

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The operation of the land purchase system in Ireland directs attention to the success of a wonderfully peaceful "revolution" before which home rule pale into insignificance.

What has land purchase done? Roughly speaking, it has converted 250,000 agricultural tenants into peasant proprietors.

Land purchase has been a success in Ireland. It has been "revolutionary" in a beneficial sense.

LEATHER FROM THE OCEAN

The skin of the shark is used for many purposes. A good many kinds of leather are got from sea creatures, some of which are very curious and beautiful.

In spite of its lumpy armor, the sturgeon furnishes a valuable and attractive leather. It has been found that when the bony plates are removed, the patterns remain on the skin.

In Russia certain peasant costumes are trimmed with the skins of a food fish, the turbot, and in Egypt men wear sandals made from the skins of fish caught in the Red Sea.

The garfish, a fish found along our coasts, has a skin that can be polished till it resembles ivory. It is used in making picture-frames and jewel-caskets.

Queer uses are made of the intestines of the walrus and the seal. The Eskimos make the former into sails for their boats, and the latter they slit and stitch together, to form hooded coats that are far superior to rubber as water-proof garments.

HEALTH

What Dyspeptics Should Eat.

Indigestion and practically all forms of stomach trouble are, nine times out of ten, due to acidity; therefore, stomach sufferers should, whenever possible, avoid eating food that is acid in its nature, or which by chemical action in the stomach develops acidity.

USES FOR SAWDUST

Former Waste Product Now Extensively Employed. Not so very long ago about the only real use anyone had for sawdust was for packing ice.

Perhaps the most promising venture in sawdust utilization in this country is the manufacture of ethyl (or grain) alcohol. The sawdust is treated with sulphuric acid under suitable conditions, resulting in the formation of sugar, which is then fermented to produce alcohol.

Sawdust has been successfully manufactured into briquets for fuel for a considerable time in Europe by a very simple process. The shavings and sawdust are first steamed, the water contained in the wood being thus evaporated and the resin almost liquified.

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LORD KITCHENER'S MISTAKE

Sized Up Wrong Man at a Glance During South African War.

Although Lord Kitchener, who recently celebrated his sixty-third birthday, is sometimes claimed as an Irishman by reason of his having been born in County Kerry, he is of English parentage, his father, who was a lieutenant-colonel in the army, being from Leicestershire, and his mother from Suffolk.



Lord Kitchener.

communications in the South African War, Lord K. was down the line fitting out extempore mounted infantry columns. A large number of details had been dumped down at Vrededorf Road Station.

ARMING MERCHANT VESSELS

The British Sea Scouts Are Becoming An Efficient Force. In quarters unfamiliar with British naval policy astonishment is expressed at the mounting of guns on some of the principal merchant vessels flying the British flag.

Some time ago the government decided that at convenient opportunities the guns should be put in their places on the decks that were constructed for the purpose, and that is why advantage is now being taken of the time the Lusitania is having her engines overhauled to let her have the 4.7 guns for which she is fitted.

Not only the Atlantic but the Pacific liners also are being similarly furnished. The Themistocles, of the Aberdeen line, now on her way from London to Australia, is being equipped with the powerful 4.7's, and La Rosarina, El Uruguayo and La Negro, of the British and Argentine line, and El Paraguayo and La Corrientina, of the Houder Brothers line, are being armed with guns of the same type.

Pat and Mike were working on a new building. Pat was laying bricks and Mike was carrying the hod. Mike had just come up to the fourth floor when the dinner whistle blew.

Butter may be kept firm and cool during the hot weather by placing it in a small dish and standing the latter inside a large one containing weak vinegar and water.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, AUGUST 10.

Lesson VI: The Passover. Exod. 12. 1-12. Golden Text, Matt. 26. 29.

Verse 21. Then—After having received specific instructions from Jehovah regarding preparations for the departure from Egypt and for the eating of the memorial pass-over.

The elders of Israel—In the original and literal sense of "elder men," the heads of patriarchal families and tribes.

Draw out—Go forth. According to your families—One for each family or group of smaller families or persons as specified in Exod. 12. 3, 4.

HEAT OF SUN NOT CONSTANT

Scientists recently discovered variations. There is no such thing as the solar constant. This will be crushing news to many people who had implicitly believed that the solar constant was a thing like death and taxes on which they could absolutely rely.

Identical at the Two Places. It was found that sun spots increased the amount of heat given off from the sun. This was rather surprising at first because when the sun is most spotted it might be assumed that its heat would be most abundant.

Changes in Earth's Temperature. One thing that indicates there have been serious changes in the earth's temperature through a long series of years was unearthed by Professor Huntington of Yale, who made a microscopic estimation of the annual rings on one of the big Sequoia trees on the Pacific coast.

A Short Cut. Very sick man (to lawyer)—I want to provide for the disposal of my property. Lawyer—Tut, tut, leave that to me. Sick man—I might as well—you'll get it anyway.

Courteous Rejoinder. "I wonder why Solomon was considered the wisest man in the world?" asked Mr. Dare's wife. "Probably, my dear, because he had so many wives to give him good advice."

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LIFE NOT MEASURED BY DAYS

Not Length of Days That We Should Pray For, But Strength of Spirit. "It is finished," John, xix. 30. Here are the last words of Jesus, according to the record of St. John. When the Nazarene had "received the vinegar," so the narrative runs, "He said, 'It is finished,' and He bowed His head and gave up His spirit."

Hot Weather Questions. The Man Who Does Not Think Much About the Heat. A few years ago one of the trials of the heated season was that fearful old bromide question, "Well, is it hot enough for you?"

Distress in Jerusalem. Great Suffering Prevails as Result of the War. Jerusalem, with a population of from 50,000 to 60,000 Jews, 13,000 Christians and 12,000 Moslems, is in sore straits, according to Consul P. J. McGregor in a report to the British Foreign Office.

What the Boss Said. "What did the boss say when you asked for a raise in salary?" "He asked me why I thought I ought to have it." "What did you tell him?" "I told him that I had been twelve years in the same place."

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Young Folks

Teddy's Reward. "Children," said grandpa, "I've lost my penknife. When I was up stairs in my room a while ago I picked up my coat and I thought something fell out of one of the pockets. I looked around, but could not see anything. Now I find my penknife missing, and I think perhaps it was that. Will one of you go and see?"

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