

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

A much-needed rain has fallen at many points in the Northwest.

Mounted guards have been introduced at the Kingston Penitentiary.

The population of Waterloo is 3,485, an increase of 222 since last year.

J. B. Allenby of West London was killed by lightning while asleep in bed.

The military contingent for the Yukon sailed from Vancouver on Sunday morning.

The British Columbia general elections will be held probably in the early part of July.

A London lad named Corp fell against a barb-wire fence, destroying the sight of one eye.

The Governor-General's Foot Guards, of Ottawa, are expected to visit Quebec on Dominion Day.

The wholesale hardware firm of Letang, Letang, & Co., Montreal, has gone into voluntary liquidation.

Mrs. Wetmore, Brantford, dropped dead at the grave side as the remains of a friend were being interred.

Two men and two variety actresses fell through the ice below Lake Bennett on the way to the Yukon and were drowned.

Prof. Farmer of McMaster University was elected President of the Baptist Union of Ontario and Quebec in session at Hamilton.

James Wishart, a son of the late Duncan Wishart, of Welland, was killed in a railroad accident at St. Louis, Mo., on Saturday.

Greenwood, B. C., had a narrow escape of destruction by fire recently, but the volunteer brigade fought nobly and finally won.

A. Baker, engineer and J. Smith, fireman, both of Moose Jaw, were killed by the wreck of a C.P.R. freight train near Dunmore, N. W. T., on Friday.

War is having a bad effect on the sale of Rat Portage mines. A number of deals that were under way when the unpleasantness commenced are yet in abeyance.

Robert A. Laurie, aged 23, who died of Bright's disease at Regina recently was the first white child born at Winnipeg after the incorporation of that place as a city.

Reports at Victoria, B. C., state that two Japanese have been arrested by the Russians at Port Arthur with sketches and maps of fortifications being erected there.

Street Commissioner McGovern, of Port Arthur, has a young and handsome wife who looks after the condition of streets and sidewalks when he is out of town.

Ernest Sandberg, of Victoria, rushed into a saloon with his throat cut and complained that he had been assaulted and robbed. The police believe that he did the cutting himself.

Mr. Timmermann, general superintendent of the Canadian Pacific, has been in Kingston negotiating with Mr. Jamieson in reference to building a million bushel elevator for the C. P. R. at St. John, N. B., this summer.

At Montreal Archbishop Bruchesi received a deputation representing the Dominion Alliance, which asked his Grace to give the assistance of the Roman Catholic Church in the plebiscite struggle. His Grace replied that while he favored close restrictions on the sale of strong intoxicants, he thought beer and wine should not be prohibited.

UNITED STATES.

Four jewellery factories, occupied by sixteen firms and valued at \$750,000, were destroyed by fire at Attleboro, Mass., on Wednesday.

A freight war from Chicago and the west is the probable result of the Canada Atlantic fast grain line's competition with the G.T.R.

A report from Pekin to Washington states that a contract to build a railroad from Hankow to Canton has been awarded to ex-Senator Washburn, of Minnesota.

Dr. J. R. Dickson, of Ogdensburg, N.Y., has sold his island, Rob Roy, Chipewawa Bay, to John Englis, Brooklyn, N.Y. The consideration was \$3,000. Dr. Dickson purchased the island ten years ago for \$200.

Charles Warren Spalding, president of the Globe Savings Bank, Chicago, was on Saturday taken to Joliet prison, where he will serve an indeterminate sentence. His crime was the embezzlement of \$40,000 worth of bonds belonging to the University of Illinois endowment fund.

GENERAL.

The wheat harvest of Queensland amounts to 1,009,000 bushels.

Bamboo is of universal use in China. The windows are delicate lattice work of bamboo and the furniture is of slender bamboo, bent and curled and plaited. The water bucket is a good big stalk, sawed off just below the joint and made as deep as is needed above it. For a bottle a slender piece is taken and treated in the same way. If a knife is mislaid a good sharp edge of bamboo is taken, and it does just as well for everything, except cutting bamboo, as if it were steel. Hunger is kept off by cutting the little tender shoots just as they peep from the ground and cooking them like asparagus.

Agricultural

HINTS TO HOME CHEESE MAKERS.

A person who is a good butter maker and used to handling milk, will usually have the best success in amateur cheese making. In the first place, a proper heating apparatus should be employed. Such can now be secured of the leading dairy supply houses, heated on a plan similar to large cheese vats. One of the most common and yet serious mistakes of an amateur is to employ in cheese making milk that is too sweet. To insure success the milk should be ripe, that is, in the summer it should be kept in a cool atmosphere until 12 hours old, and in the spring and fall, 24 hours. It is often more convenient to ripen the milk quickly, which may be done by using a "starter," adding to it a small quantity of overripe milk. This starter, however, should never be so sour as to be lopered.

Do not try to prepare your own rennet. Buy a reliable brand of extract, or rennet tablets, and you will always know its strength. Do not use your finger for a thermometer, as experience never makes it as reliable as mercury. Be thorough in all detail work, just as makers in the big factories have to be. Do not apply rennet when the temperature of the milk is under 84 degrees, and keep it at that heat by covering your little vat until the coagulated mass is ready to cut up. Do not scald the curd above 100 degrees if you can help it. If you do, the life of the rennet is injured, which is needed later on to properly cure the cheese. Remember that initial milk maturity hastens the cooking process of the curd at a lower temperature than would otherwise have to be employed, and at the same time insures a better and firmer quality for the accruing cheese.

Through the whole process of home cheese making, extra care must be taken on account of the small quantity of material involved to keep the curd warm. In summer it should go into the hoop to be pressed at a temperature of 70 degrees, while in spring and fall 75 degrees is better. Guard against the other extreme, for too hot curd pressed will result in off flavored cheese. Use a fine soluble salt such as you employ for butter, and if you desire colored cheese, a reliable brand of butter color is none too good. Mature your curd enough so that it will result in firm, close grained cheese after curing.

Generally in the spring a slight show of acid, 1-8 to 1-4 inch strings by the hot iron, is sufficient, while in summer 1-2 in is better. Test every point as you go along, and let nothing go by chance. That is the way the factory makers do, and it is the main reason why they turn out even quality, high-grade stock. Last but not least, do not skim the milk but make full cream cheese and you will be amply repaid for its superior quality.

SUCCESS WITH CHICKS.

Assuming that you have chosen good stock from which to raise your chicks, give them untiring care, nourishing food and plenty of it, and careful oversight, until they are several weeks old, or large enough to withstand ordinary chill or wet, changes in the weather, and coarser food, says a writer.

The first food after the chicks have been out of the shell 24 hours may be soaked bread crusts, or a cake made purposely for them, and moistened with milk or water. This cake is made from the mixed meal fed the hens (corn, oats and fine feed). A little salt and saleratus are added and it is then wet up like a mash and thoroughly baked. The uncooked dough, so often fed is not fit for small chicks, and in its raw state it is far harder to digest. This cake should be fed certainly twice a day for six weeks, but after a few days the bill of fare may be varied thus: Moistened cake in the morning and at noon, with the addition of mashed small potatoes at dinner time. Morning and afternoon lunch, oatmeal moistened with milk or water. This is the real article bought of the grocer at 2-12 or 3c per lb. It sounds very expensive and in a way it is, but it is also economical because it is the most complete single food known for chickens. As a "well balanced" ration by itself, it promotes growth in flesh, blood and bone. After a week wheat should be fed at night and in another week the diet may be still further varied by changing the 9.30 feed to cracked corn, and after six weeks I substitute a special poultry feed for clear oat meal. If fresh bone can be obtained, give this as soon as the chicks can bear it; if not, mix a little animal meal with the soft feed.

The next matter of importance after proper feeding and housing is the war against lice. First powder your sitting hen liberally and powder again before she leaves her chickens. Any good insecticide will do. Powder the chicks again in a few weeks and possibly yet again before they are wholly feathered out. If your chicks look ragged and droopy or as if the moths had suddenly gone to eating feathers, look for lice. They will ruin the chicks if you do not get rid of them.

Keep their coops as clean as possible, look out for soaking rains, supply plenty of grass, fresh air, pure water and sunshine, and if, as before mentioned, your parent stock was

hardy and vigorous, your percentage of loss should be small, except it be through devastation from vandals outside the poultry yard.

THE ERADICATION OF BLACK KNOT.

The swellings upon the branches of the plum and cherry trees, to which the name of black knot has been given, have been found very destructive. While in some seasons the growth is but slow, in others they develop rapidly and destroy entire orchards. The development of the knots begins during May and June, when, upon the branches that are one or two years old, a slight swelling will be noticed and the outer bark will crack, showing the green layer beneath, which will soon take on a russet appearance. Upon the surface an olive-green mold will soon appear, which is due to the development of summer spores of the fungus. These are borne about by the wind and serve to scatter the disease. The development of the spores continues and, by autumn, the surface will be of a black color, covered with innumerable minute pimples, in which the winter spores of the fungus will be developed. These will ripen in February and thus the disease will secure another start. The old knots are dry and hard and each year extend both ways along the branches, until they reach a considerable size.

By carefully examining the trees during the early summer, the knots can be detected in the early stages of their development, and if at once cut off and burned, further spread of the disease will be stopped. In removing infected branches, the cuts should be made, if possible, a foot or more below the knots, in order that the diseased portions may be destroyed. When the knots are upon the trunks or main branches of small trees, where it would be impossible to cut them off without destroying the trees, the diseased tissues may be cut away and if the wounds are painted with linseed oil, or tincture of iodine, the danger of stopping further growth will be prevented. While the removal of diseased branches is the only remedy that can be depended on to prevent the spread of the disease, yet if the trees are thoroughly sprayed with bordeaux mixture, it will be impossible for the spores to obtain lodgment upon the healthy branches.

THE AMEER FRIENDLY.

The Attitude of Afghan's Ruler During the Late War.

A representative of Reuter's Agency says the London Telegraph, has had a conversation with Sir T. Salter Pyne, C.S.L., who has just arrived in England after two years' absence in Kabul. He was detained in the Afghan capital in consequence of the Indian frontier troubles. Asked regarding the situation when he left Kabul, Sir Salter said: "Everything was quiet, and all the various factions thoroughly under control. In fact, I may say I never knew Kabul to be more tranquil than during the time the Afridi rising was in progress. There was, it is true, some anxiety at first as to how it could affect us, but so firm is the Ameer's rule that the people remained passive. There was some attempt at arising among the Loghmanis near Jalalabad. At the moment it became known the Ameer sent down a force and nipped it in the bud. The abortive movement was a direct outcome of the frontier troubles, the Loghmanis declaring their intention of preaching a jihad. Within a very short time, however, the leaders were brought back into Kabul, and Abdurrahman succeeded in so overawing the other tribesmen that at no time was there any disturbance of order."

Asked as to what was really the Ameer's attitude towards the British Government in connection with the frontier war, Sir Salter said: "I am very happy that my prophesies of past years with regard to the Ameer's attitude have proved to be true, and I am glad to have had the opportunity of seeing for myself how true an ally to Great Britain his Highness has proved himself to be. When the Afridi deputation came to solicit the Ameer's assistance, Abdurrahman kept them at Kabul until after the war was over."

Sir Salter told the following story of the Ameer: "A few days before leaving Kabul, the Ameer, picking up a small knickknack which happened to be on his table pointed to the words, 'Made in Germany,' which appeared on it. 'Do you know what this means?' said his Highness. 'Your country is degenerating,' he added. 'England has been sending out bad things for many years past, and so, to protect themselves, France and Germany and Russia decided in future to mark everything that they manufactured.'"

HE WOULD BE NEEDED.

Mrs. Smith—George, may I write and accept Mrs. Brown's invitation for Bobby to attend her boy's party on the 20th?

Mr. Smith—Yes, and while you are writing you had better write Dr. Kurem to call on the 21st.

The Sussmann electric miner's lamp, recently tried with success in Belgium, consists of a small accumulator of two cells, with an incandescent lamp attached. It burns for twelve to sixteen hours and gives a light from two and a half to five times brighter than the ordinary miner's lamp. It keeps alight in any position and is not extinguished by a current of air or an explosion.

TEN CAPTAIN GENERALS.

HOLD THE HIGHEST RANK IN THE SPANISH ARMY.

Characteristics of Dominguez, De Rivera and Cassola—Nearly Nine Hundred Generals on the Rolls.

However deficient Spain may be in naval officers, of whom she does not possess a sufficient number to equip the fleet of auxiliary cruisers which she proposes to put into commission, she is certainly not lacking in field officers for her land forces. There are nearly 900 Generals, some of them belonging to the reserve forces, but most of them on the active list and drawing full pay. In fact, Spain possesses a sufficient number of Generals to command the combined armies of all Europe. There are Colonels, Majors and Captains in proportion, and, in fact, there is no power in the world, not even Germany, that possesses such an extraordinary number of commissioned officers in relation to the size of the army.

At the head of the list are ten Captains Generals, whose rank is equivalent to that of field marshal in other foreign armies. In several instances this grade is of a purely honorary character. It is held by the young King, who is a boy only 12 years old, and likewise by his grandfather, the old ex-King, Don Francis of Assisi, the husband of Queen Isabella. He is a dwarf in stature, and only a little taller than his grandson, King Alfonso XIII. Indeed, it is difficult to conceive anything less warlike than the spectacle presented by King Francis, when arrayed in the gorgeous gold-embroidered uniform of a Captain General, his squeaky falsetto voice being quite as much out of keeping with the military profession as is his appearance. As regards the boy King, the Queen Regent, who is a sensible woman, has turned a deaf ear to all the suggestions to the effect that he should appear on state occasions in the uniform of a Captain General, and, instead, she has him always garbed in the trim, natty, and exceedingly simple uniform of a cadet of the military school of San Idalfonso, which has not an atom of gold lace about it, the only emblem of his royal rank being the insignia of the Order of the Golden Fleece, which peeps forth from the collar of his tunic. Among the other Captain Generals are Gen. Blanco, Marquis of Pena Plata, who is now in chief command in Cuba, and who is too well known to need more than passing mention; Martinez Campos, who, as one of his predecessors at Havana, is equally familiar to people in this country; Gen. Primo de Rivera and Gen. Lopez Dominguez.

SPAIN'S FOREMOST GENERALS.

It is Gen. Dominguez who is generally regarded at Berlin, Paris, Vienna and other military centers as the cleverest and strongest of all Spain's generals, and who in any grave emergency is likely to be invested with the chief command of the Spanish army, or else with the portfolio of Minister of War. He has been justly described as a mixture of the celebrated Russian General Skobeleff and the French General Chanzy, and like them he is the idol of the rank and file of the army to which he belongs. He is a nephew of the late Marshall Serrano who rose from the humblest beginning to be Dictator, Regent and President of the Republic of Spain. He has been the author of nearly all the reforms that have taken place in the last twenty years, and in consequence has come to be looked upon as the soldier's friend. If he has been kept in the background of late years it is because Ministers and even the court dread his popularity and his ambition, and fear that the latter in a moment of crisis might lead him to avail himself of the former to secure such dictatorial power as that repeatedly possessed by his uncle, Serrano.

THE INTRIGUING PRIMO DE RIVERA.

Infinitely less popular in the army, but more liked at court, is Capt. Gen. Primo de Rivera, the very type of the polished scoundrel, who by his smooth tongue and talent for intrigue has managed to win to a marked degree the confidence of the Queen. Indeed, she has apparently forgotten the circumstances which led him to be shot at some eight years ago and severely wounded by one of his officers, a Major who had been subjected to persecution of the most incredible character at the hands of the General at the instigation of a demi-mondaine whose anger the Major had incurred, and who had the General completely under her sway. The Major, who was driven by desperation to the act, was sentenced to death and executed, leaving a wife and children in a penniless condition, while the Queen seems to think that the General was shot at and severely wounded while in the performance of his duty, and therefore, possesses a claim upon her good will. Even Weyler, with his brutality is preferable to Primo de Rivera, for while Weyler will have a man hanged or shot, giving the order for his execution with a gross oath or coarse gibe, Primo de Rivera will order the most fiendish tortures to be inflicted, couching his instructions in the most courteous, suave and gentle language, smiling genially the

while. Only those who have been out in the far East, and who have knowledge of the atrocities committed by his orders and under his very eyes when he was viceroy of the Philippine Islands can realize the true character of this man.

CASSOLA, THE DISCIPLINARIAN.

Another General who is likely to make his name known abroad if the present war lasts sufficiently long is Cassola, one of the few officers who have never been implicated in any pronunciamiento. He has sometimes been called the Spanish Moltke, owing to his ceaseless and indefatigable activity and to his remarkable silence and reserve. This peculiarity in a country where loquacity and gesticulation are the order of the day is sufficient to cause people to look upon him as a kind of rara avis. He is a stern and upright soldier, who, to quote one of his own rare remarks, "wants to make the army loyal to its King and country, with its face to the enemy and its back turned upon political struggles."

Cassola is so strict a disciplinarian that while Minister of War he actually placed old Capt. Gen. Martinez Campos under arrest, besides severely reprimanding him, for having refused, in his capacity as Captain General of Madrid, to take the countersign from the Princess Eulalie in the absence of the Queen from the capital. Martinez Campos took the ground that, inasmuch as Don Antonio, the husband of Princess Eulalie, was a mere Captain of cavalry, forming part of the Madrid garrison, it was ridiculous to expect him to make his daily report and to take the countersign from the wife of one of his subaltern officers. Martinez Campos, indeed, made such a fuss about the matter when the Queen returned that Cassola had to resign, greatly to the sorrow and dismay of the army, over 10,000 officers of which thereupon joined in a subscription to present him with a magnificent sword of honor as a testimonial of their esteem and regard.

Men of the same type as Cassola are Gen. Correo, the present Minister of War, and Gen. Azarraga, who became Premier on the assassination of Canovas. Azarraga, it may be remembered, while Prime Minister, had the rank of Captain General, to which he was entitled by seniority, pressed upon him by the Queen. But he declined to yield to her arguments, taking the ground that it was not in moments of a national crisis, such as the Cuban trouble, which Spanish arms had failed to solve, that one ought to think of creating new Captain Generals.

HER MAJESTY'S CANES.

Since the infirmities of Queen Victoria of England made it necessary for her to use a walking stick, she has been the recipient of many canes. Her friends, relatives and subjects have seized upon every possible occasion to present her with a new cane. One entire room in her private suite is stocked with these special gifts. Whenever she expresses her intention of attending a function, like a royal wedding or christening, interested parties consider it fitting to send her another cane. Every anniversary she is forced to acknowledge a score or so more.

Here is a collection of priceless value. There are solid gold sticks, silver sticks, exquisitely engraved; sticks that are a marvel of the carver's art and sticks that contain jewels that would move even a New York opera patron to envy.

Queen Victoria has leaned more heavily on her stick of late years, using it to cross the room even, instead of only on long walks about Windsor Castle, and after a long, tiresome ceremony. She always places it against her chair, and when she rises it is the duty of the highest court official present to hand it to her.

The story of the prank played upon her by the son of the Duke of York has never appeared in print before. The queen, who is not fond of court ceremonies when she is in retirement, was at Windsor, and had dismissed her attendants, who had withdrawn to an arbor near by. She was very much interested in her favorite pastime, knitting socks for the Prince of Wales, when that small embodiment of mischief, her great-grandson, slipped away with her cane and "played horsey" with it over the lawn.

He had to be captured before the queen could enter the house. There her majesty proceeded to teach him that even the future King of England cannot tamper with the dignity of the present powers that be.

Of recent years her subjects have hoped in vain to see her use their gifts. She has used only one cane. It is one of great historic value, having been presented to King Charles II. by one of his merry court. Very properly it was cut from an oak tree. When Charles accepted the gift it had a plain gold head, which was round and apt to hurt the hand if the cane was called upon to support much weight.

It was whispered about court recently that her majesty used no longer the historic stick. This is not true; only the top has been changed. An idol, which graced the temple of an ill-fated Indian prince, has been added for a handle. This is an exquisitely wrought affair in ivory, on an infinitesimal pedestal of alabaster. The eyes and forehead are jeweled, and on the tongue is the rarest of rubies.

HIS LITTLE GAME.

Askins—How is it that Shicksmith seems to make an instantaneous hit with every lady to whom he is introduced?

Teller—Oh, he calls the married ones 'miss' and the single ones 'mrs.'