

the same contest by Miss Margaret Diddel of Denver, Col.:

"Wanted by school teachers of the nation, a salary sufficient for us to live well, laugh often, love much, gain the respect of intelligent people and the love of little children. Give the teachers better pay."

A NEW SCRIPT FOR CHINA.

The Republic of China, a modern institution, is now experimenting with a new method of writing to take the place of the time-honored Mandarin, with its 40,000 characters, each representing one sense of a word. The educational authorities have devised a system of 24 initials, three connectives and 12 finals by which the monosyllables of their speech can all be represented, and expect to make a knowledge of writing and reading accessible to every Chinaman. Owing to the difficulty of learning the old system it is estimated that at present only two per cent. of the population are literate. The result of discarding their ancient script and throwing open to 400,000,000 Chinese, with their self-contained society and civilization, a knowledge of Western science and learning may be startling.

A NEW REASON FOR HIGH PRICES

A farmer from the West, who was recently in Washington on business, was talking one day to an expert in the service of the Department of Agriculture, and their conversation naturally enough turned to farming.

"Farm products cost much more than formerly," remarked the expert, solemnly.

"Yes," smiled the farmer. "When a farmer is supposed to know the botanical name of what he's raising, and the entomological name of the insect that eats it, and the pharmaceutical name of the chemical that will kill the bug, somebody's just got to pay."—Harper's.

GOOD FISHING.

A Colorado man was telling a friend about a fishing trip which he proposed to take to a lake in that state.

"Are there any trout out that way?" asked the friend.

"Thousands of 'em," was the response.

"Do they bite easily?" was the next question.

"Do they?" repeated the fisherman. "Why, Billy, they are absolutely vicious! A man must hide behind a tree to bait his hook!"—Harper's.

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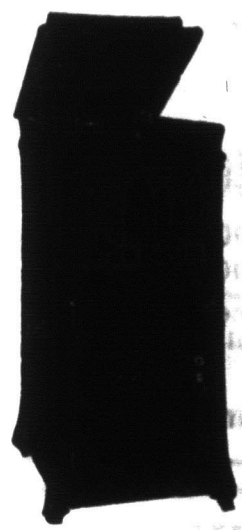
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