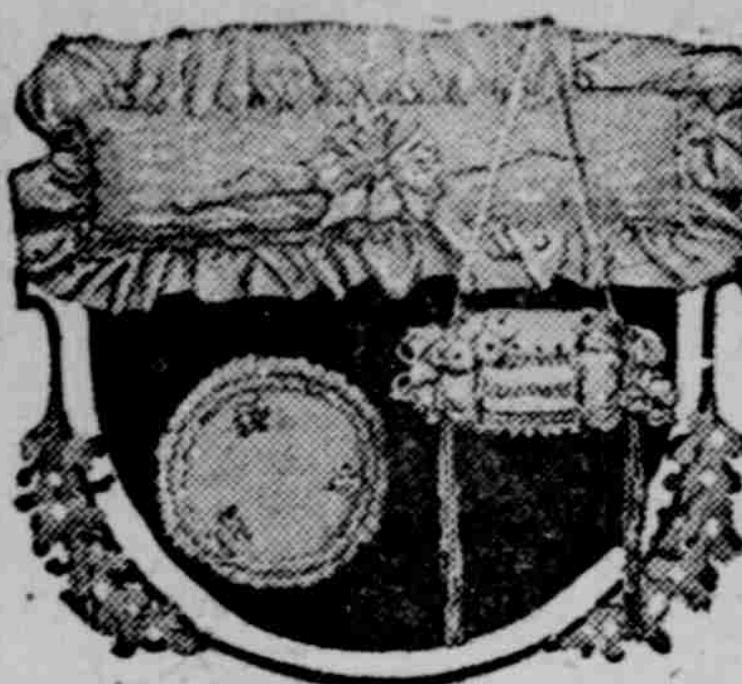
Every Christmas the rag doll makes its appearance. There are rag dolls of high and low degree. Two high-class little persons are shown in the picture. These are made of heavy domestic cut by a paper pattern which can be bought. Their faces are painted with water colors, their hair made of yarn, and they are completely dressed with clothes that afford the joy of taking them off and putting them on. Even their slippers may be made of black oil cloth. One of these baby dolls is supposed to be a boy and he has a pair of rompers instead of a dress under his coat.

The first thing they used to ask a man from the farm when he came to the city was "How are all the family?" The first thing they ask him now is "How is the apple crop?"

Consumers are astounded to learn that the cattle and sheep raisers are in urgent need of financial assistance, and wonder what became of all the money paid in recent years for meat, wool and leather.

An apirist says the only time bees sting is when they are pressed or when they do not feel well. You may be able to recall a barefoot boy who once upon a time had the misfortune to disturb the patients in a bee hospital.

Santa Claus Favors



Christmas wouldn't seem natural if a new pin cushion failed to make its appearance.

Three new ribbon-covered cushions shown above include a long roll covered with moire and edged with a frill of plain ribbon, a small round affair edged with lace, and a barrel-shaped, hanging cushion, decorated with lace, baby ribbon and satin-covered fruit.

THE TERM OF LIFE.

A rule which holds fairly true among the higher mammals is that an animal lives five times as long as it requires for its muscular system to reach its full strength. The dog is fully developed at between two and three years of age, and lives 15 years; the horse reaches his prime not later than five, and if he escapes overwork and ill usage, lives to be 25 and even 30. In fact, the rule seems to be an understatement of animal expectation of life, rather than an overstatement. The one conspicuous exception is man, who seldom reaches his full muscular strength before he is 25 and counts himself living on borrowed time if he passes the age of 70. If man were as well circumstanced in this matter as the horse, dog or cat, his average term of life would vary from 110 to 125 years, says Chicago Journal. To state the case thus badly makes it sound fantastic, yet if there is any reason why human beings should not be as tenacious of life as other higher mammals, science has failed to discover that reason.

Call things by their right names. We are always willing to give a proper name to the thing we dislike. But we do not carry it far enough. We give big No. 12 names to some of our little No. 2 troubles. We give a big high-sounding name like "sacrifice" to some act which really consists in a plain sort of duty. We are hypnotized by words. And it is a harmful condition to encourage. It affects the mind badly. Little difficulties are made to swell up until they fill our whole horizon; while the real big blessings of life are dwindled down to nothing. Let us go back to the honest use of names, says Dearborn Independent. We ought to be as accurate about the size of our difficulties as about the size of our shoes.

The ex-emperor of Austria is reported to be seeking the throne of Hungary. One would suppose the deposed kings had enough of the business, especially when experience proves they cannot run it, but that does not hinder the desperation with which they cling to a job too big for them to manage. In view of the increasing tide of democracy, thrones, especially made-over ones, are a shaky investment.

Continued reports come of the falling of the soviet government in Russia, but it is to be feared the wish is father to the report. The soviet idea is still functioning, to the destruction of Russia and the enlightenment of the rest of the world, but the Russians have not yet so far progressed as to throw it off for a civilized rule.

In 1790 only 29,000,000 pounds of tobacco were sold in the United States. Last year the sales reached 914,000,000 pounds. This is an increase that has been exceeded only by the number of tobacco users who never have any.

Veterans of the overall movement of a year ago point with pride to the fact that they gave the first kick that started the downward movement of clothes prices. In time we may have an organization of Ancient and Honorable Sons of Overall Wearers.

While there has been a decline in the wholesale prices of foodstuffs, the retailers seem not to have heard the news. Uncle Sam should undertake the job of shouting it in their ears.

It is entirely probable that a few hundred thousand French soldiers would like nothing better than an order to proceed through Germany to Poland, and to meet with armed resistance on the part of the Germans.

"One needs money to go to the moon," says Professor Goddard of Clark university. Thus have we an eminent authority's opinion that the important part of going up is coming down.

AVOID CHRISTMAS TREE FIRE

Utmost Care Should Be Used in Trimming, Thus Preventing Fatalities in the Homes.

PEOPLE cannot be too careful in guarding against fire when trimming a Christmas tree, says a correspondent in Good Housekeeping. There have been scores of Christmas tree fatalities in homes and in Sunday schools which a little care might have prevented. The writer once set a tree in a blaze, consuming nearly half of it, tinsel ornaments going with the green branches. A tiny candle had been wired too high, and it took only a few minutes of its brisk heat to char a branch above it and start a flame. A thick portiere was torn from its pole and thrown over the blaze. If it had not been at hand the light window curtains would have caught fire in another minute. Since that Christmas our tree has always been placed in the center of the room, and we have eschewed cotton wool, tissue-paper angels, and celluloid ornaments. First of all, we wire each candle securely in place at the furthest end of a branch which has nothing above it, either fir tree or trimming. Then as the tree is denuded we watch carefully the fast-disappearing candles. Sometimes one of them, nearly burned down, will topple over or be merely a spark of flame, but near to something inflammable and be a menace.

GOOD TURNS ON CHRISTMAS

Chance for All to Aid the Friendless in Having Happy Yuletide Season.

REAL purveyors of Christmas cheer may often find a market for their precious wares outside the pale of charity, for all homeless people are not necessarily poor, and neither are all childless homes necessarily unhappy. Housekeepers who are short on homes may combine these two lackings and make Christmas day a merry delight for the grown-ups in spite of these unfortunate conditions.

There is always something peculiarly pitiable in the idea of any one "flocking alone" which should appeal to the home-maker without a family, so that this should be the occasion for her to gather in all the bachelor maids and homeless men of her acquaintance and give them a joyful opportunity to "flock together."—Even the Scrooges, if she knows any, should be rescued from their lonely bowls of gruel and persuaded to open their shut-up hearts and wear them outside for general inspection, as Dickens says, "For Christmas dawns to peek at." Therefore, collect six or eight of these birds of a feather who are destitute of near-by kith and kin and make your Christmas feast a center of good cheer for all the charming solitaires you are able to draw within its radius.—Woman's Home Companion.

Good Year for Violets.

Sweet peas have been forced for the Christmas market only for many years past. They must be started blooming before the cold weather begins. Then they will bloom all winter. Daffodils do not get in until February, but almost all the rest of the spring flowers, hyacinths, narcissuses, bavardias, and so on, are on the Christmas counters. Easter lilies, too, though rather cold and white for Christmas, are sold. Violets, are fine this winter, deeply, darkly, beautifully blue. Some magnonette now comes in enormous sprays. There are carnations but the bright red Christmas carnation is the favorite. Holly comes from the hills of Maryland and the south. The wild holly supplies the market and there has never seemed to be any perceptible diminution of the supply. Great quantities of it are purchased by all sorts of dealers, who decorate their stores with it and send out a sprig attached to every Christmas parcel.

SAD FATE

Wooden Soldier: After faithful service in the nursery for a year, I will be cast aside for a new toy this Christmas.



Dumb Animals Remembered.

The noblest observances of Christmas are its charities. In all ages and among all peoples the poor have always been bountifully remembered on that day, and in many parts of England and Scotland even the lower animals are given an extra feeding that they, too, may have cause for rejoicing when all mankind are glad. Many readers will remember Burns' address of the auld farmer to his mare when presenting her with an extra feed of corn on New Year's day. "A guid New Year I wish thee, Maggie, hae, there's a ripp to thy auld baggie."

To Avoid the Rush.

Soldier, just back from his harvest furlough, to the sergeant—"My father wants to know if I'll get another furlough at Christmas. Here is the picture of the pig that is going to be killed."—Flegende Blatter.

BOXES, OLD CHRISTMAS FAD

Ancient Custom at One Time Developed into Demand as Right and Became Nuisance.

THE bestowal of Christmas boxes is of great antiquity, and was formerly the bounty of well disposed persons who were willing to contribute something toward the industrious. Later the gift came to be demanded as a right and became somewhat of a nuisance. Long ago the Roman Catholic priests had masses for everything, and if a ship went to the West Indies they had a box in her under the protection of some patron saint, into which the sailors put money or other valuables in order to secure the prayers of the church. At Christmas these boxes were opened and were thence called Christmas boxes. In England the day after Christmas is known as "Boxing day," from the Christmas boxes which used to be in circulation, and in the British museum can be seen boxes covered with green glaze with a slit in the side for money and presents.

CHRISTMAS BAG FOR GUESTS

Container for Presents Attached to Backs of Chairs With Bow of Red Satin Ribbon.

THE Christmas bag is an innovation planned by one housekeeper. The breakfast table is to be decorated with a mirror in the center, outlined as a star by holly sprigs, and with a slender cut glass vase in the center holding red chrysanthemums. Long-stemmed flowers also radiate from the central star with the blossoms toward the plates of those for whom the flowers are intended. Every napkin lies beneath a Christmas card with a sprig of holly tied upon it with red ribbon, and to the back of every chair is tied a bag with a big red satin bow. The bags are of all sizes, and each is full of individual gifts. One is an opera bag, another a shopping bag in black and gold, still another is brown leather and gold nailheads, another a bag for collars and cuffs, another a gay laundry bag, one is suggestive of the scraps grandmother will put into it, and the other of books that a small girl will carry to school. All are as dainty and fine as careful workmanship and good materials can make them, and there will be fun emptying the materials out of the various bags.

Differ on Christ's Birthday

THE early Christmas were divided as to the date on which the nativity of Christ should be celebrated. Some of these celebrated it on the first or sixth of January, other groups observed September 29 and still another March 29. As early as the fourth century, however, the period of the new year had been generally accepted as the time for celebrating Christ's birth. The Western branch of the church observed December 25 and the Eastern church January 6. Finally it was decided that all should celebrate December 25. Pope Julius I, who presided in the first half of the fourth century, is credited with having set the date.

Roses at Christmas.

The fact that we can get flowers out of doors at Christmas time is in itself a sufficient justification for growing the Christmas rose, but besides that it is worth growing for itself, says Country Life in America. Its large white flowers, fully two inches across, resembling those of a giant single rose, although as a matter of fact it belongs to the same family as the buttercups, never fail to excite enthusiasm in the season of snow and ice. The plant itself grows only six to eight inches high, and the large, greenish-white flowers are borne in clusters and nestle closely among the dark green leaves.

Novel Christmas Salad Bowl.

By the time that the salad course arrives at the Christmas dinner all that surround the festive board are apt to be warm. It will be refreshing to see the salad come to the table in a block of ice. Smooth the ice square with a hot flat iron and make a cavity in the center with the same utensil. Border with crisp lettuce and sprigs of holly and fill with salad. Place the block on several thicknesses of cloth or a deep platter and put around it a wreath of holly.



DO IT EARLY

Bug—Doing your Christmas shopping now? Why it's a long time off.
Mrs. Snail—I know, but the store is half a block away.

An Easy Gift.

Small boy, running up and displaying done—"Just look, uncle, what I've done with my example! Got a whole million! I'll give it to you as a Christmas present."—Flegende Blatter.

Gift Muffs and Furs



Those wonderful plushes that are now known as "wool furs" make neckpieces and muffs that are just as warm, just as handsome and more durable than those made of skins, and they are not at all hard to make. A set made of sea plush is shown here.

GOING TO CHURCH.

Or better, make it a question: Are you going to church today? It is a question whose answer in your action concerns you more than it does the church. The churches might find other uses; the ministers might find employment for their talents which would pay them higher salaries, goodness knows. But would our community and communities, our state and nation, be able to endure the loss? It is a question which permits of no debate. In large measure it is answered by the fact that the churches have ever since the foundation of the first one grown in number, in variety, in number of members and attendants. It is true that the number in proportion to the population has not, in general, grown. Nevertheless, the influence of the churches is such that the number of those who feel their influence is greater in proportion to the population than it was three-quarters of a century ago, says New Haven Register. Yes, the church, in this country, at least, stands as its own justification, and its accomplishment is proof of the necessity of its continued existence.

The preachments of the psychiatrists that an active mind and body are conducive to sustained mental health have never before been so decisively demonstrated as in the suicide slump of the war era. In England and Wales the rate declined by 25 per cent and in America from 1916 to 1919 the suicide rate was lessened by 37 per cent. The actuating spurce of this sudden sunlight in darkened lives was, beyond all doubt, the enforced opportunity for service in the common cause, says Portland Oregonian. The war engulfed a host of petty, personal miseries, drew men and women from the folly of self-pity and the dangers of morbid introspection and gave to each the powerful tonic of a task. So suicide fell.

An extensive survey made by the United States Department of Agriculture shows that 96 per cent of the farm women do the family washing and more than half of them are still using a wash board. Sixty-one per cent of the farm women carry water an average of 40 feet. Ninety-two per cent do the family sewing and mending, and a large majority do the family baking. The farm woman's work day averages 11½ hours, the survey shows. The department is co-operating with state colleges of agriculture in an effort to bring about better conditions for women on the farm, especially more home conveniences. As a result of this work 1,000 farm kitchens were remodeled last year.

A Brooklyn motorist who killed two women and then drove away was sentenced to serve from five to ten years in the state prison. The sentence is called a very severe one, and while it might to other opinion seem a light punishment for the reckless taking of two lives, it is the only way to deter others from the criminal carelessness which is making the death rate from accident mount up in all communities.

The old bogie held up to women of the rough treatment which would be accorded them if they mixed with men at the polls has nowhere up to date materialized. On the contrary, the women have been treated everywhere with the respect which is innate in the average American man.



ANNUALLY
Toys for little Willie,
Something for the cook;
Make, with forty other things
The empty pocketbook.

WALKING AND TALKING DOLLS

Lifelike Forms Gracefully Step Across the Floor Saying "Mamma" or "Papa."

DOLLS that walk and talk and wink and roll their eyes are Parisian Christmas novelties in toyland. These dolls seem almost human, as they walk in sprightly style across the floor saying "mamma" or "papa" just as real children would.

Walking dolls being a new invention, seem wonderful and bring screams of delight from little girls and boys, too, who watch with intense interest every step of the lifelike dolls as they are exhibited in the shops.

The machinery that moves the doll's legs is set in motion by a key that is inserted in the works at the waist line.

The voice is made active by works that are wound with a key.

The eyes move as the body sways from side to side, just as the real children's eyes roll and blink, etc.

CHRISTMAS WEEK IN ENGLAND

Time When Scattered Families Are United and Tender Memories Are Revived.

MANY and great are the changes which have occurred in England since Dickens wrote "A Christmas Carol," but they have not affected the national love for the festival and the determination to preserve unimpaired the traditional warmth and heartiness of its celebration. Christmas week is still the great week of the year for the English people. It is the one week when scattered families are reunited, when tender memories and old associations are revived, when friend greets friend with a cheery expansiveness in striking contrast with the characteristic reserve of the English nature, so unobtrusive to those who do not know it well, apparently so distant and unsympathetic.

From Wednesday all business will be suspended, not to be resumed till Monday morning. The whole nation will give itself up to good cheer and good fellowship, and for a brief season, all strife and controversy are hushed, and peace, charity and concord reign supreme.

Substitute for a Tree.

We are not going to have a Christmas tree, writes a correspondent. To make them brilliant many pretty little ornaments are needed and they cost a good deal. My plan is for a barrel in place of a tree. I have the barrel now in a closet. It is covered with old dark green cambric and the day before the great holiday I am going to pin sprigs of evergreen and holly over it. It will look pretty gay, I think, when it is filled with the gifts that are going into it now, all prettily tinsed and tied, and my son as jolly Old Santa Claus stands over it to deliver into its mysteries and to proclaim the names of those who are to solve them. I am sure we will enjoy our barrel as much as we would a tree.

Best of All Holidays

TAKing it all in all, it may be safely asserted that Christmas is the merriest and the best of all holidays, and one which is likely to be observed for ages yet to come. Nations may rise and fall, new beliefs and religions may sweep away the old, but that would seem, indeed, a dreary and empty year which brought no merry Christmas in its annual round. May old Father Time long spare his holiday to mankind to gladden the hearts of all with its coming, and may each Christmas be still merrier than the last.

An Ancient Christmas Dish.

An indispensable Christmas dish of ancient times was "frumenty" or "frumante." Here is the recipe for making the dish according to a faithful old chronicler: "Take clean wheat and bray it in a mortar until the hulls be all gone off, and seethe it until it burst, and take it up and let it cool; and take clean, fresh broth and sweet milk of almonds or sweet milk of kine and temper it all; and take the yolks of eggs. Boil it a little and set it down and mess it forth with fat venison or fresh mutton." Frumenty was often served alone without venison or mutton. When served by itself it was well sweetened.



A BIG JOKE

Duck: Now I hope I won't get a treatise on "How to Swim" for a Christmas gift.

A Form of Generosity.
"That fellow is kind of hard to depend on."

"He seems to be very generous."

"Yes. He's a regular Santa Claus."

"He is willing to take the credit for giving you anything you want provided someone else stand the expense."