

CURRENT TOPICS.

Nowadays to be up to date you've got to be a month ahead. Up to date really means ahead of the times. A tailor displays his spring goods at least two or three weeks before the demand. It doesn't pay to be only up to date in your business. Get the newest possible things, order them before they are made and in that way establish a reputation for having the novelties quicker than your rivals. The merchant is in a bad way who waits to put in a line of goods until his customers demand them because some other store nearby is handing them. To keep a fresh new stock a man does not have to spend a cent more than to have the common kind and class of goods. You can order in as small lots as you wish and by not overstocking you will realize a bigger profit by not having your money tied up in the stock.

Many merchants have the false notion that because they have a good line on hand that they can't get rid of a new line would not be any better. That is absurd on the face of it. The people don't like to come into your store every day and see the same goods in the same way. Give them a novelty in a staple line and you will be surprised to see how quickly they will wake up and buy. The up to date man is ahead of the times. He has his show window filled with a seasonable display long before the rush and a week or two ahead of the other stores. He gets the business when the rush begins and he also hurries the rush, for the people see the new articles and want them, also they familiarize themselves with the first window displayed and a pattern of dress goods or a certain new shape of hat appeals to them and they go in and buy ahead of time to be quite sure that somebody else won't get it. When the rush is on everybody buys because he has to. It is the man that helps create the rush and turn it is way that makes the money.

Just because you have one complete new line don't think that will satisfy your patrons and develop the steady patronage that you desire; you've got to have a stock of everything, but the size of the stock is optional and the best merchant usually has the smallest stock of the newest goods. A man has got to be up to date in his business because the world rotates every day. When we get married and settle down in our own house we don't want what mother had. Not for your life. We want one of these new things that can be packed in a suit case. The new is the universal cry.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

Interesting Gossip About Some of the World's Prominent People.

Her Majesty the Queen has lately taken a great liking for fencing, and is now taking lessons from one of the best-known fencing masters in England. The master in question was formerly instructor to one of the regiments of Household Cavalry, and boasts of having trained more first-class swordsmen than any other man in Europe. He describes Her Majesty as being a "born fencer," and as one who, had she taken up the art earlier in life, would have achieved great prominence at it.

The German Crown Prince is not the only son of Royalty in the Fatherland who is learning a "trade." Three young sons of Prince Frederick Leopold of Prussia, nephews of the Kaiser, have gone to the manual labor training school at Gross-Lichterfeld, for the purpose of taking a course in practical mechanics. This is in accordance with an ancient tradition of the Hohenzollern House. The eldest boy, Prince Friedrich Karl, who is seventeen, is learning the locksmith's trade, and his younger brothers, aged fifteen and thirteen, are being taught cabinet-maker's work.

Contractor, builder, millinaire, art lover, and first Mayor of Paddington, Sir John Aird, who has just celebrated his seventy-fourth birthday, has had a strenuous and not uneventful life. His grandfather was a working man, who was killed during the building of the Regent's Canal, while his father held a subordinate position in a London gas company. Sir John, from small beginnings, has built up one of the largest and most successful contracting firms in the world. Perhaps Sir John's biggest undertaking was the damming of the Nile. For five or six years he had 14,000 men working for him on the banks of that great river; and the huge reservoir which he built, holding 13,000,000,000 gallons of water stands as one of the engineering marvels of the age. Sir John's spare time is devoted to the collection of art treasures, and entertaining his friends in a right royal manner.

Nothing has been more touching in connection with the delicate health of the "Emperor of All the Russias" than the devotion of the Czarina to her husband. The pomp and circumstance of the Russian Court has made no change in the simple, unadorned life of the Empress. Nicholas II. wooed and won on the banks of the Thames. Her happiest hours are when she can lay aside her crown and play with her children. Much of her married life, in fact, has been spent in homely domestic duties, or in studying the latest works on the English Poor Law, and has placed herself at the head of the body charged with the arrangements for Poor Law relief. Her Majesty can speak in five languages, and can paint, sketch, row, and swim. As a cartoonist she would have made the fortune of any newspaper. Free from all fear of the censor, she has drawn terrible pictures of the Czar—drawn him as a solemn, bearded giant in long clothes, surrounded by a host of pompous officials armed with feeding-bottles.

HEALTH

SHOES FOR CHILDREN.

One of the most important items of clothing for children, from the point of view of health, is shoes. There is an ever-growing tendency to credit the fitting shoe with many reflex troubles, nervous and otherwise. It is, of course, especially applicable to the kind of shoes prescribed by fashion for the adult, or rather for the adult woman. Happily, the most rapidly fashionable mother would hardly insist on sharp-pointed toes or "Cuban" heels for little children; and the little shoe is adapted to the little foot for which it is designed. It is later in life that the trouble begins, and it is then that all mothers should be right in their demands that the inside of the foot is allowed to grow in the straight line intended by its nature. To permit of this the shoe must be wide enough, and the only way to insure this is to have the child stand barefooted on a sheet of paper, then draw round the foot while he bears down with full weight. The design secured on paper in that way will be the design on which the child's shoe should be made.

It is imperative that a child grows with astounding rapidity, and that the shoe that was a perfect fit in April may be a startling cause for trouble in June.

If the foot is allowed to be crowded out of shape at this critical age it will never regain its normal, especially if the great toe joint is the one to suffer, and it usually is, as a result of the shoe being, or becoming, too short, or too narrow in the toe part.

Again, if by no means follows that the discarded shoe can be passed down to the next in age. Because seven-year-old Tommy has outgrown his hardly worn shoe, it will not necessarily be a good fit for six-year-old Jack.

With strong and well-built children the low shoe is better than the high, as it permits of better ventilation and more exercise tending to strengthen the ankle. If, however, a child is inclined to be waxy or weak in the leg, especially the ankle, then a well-laced high boot is better; and lacing is always to be chosen in preference to buttons, as it can be adjusted each time and made really to fit and support.

If it is found that a child wears the shoe at the sole and heel more quickly at one side than the other it is an indication of a weak ankle, and then the high boot should be substituted.

Lazy nurses have a habit of allowing children to keep on their feet, and in the house on the plea that "they are going out again in a minute." This is going to the dogs, and should be forbidden. Youth's Companion.

SOME CURES.

There is no simpler nor better remedy for dandruff than a wash of camphor and borax; an ounce of each put into one and one-half pints of cold water; the washes rub a little pure oil into the scalp. For cold feet induced by poor circulation raise yourself on your toes, slendring cords in the back of the limbs seen to stretch and the feet soon have warmth in them. Repeat this three times a day and circulation will be established before you are aware of it.

If you are unfortunate enough to get boiling hot water over yourself, take some eggs and whip the yolks and whites together, then smear them evenly on the burns. The pain soon ceases and you will have no scars afterwards. A simple, "kitchen remedy," as sound scientifically as it is simple, is the use of baking soda, or bi-carbonate of soda, to break the force of a cold or influenza. Half a teaspoonful in half a glass of water, taken at frequent intervals, proves highly efficacious.

BECAUSE BLOOD IS RED.

"How often we hear the phrase 'Like waving a red rag before a bull' says a naturalist. 'Yet how many people know what it means? Why should a bull, or any other creature, be enraged when a piece of scarlet cloth is flaunted before them? For bulls are not alone in this. Sheep, usually so meek and gentle, will apparently become transported with rage if they see anything of this color. Geese and turkeys are similarly affected—the former even having been known to attack a scarlet-clad child. 'But why? Well, the excitement animals display in such circumstances is similar to that caused by the smell of blood. Here is my theory: The color reminds the animals of blood and association which invariably suggests bodily discomfort and hurt. So they express their terror by the only means they possess.'"

AN EXPERIMENT.

At being trick he tried his hand. For one unhappy day. But people tried to do him, and he found it didn't pay.

A boy who will never lack pocket-money is the son of Mrs. John Nicholas Brown, sister of Mrs. George Vanderbilt. Little Johnny, who is now seven years old, is heir to \$10,000,000, and by the time he is twenty will be worth another \$30,000,000. He has three palatial residences and a yacht, and when he travels he is accompanied by a special physician, a governess, a valet, two trained nurses, and six servants. John is by no means the richest baby in America, however. The baby boy lately born to Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt, brother of the Duchess of Marlborough, would regard such an assertion with a contemptuous sniff; for he beats Brown's baby by some \$50,000,000. The Vanderbilt youngster is heir to a little fortune of \$50,000,000, his mother being a Miss Virginia Fair, who had \$10,000,000 of her own at her marriage to add to her husband's fortune of \$100,000,000. The richest boy in the world, however, is Marshall Field, the twelve-year-old millionaire, whose grandfather, a Chicago store-keeper, died last year and left a fortune of \$150,000,000.

BEST CHIEF OF POLICE WHERE DOES THE GOLD GO

HE HAS REFORMED THE CITY OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

Fred. Kohler, the Only Golden Rule Chief in the United States, Has a Unique System.

"The best chief of police in the United States," such was President Roosevelt's verdict on Fred Kohler when he visited Cleveland, Ohio, a few years ago, and found such perfect police arrangements that there was practically nothing for his secret service men to do.

When Kohler was made chief of police, he began to cast about for wrongs to fight. Presently he saw three things. He knew how an arrested man's self-respect, his standing in his community, his position with his employer, he also knew that the chief joy of the fat-necked policeman was to "run him in" on the least provocation. Moreover, he knew from experience that having "been up before" was a mortal offense in the police court, and that too often, political favor, lack of time or through official favor, the scales of the police court justice tipped the wrong way.

SPRINT, NOT LETTER. Kohler also believed that minor laws of the city might on occasion be broken with no great detriment to the civic organism. Petty brawls, harmless intoxication, violation of the traffic ordinance, and the like, were hardly reasons for a night in jail, he called his men together and issued an order directing them to be as "kind and considerate as possible to unfortunate offenders against the laws and ordinances when the cases are misdemeanors only, provided they were not maliciously committed, or purposely with a view to injuring the person or property of another." He said they would, however, continue to be severe and relentless in their prosecution of the felon or habitual violator.

Kohler ordered his men to warn and advise the offender personally, provided the offense was of a trivial nature; and in case of a more serious offense, and where the patrolman believed an arrest would result in more harm than good accomplished by warning, he might detain his prisoner to the police station where the lieutenant would pass on the matter, releasing the offender should his judgment warrant; his action was to be governed, however, by memoranda, which in part is as follows:

EASY ON BOOZERS.

"I would advise that no person be arrested on the charge of intoxication, unless it is for the person's own protection or for the protection of another or disturbing the peace or the quiet of the city. Also whenever the person under the influence resides on your post or adjoining the same, take him to his home and protect him." This procedure is not to apply to any offense of a serious nature, or to persistent violators, but it is the system of giving a caution or warning to be made an excuse for failing to properly enforce of the laws and ordinances, but it is to be used in the spirit defined.

Officers and patrolmen were admonished to be particularly careful not to form hasty conclusions, and officers in charge of station houses were ordered to keep a complete record of all offenders, and in each morning's report to furnish his captain with the total number of warnings given and the number of persons arrested.

NEWS IN UNDERWORLD.

Kohler found himself caught up in a whirlwind of praise and censure. Even the ministers of the town took sides and flayed and lauded the chief by turn. Most of those who made public expressions of opinion were the force of the Golden Rule as a police measure.

"Slim Jake," of "Chi," and "Dead Arm," of "York," and all the rest of their kind got the news by under-world wireless, and putting Cleveland down as "an easy burg," dropped in as fast as through freights would bring them. These men began to be harmless Clevelanders over the heads with blackjacks and slung shots. Kohler took notice at once and "Slim" and "Dead Arm" and such as were not "sent down" for the winter, talked it over on outboard freights, and decided that in some respects at least Kohler was not a success as a MEN FOLLOWED IDEA.

On the whole, Kohler says he is pleased with his Utopian police system. He has cut down the number of arrests to a point below anything known in Cleveland for years. Though he has puzzled mightily some of the force who were in the scheme of things rather more in the role of Samson, than Solomon or Moses, the men have, in general, lived up to the idea. Petty family feuds have been patched up; boy gangs, full of mischief rather than malice, have been shown the error of their ways, and wandering feet have been guided home, instead of to the station house. If the force would rather "run him in," it has not dared to say so.

A QUEEN'S APARTMENTS.

Queen Alexandra's private apartments in Buckingham Palace are of a style befitting her exalted rank. The bedroom is an immense room with a height of at least twenty feet. In the centre of one side stands the bedstead—a massive affair of carved mahogany. It stands so high from the ground that a cushioned step runs all round. Curtains are provided to enclose it entirely if necessary. In the room also are a large dressing-table and two huge wardrobes with plate-glass doors. Each wardrobe is fully ten feet high and twelve feet long. On one side of the bedchamber is another room, fitted with wardrobes. On the opposite side of the bedchamber are the bathroom superbly fitted up with marble, onyx, and silver, and the boudoir, decorated in rose pink and moss green, with silk-hung walls. Near at hand are suites of apartments occupied by Princess Victoria and the Hon. Charlotte Knollys, her private secretary.

WHERE DOES THE GOLD GO

THE STORY OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREAT HIDES

The Stream of Yellow Metal Flows to the East and is Lost There.

Lord Cromer, in a speech recently delivered at a banquet at the Guildhall in London, sounded a note of alarm when he drew the attention of his hearers to the hoarding proclivities of the Egyptians. He told how the hydraulic engineers had made a new Egypt—Egypt freed from the curative favors of the Nile, needing every year a hundred and fifty million dollars in gold to finance the cotton crop. Engineering skill has worked wonders in this old land of the Pharaohs, but we must, he said, after reading his remarks, wonder the world at large has been benefited thereby. For but little of the large amount of money expended ever leaves the country again. Year after year England exports to Egypt the hundred and fifty million dollars gold needed to pay for the cotton which, thanks to irrigation, can be counted on with absolute certainty. A hundred and fifty million dollars is one-half of the world's yearly gold output.

HID BENEATH THE GROUND.

Hoarding among the Egyptians and the Orientals is an old, old story. Some scoffers treat the matter lightly, though, and laugh at what they are pleased to call an Asian myth. But it is no Asian myth. The gold we should have in mind is the gold of commerce to-day lies underground in India, in Egypt, and in China. It is buried. There the product of hundreds of gold mines, won by so much skill and effort, is reburied once more to mother earth, to be unproductive in the eternal quiet of the tomb. Lord Cromer gave several instances, one of a cotton planter not supposed to be rich, who died not long ago. In his cellar there came to light a hoard of 80,000 British sovereigns, almost \$400,000. Another brought a piece of property taken from a hoard buried in the garden. This sum of money was brought to the place of transfer on the backs of donkeys. Instances such as these could be quoted without number, but there is no need of them here. Hoarding in Egypt is such a well-recognized institution as to be beyond the sphere of argument.

Then there is India, that land of a never-changing conservatism, where caste and hoarding are customs as unalterable as the laws of the Medes and Persians. There the practice of hoarding has been the custom for ages; and by ages is meant not merely a few centuries, but time running back a thousand years and more; during all of which, except for the past century, India has been the camping ground of warlike princes.

STORY OF SCINDIA'S TREASURE.

During the past twenty years one great hoard of silver, that of sixty million pounds sterling in rupees, has been quietly exhumed for good. The true extent of this hoard was first brought to light some years ago in evidence before the Currency Commission which sat at the time of the closing of the Indian mints to the coinage of silver. It is a two-fold story. There is nothing original about it. Long before the British Government took possession of the country, the Scindia family had been hoarding treasure, and it was widely printed.

"You know," he said, "how anxious the late Maharajah Scindia was to get back the fortress of Gwalior, but very few knew the real cause which prompted him. That cause was a concealed hoard of sixty crores (sixty million sterling) of rupees in certain vaults within the fortress, over which red-coated British sentinels had been walking for about thirty years, never for a moment suspecting the wealth concealed beneath their feet. Long before the British Government gave back the fortress every one who knew the entrance into the concealed hoard was dead, except one man, and he was exceedingly old and, although in good health, might be expected to die at any moment of sheer old age. If that had happened the treasure might have been lost to the owner forever, and to the world for ages, because there was only one entrance to the hoard, and that was most cunningly concealed.

ROMANCE AND TRAGEDY.

"So the Maharajah was in such a fix that he must either get back his fortress or divulge the secret to the Government and run the risk of losing the treasure for all time. When after long negotiations the fortress was given back to the Maharajah, even before the British troops had left Gwalior territory, masons were brought from Benares, where they had been sworn to secrecy in the Temple of the Holy Cow; and when they reached the Gwalior railroad station they were put into carriages, blindfolded, and taken to a spot where they were to work. There they were kept till they had opened out the entrance into the secret vault; and when its great concealed hoard had been verified by the Maharajah the masons were once more blindfolded to the railroad station, and returned to Benares. The soldiers who had stood guard over the masons during the progress of the work were taken out to a courtyard and shot to death, so that the secret of the location of the great Gwalior hoard was safe once more."

MANY SMALLER HOARDS.

For the benefit of those who doubted the truth of the extent of this hoard, it was pointed out that several smaller ones, each amounting to from ten to thirty million dollars, had been brought to the attention of the Government, which had obliged the owners to invest them in Indian bonds. These smaller hoards had been accumulated by princes who had never had a tithe of the power and importance in the land once belonging to the Maharajah who held his court in the city of Gwalior. But India princes do not take kindly

to Government paper. Quickly and in the course of only a few years these bonds were turned into gold, and the gold sealed up in some secret vault, to be lost to the use of the world. And as it is with the princes, so it is with the merchants. Take a merchant with an income of five thousand rupees a month. At the very outside, five hundred rupees would replace all the furniture in his house. Beyond a few curtains and rugs, furniture, as we understand the word, simply does not exist. Even the very wealthy, who possess horses and carriages and retinue of servants, own no furniture worthy of the name. No expensive cut glass, no silver, no tapestries, no pictures, and china ware adorn their tables at times of feasting. Money thus saved the merchant hoards. Occasionally he glances a little in some bank to meet a foreign draft or for some temporary convenience, but such a sum in comparison with his hoarded wealth is trivial; and in the Indian banks amount on deposit is not a large volume in comparison with that vast volume of underground treasure is a mere drop in the bucket.

FAST SUMS WOULD BE ABSORBED.

At the Currency Commission the English members sought to ascertain how much gold would be needed to give India its own gold coinage. It was thought that fifty million pounds sterling would cover the demand. They were astonished to learn that that amount would be swallowed up by one crores alone. Rupees by the scores of millions and over would be brought forth from the hidden hoards of princes and merchants to be exchanged for the precious metal, and the exchange would go on until the hoards, which at the time were about equally divided between gold and silver, should be entirely gold. The commission realized later on in its deliberation that before a gold currency had been in force twelve months five hundred million sterling would be absorbed. The hoards of the princes were largely gathered when the Marhatta armies systematically swept the plains of India, and were the accretions of hundreds of plundered cities in the good old days before the British came to introduce a new order of things. But great as are the individual hoards of these princes and merchants, they are small in the aggregate by the thousands of smaller hoards, the property of the middle and lower classes.

A FEW RUPEES EACH.

Eliminating the millions of poor, half-starved wretches who merely exist in India, laboring for the well-to-do on plantations so small as barely to keep body and soul together, it must be remembered that there are yet a hundred million able to accumulate something; and even if this be only a few rupees, when they can be conveniently exchanged for gold and hoarded.

Until financiers can determine the amounts buried in these secret hoards of India and China, with its four hundred millions, and can discover some means to hold the gold above ground, the miners will continue mining, and the stream of the precious metal will yearly stay for a while in the banks and treasury vaults, and some of it even will be made into jewelry and plate; but the great bulk of it will be carried silently along the stream of the world's trade to the Orient. Once in the Orient, the work of smelters, of mills and cyanide plants, the skill and labor of hundreds of thousands of men, will have all gone for naught. In these money graveyards of the East side by side the billions of the Indian wealth of the Maharajahs, the millions of the wealth of the Mohammedans, the hundreds of the hundreds of gold mines in South Africa and elsewhere. All is lost to the world, completely as the gold of treasure ships wrecked and forgotten in the sands under the sea.

Lord Blythwood, who is said to be engaged on the construction of a new flying machine, has a magnificent laboratory and engineering shop at Blythwood House, in Renfrewshire, Scotland. Here he not only conducts his experiments in aerial navigation, but is also seeing what he can do in the way of manufacturing prehistoric stones. It has been discovered that when the mineral corundum, which is a colorless crystal of exactly the same nature as the topaz, amethyst, ruby, and sapphire, is placed close to radium for a period of about two months, it changes to the color of one of these gems. The permanency of the color has not yet been proved, but under every possible test these stones are indistinguishable from the gems they represent. One of the sights at Blythwood House is the largest static electrical machine in the world, designed and made by Lord Blythwood in his own workshops.

King Haakon of Norway has scientific tastes. He is interested in new inventions, and especially in new contrivances which may be used at sea or in the Navy. He also likes sport, is a fine shot, rides well to hounds, and is a first-rate billiard-player. King Haakon is a Knight of the Garter, and holds several other British dignities. It is curious to note that at the Court of Norway there are no nobles and no titles; and in this respect it resembles the Courts of Athens, Belgium, and Bucharest. When he came to the throne he abolished the prefix of "Your Excellency" for Ministers and other dignitaries, and even wished to dispense with the title of "Majesty."

Of 55 samples of Brown's inermis seed, 15 contained chaff, 23 contained from 2 to 3 per cent. of the wheat grasses, several contained seed of meadow fescue, and one contained more than 24 per cent. of meadow fescue and rye grass. Of 420 samples of Kentucky blue grass all but 8 contained Canada blue grass. In most of these samples, the trace of Canada blue grass found was immature seed, showing that it was harvested with the Kentucky blue grass seed. In 110 samples, Canada blue grass seed was found in quantities exceeding 5 per cent. 32 of these being Canada blue grass seed misbranded Kentucky blue grass. White thistle to the Seed Control Act, 1905, the Canadian seed trade is on a better basis than that across the border, it is well for us to be acquainted with the commonest impurities in American seed, particularly in the case of alfalfa. Lucid, in special, is a pestiferous weed, and cannot be guarded against too vigilantly.

ON THE FARM

FEEDING EARLY-HATCHED PULLETS.

It has been held by some that, while early-hatched pullets make the best winter layers, extra early ones may not be so profitable, unless fed in a special way through the summer; that, if fed stimulating food, they are likely to lay a few small eggs, then molt prematurely, with great injury to their egg production; and that, therefore, they should be retarded during the summer, so that they may enter on the winter season in full vitality. With the object of testing the truth of this statement, a series of experiments were conducted at Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station, and the results have just been issued in a bulletin, No. 249.

Four methods of feeding were resorted to. In the first pen, the pullets received a grain mixture morning and night in the litter, and wet mash at noon. In pen No. 2, the grain mixture was given morning and night in the litter, and dry mash in the afternoon. In pen No. 3, where the pullets were "retarded," no stimulating mash being given, grain was fed morning, noon and night in litter, and beef scrap once a day in a trough. In pen No. 4 (also "retarded"), the grain mixture and beef scrap were fed in a hopper, open at all times. Grit, oyster shell, and water were kept before all the pullets constantly, and the pullets were also allowed, alternately, a grass run, from the time the experiment started—July 25th to Nov. 20th—then closed in pens, with wire-netting openings (cloth in cold weather) until March 20th. The grain mixtures were composed of cracked corn, wheat and oats, from July 28th, 1906, to January 18th, 1907, and of the same, with the addition of buckwheat, from January 19th to February 16th, 1907. The mash mixture was made of corn meal, wheat middlings, beef scrap, wheat bran, alfalfa meal.

The results per hen for the 364 days were as follows: Pen 1, average, 121.4 eggs; pen 2, 129.3 eggs; pen 3, 110.7 eggs; pen 4, 107.5 eggs.

Observations on moulting, etc., weight of eggs, fertility of eggs, etc., were also made, and results were summarized as follows, with the caution, however, that they should in no case be regarded as final until verified by repeated experiments with vastly more fowls: Forced pullets made a better profit than "retarded" pullets. They ate less food per hen, at less cost per hen, than "retarded" pullets; produced more eggs, of a larger size, and at less cost per dozen; gave better hatchings in weight; had less mortality; and showed the first mature molt. The most prolific pullets, it was found, did not always lay the earliest.

Hopper-fed dry mash gave better results in gain of weight, production of eggs, gain in weight of eggs, hatching power of eggs, days lost in moulting, mortality, health and profit per hen, than wet mash. Wet-mash and grain-fed pullets consumed slightly less food, at less cost, and produced eggs of slightly less cost per dozen, than dry-mash and grain-fed pullets. Hopper-fed pullets ate more than hand-fed pullets. Pullets having whole grain, ate more grit and shell than those having a proportion of ground grain. Earliest producers did not necessarily mature as rapidly in weight as those beginning later to lay. Prolificacy seemed to make but slight difference in weight of hen and of egg.

IMPURITIES IN AMERICAN SEEDS.

Of 1,217 samples of red clover seed secured in the course of a year for purposes of analysis by the United States Department of Agriculture, 405, or one-third, contained seed of dodder, and 424 contained traces of yellow trefoil seed. Of 399 samples of alfalfa seed secured, 191, or about one-half, contained seed of dodder, 135 contained a trace of yellow trefoil, 120 contained a trace of sweet clover seed, and 16 contained a trace of burr-clover seed. Of the above impurities, the only noxious one is the dodder, but it is very serious indeed.

Of 64 samples of meadow fescue seed, 29 contained chaff in amounts varying from a mere trace up to over nineteen per cent. 4 contained seed of rye grass, 5 were misbranded, 4 of them being Canada blue grass, 1 orchard grass, and the other a mixture of orchard grass and fescue.

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