There is a prodicing outlook in this country for the further extension of the rice industry. Last year 160,000-480 pounds of this valuable food was produced in this country. In addition to the home product, 130,486,865 mounds of rice and 65,746,336 pounds of broken rice, four and meal were imported.

According to the officials of the agticultural department, enough rice can be produced in this country to supply the home demand and to export large quantities. Reliable estimates show there are about 19,000,000 seres of land in the tive states bordering on the Gulf of Mexico well suited to rice cultivation. The amount which can be irrigated succonstully by present methods, using the available surface and artesian Mows, does not exceed 3,000,000 acres. The rest of the land could be brought auto cultivation, but the cost would be prohibitive at the present price of

Three million acres is a conservative estimate of the amount which can be irrigated successfully. The best results require rotation of crops. consequently only one-half of that amount, or 1,500,000 acres, would be In rice at any one time. At an average yield of ten barrels of 162 pounds each per acre, 1,500,000 acres of rice would produce mearly 2,500,000 pounds of clossed rice, or nearly six times the amount of the present consumption. There is no resson, sccording to these officials, why the United States should not grow and mill all of its own rice and become a large exporter.

THE MILITIA SYSTEM.

Action by Congress Sought Which Will Make State Troops More Available for National Service.

The war department is anxious to thear from national guard officers and authorities in regard to the proposition to reorganise the state troops on Maes which will admit of their employment with the regulars. Secretary Boot intends by December to have such a bill enacted, providing in the mean-\*\* \*\* time it is possible to adjust the numerous differences which exist in the minds of national guard officers. Few of them agree on the means by which this may be effected. Some of them imre afraid of losing some of the advantages and privilegus they now enjoy, and others believe the prospect of actual service for the national guardsmen will prove a discouragement to those who would otherwise enter the mervice. It is evidently a difficult problem which the war department has undertaken to solve. The military something must be done to place the state troops on a footing which will andmit of their utilization in time of trouble without the difficulties and embarrasaments which surrounded the transfer to the service of the general government of the state regiments prior to the war with Spain.

Medicine Chests Placed Along Water Front in Brooklyn for Smer-ESDOY Conce.

FOR THE DROWNING.

On Wednesday the United volun-"teer life-saving corps placed at the Hamilton avenue, Ninth street, Third street, Carroll street, Union street, Harway avenue, and Wallabout bridge in Brooklyn medicine chests, containing a complete list of restoratives and other needed articles for use in resuscitating drowning people. With each of the chests is tfurnished a book of instructions for the use of bridgekeepers and others.

The chest contains a bottle of mmelling saits, a bottle of aromatic mpirits of ammonia, a bottle of chloperoform, a bottle of ergot, a roll of bandages, a towel, a pair of tweezers, two rubber bands, a roll of cotton, a package of court plaster, and two conces of brandy.

This will be under the care of the bridgekeepers, and will be ready for Immediate use. There is always need for these things along the water front and along water courses.

GOOD MARKET FOR CEMENT.

Great Quantities of the Stuff Used for a Variety of Purposes in

According to official reports South Africa is a goot market for cement. All public buildings, stores and dwellings are coated with cement. There are few wooden buildings erected. The manons in South Africa. are mostly Malays. They are skilled In their trade and do the work neatly. Cementicalso used largely in the construction of squeducts, wharres, chimneys, walls, etc. While the principal import of coment is from Great Britain, vonsiderable quantities are also imported from Belgium and Germany, the latter, on account of its cheapness, increasing. Belgium cement is of good quality and as cheap as the English article. The reports state that American cement should \*compete well, as transportation from our country is not higher than from Europe. Cement cannot be manufacstured in South Africa for lack of

waw material. California Raistas The stock of California raining is so large that growers talk of building a edistlitery to absorb the yearly surplus Merenfter.

Furs of black cats are popular, and miready a number of black-cat farms have been established in New England.

#### THE SUMMER HATS.

They May Be Huge in Size, But They Are Light in Weight as Well as Color.

One very appreciable feature of the summer hat is its lightness in weight as well as color. While it may be huge in size, it can be a featherweight all

the same, says the New York Sun. The Lamballe hat, very round and flat, is one of the popular shapes, and is trimmed with flowers and a shephardens how of black valvet ribbon falling onto the hair behind. Many of the latest shapes are wide brimmed, bending down a little in front and at the back, where the bow of black ribbon is finished with long ends. One pretty way of trimming these hats is a sort of fringe of flowers around the

edge of the brim. The flower hat, which extends well over the forehead in a nort of peaked shape, is very fashionable, finished with the bow and ends of black velvet ribbon. 'A bow of black velvet of some sort seems to be an indispensable factor in the latest millinery, as it makes a pretty contrast with flowers and all the gauxy effects employed. There is a shape which has an upturned coal scuttle brim, drooping in the back, of course, and there is a three-cornered directoire hat with no trimming except a rosette directly in front and one ostrich plume falling at one side.

All these drooping tendencies in hats emphasize the fact of the new coiffure. which has arrived with all the necessary accompaniments of curls and puffs. It is this mode of dressing the hair low at the mape of the neck which has brought about the chokerless bodice, and already the hats are affected by it. Besides the velvet ends used at the back, as mentioned before, there are lace ends like those of the hats we see in old piotures.

Very pretty toques are made by stitching rows of straw in a net foundation and joining them over the not with a cross stitch of gold thread. This sort of hat requires very little trimming except a rosette or a bunch of flowers at one side.

The marquis shape is a great favorite in Paris, the brim being edged with small flowers. A hat which it is promised will be all the rage later on is three-cornered in shape, of coarse straw, and sometimes has a black crown with a white, upturned brim. outlined with small roses in either pink or white. A pretty hat of the Lamballe order is made of cream lace over white chiffon, the brim gracefully curved and trimmed around with a wreath of small pink roses. Rosettes of white chiffon underneath tip the hat a little at one side.

A broad, flat hat in eeru lace straw. alternating with tucks of white chiffon, is trimmed with a band of black velvet ribbon, a handsome buckle and two medium long ostrich feathers at one side. Gold-dotted chiffon is used for a scarf around the crown of some shirt-waist hats more severe in style you see dotted foulards and fancy quills as the only trimming.

One unusual style of hat in black crinoline turns sharply off from the face in front in a sort of Napoleon shape, and directly in the center, fastening the brim to the crown, is a bunch of pink roses. On each side under the brim there are two rosettes of black velvet ribbon, with loops on one side falling over the hair. There is another bunch of roses at the back.

AMERICAN WOMEN AND DRESS

They Lay Too Much Stress on It and Try Too Hard to Keep in the Pashion.

The views on "The American Woman and Dress," expressed by Helen Watterson Moody, in Ladies' Home Journal, are based on the marked difference in the way the different nationalities of women visitors at the Paris exposition last summer treated the problem of clothes. The English women were gowned with the utmost regard for utility and comfort. The American and French women appeared in foilettes of silk and satin and lace, which properly had no place whatever in the exposition grounds. But while the French women's clothes were as beautiful as the American women's, and fuller of that indescribable charm called style, they were not nearly so costly. The cost of dressing grows greater every year, and the shifts of fashion are prompter and more imperative. Where the English woman goes plainly dressed with a serene mind the American woman "keeps up with the fashion," but lines her face with anxious thought as to how it shall all be managed. Our last season's gowns, perfectly fresh and just as pretty and suitable as ever, are altered and recut and retrimmed at the cost of many dollars and much time and hard work, not because they need it, not because we want to, either. but simply because Mrs. Wood across the way, and Mrs. Pope, in the next street, are doing the same thing-and they are doing it because we are! The truth is, we American women not only lay too much emphasis upon dress, so that it takes quite too prominent a place in our scheme of life, but we also spend too much money on dress.

Trying to Dodge It. Young Wife-John, dear, I'm so glad you are coming home to dinner.

Now I am going to make a pie for you by my very own self. John (nervously)-Very well, dear. mind you do, but not too much crust, you know. I never touch ple crust. "All right, Johnny, then the pie shall be extra nice inside, with a love-

ly gravy." (Trying to speak cheerfully)-"Yes, darling, but don't put too much inside, you know. I never eat the inside of pies, and I don't care much for gravy.-Harlem Life.

## INCREASE OF ARMY.

Under New Plane Its Total Strongth Will Be 77, 287 Officers and Men.

Secretary Root's Order Just Issued Sives Betails of Army's Make-Up -Infantry Comprises 35,520 Mon and Artillery 22,506.

Secretary Boot has just issued an order giving in full the details of the new army organization. It fixes the total strength of the army as 77,287 officers and men, and determines the proportion of this force to be made up of cavalry, artillery, infantry, engineers and the staff departments. The cavalry will consist of 18 troops of \$5 enlisted men, and, together with the non-commissioned officers and musicians, this force will consist of 15.840 men.

There will be 126 companies of coast artiflery, 109 enlisted men to each company, making a total for this branch of the service of 13,734 men. There will be 30 batteries of field artillery, each company consisting of 160 men. making the enlisted men in the field artillery corps 18,862. There will be 30 regiments of infantry. Each regiment will consist of 12 companies of 104 men each, making a total strength of 38,520, this number including the non-commissioned officers and musi-

The engineer corps will consist of 1,282 men. This makes the total enfisted strength in the line of the army 74,504. In the staff departments, military academy, Indian scouts, and recruiting parties there will be 2,783 men, bringing the total up to 77,287.

As rapidly as the increase of the enlisted force of the artillery makes the appointment of officers possible, 14 additional batteries of field artillery and 32 additional companies of coast artilelry will be organized under the direction of the division and department commanders by making transfers from existing batteries and companies, the noncommissioned officers and men to be divided, so far as practicable, in such a way as to give equal promotion to the noncommissioned officers and to give to each battery and company the same proportion of experienced artillerists, both the old and new batteries and companies being raised to the strength prescribed by the assignment of recruits or transfers from the cavalry or infantry.

### TO MAKE SPECIAL TEST.

Attempt to Attain 125 Miles an Mous on Blectric Road Between Berlin and leasen to Be Made.

There is in Europe an association for the study of electric rapid transit railroads which has issued its report for 1900. Among other things, it is stated that the elevated track of the military road between Berlin and Zossen, upon which experiments will soon be made. has been carefully inspected and strengthened. It is hoped to attain a speed of 125 miles an hour. Two cars will be employed, which are supplied with the strong machines required and will hold from 40 to 50 passengers. The construction of the cars and their equipment differ in order to make manifold experiments. Each car will have four motors, aggregating from 1,100 to 3,000 horse power, two three-axle movable trucks, and the necessary transmitters, switching apparatus, etc. The cars will be 711/2 feet long and will weigh 90 tons. The effect of this speed on the elevated track will also be noted. The experiments will doubtless prove of the highest importance for the improvement of rapid transit, although it may be found that the speed contemplated will not be feasible.

SUGGEST NATIONAL PARK.

Oklahoma City Merchants Offer a Fine Spot in the Territory to the Government.

A strong movement is on foot to have the general land office set aside part of the Wichita mountains for a national park, to be ten miles square and contain 64,000 acres. The Wichita mountains are too rugged to be of value for agricultural purposes, but nevertheless possess scenic beauties, such as great canyons, sparkling streams, towering peaks and delightful wooded parks, necessary for a great park. The acting commissioner of the general land office, in a letter to Clifton George, secretary of the Oklahoma City Commercial club, which espouses the project, sends instructions as to how to proceed in the

THOUGHT PAX ABBREVIATION.

After an Explanation He Nealised That It Was Only Latin for Peace.

The Pan-American flag bears the eignificant word "Pax" ("Peace"), and the date 1901. It was horne in upon the exposition officials and proved that the average man is not a Latin scholar and that "Pax" is no better than Greek to him, says the Buffalo Commercial. When the sample flag, built acording to specifications, was brought in to the purchasing agent he remarked, with surprise, that the word was dissected as follows: "P. A. X." "Why have you separated the let-

ters?" he asked. "Why," said the flagman, "the letters mean 'Pan American exposition,' and the periods are all right."

Greiz ih Alaska. Without doubt grain can be matured in a large section of Alaska. Barley, oats, wheat and rye have developed perfectly from seed accidentally sown and grown wild. Flax of good quality has also been grown.

#### FOREIGN GOSSIP.

Germany is spending \$3,000,000 on the improvement of the Rhine river below Strasburg.

The chief drawback to climbing mountains in Mexico is the scarcity of springs, as compared with the Swiss mountains in which they abound.

A local Berlin paper recently announced that an invalid soldier had no other way of passing his time than collecting picture postcards. This has been responded to by some \$,000 cards from all parts of the world.

There are to-day in Brazil, Uruguay and the Argentine about 3,000,000 Italians, in a population of 23,000,000; and it is believed that by the middle of the century there will be 15,000,000 of them, or nearly half as many as there are in Italy to-day.

Australian papers state that the experiment of the West Australian government in turning domestic cats loose in the southeastern districts of the colony, to check the invasion of rabbits from South Australia has been a pronounced success:

The Germans are now conquering Paris more effectually than they did in the days of Bismarck, William and Von Moltke. The Germans are gradually edging in everywhere in the French capital. They are in finance, banking, exploitation, commercial houses, professional houses.

The Irish bank returns show inereasing prosperity of the island. In December, 1900, the deposits and cash balances in the Irish joint stock banks amounted to £43,280,000 (exclusive of the £1,960,000 government and other public balances in the bank of Ireland), or £2,506,000 more than at the corresponding date, being in fact the highest yet recorded, while the deposits in the savings banks amounted to £10,368,000, or £3,4,000 more than in December, 1899.

FACTS ABOUT CRAB MEAT.

The Finest Pucked to Picked from the Crustacean's Steering Apparatus.

The hard-crab business began several weeks earlier this year than ever before. Chicago is the farthest point away to which crab meat is shipped. Most of it is sold in the cast, near the seaboard. Philadelphia is said to be the greatest crab market in the world. There is a great demand for hard-crab meat at summer resorts, and it is a singular fact that most of this trade comes from seaside resorts and very little of it from mountain or other inland resorts, says the Baltimore Sun.

It was an Oxford packer who first made a specialty of nake meat, packing it separately from that taken from the body of the crab. The flake meat is the great boneless muscle attached to the two broad flipper back fins-the steering gear of the crabwhich is taken out in one solid white piece and which easily separates itself into flakes. It brings 25 per cent, more than the other meat. The prices now are one dollar a gallon for flake and 80 cents for body

The disposal of the offal remaining after picking has been troublesome to crab packers. Thousands of wagon loads of it every season have been given to farmers for manure. and thousands of tons dumped into the river. Now, however, there is to be a market for even this debris. It is used for making a commercial fertilizer.

The average eatch of crabs per boat per day during the season is three barrels, and the average price 30 cents a barrel. The railroad freight weight of a barrel of live crabs is 150 pounds. One barrel of fat, hard crabs will yield four gallons of 24 pounds. For picking two and onehalf cents a pound is paid. The top shells are saved and carefully cleaned for the devilled crab trade. Cleaners get five cents per hundred shells. Ice is one of the chief items of exnense in the crab-meat trade. A packer doing a business of ordinary extent will use \$200 worth of ice a month; and it will take for the same house eight dollars worth of coal a week to steam the crabs. The cans cost 50 per cent. more this season than ever before. A crab picker will make from five to eight dellars a

week, working ten hours a day. The packers buy tripe from the butchers and eels from the fishermen all the year round, and sait them down for crab bait, buying salt by the carload. The crabbers for a packer doing an ordinary business will use 100 tons of bait in a season. Each packer has his own crabbers, whom he equips with outfits and furnishes with bait, charging them up against each crabber in settlement. The packer is obliged to take the whole catch of his crabbers during the season, whether his orders require it or not.

Filipine Ladies Smoke 16-Inch Cigara The ladies of the Philippines have progressed far beyond the dainty cigarette; indeed, their cigars, which measure some 16 inches, are not intended for an evening's pleasure or an after-dinner amoke. In the Philippines they prefer smoking on the installment plan, for these huge rolls of tobacco, which measure five inches in circumference, constitute one week's pleasure for the ladies of Luzon. To offset the difficulty presented by the weight, the mouth end is filled with a soft fiber of tobacco, so that when the cigar is grasped firmly between the teeth so great an indentation is made that for the remainder of the six days' smoke the huge cigar fits naturally to the mouth, and can be held without any conscious effort.-London Science.

# MEDICINE A HUMBUG.

Speaker Se Declares Before American Congress of Tuberculosis.

Dr. M. R. Leverson Creates Excitoment at the Meeting Just Held in New York-His Paper Condomned - and Shut Out from Minutes.

Excitement marked the closing meeting of the second annual session of the American Congress of Tuberculosis, held the other day at the Hotel Majestic, New York. For a time the dignity of the assembly was porilously near the overflow point, but the crisis was passed in safety and the disturber retired from the room. Dr. M. R. Leverson, of Brooklyn, read a paper entitled "Is Tuberculosis Infectious? Should It be Prevented by Legislation?" The essay afforded the dector a vehicle for the expression of the most radical sentiments, and, in spite of the opposition that plainly manifeeted itself, he read it through.

After denying that there were any Infectious diseases, with particular reference to tuberculosis and smallpox, he sharply condemned vaccination and pronounced the present antispitting ordinance "stupidity and folly." "The infectious theory," he said, "was kept up by the regular physicians who were always on the lookout for power, place and pelf."

Apparently not content with the sensation he had already created, Dr. Leverson continued: "Medicine is a great humbug. I know it is called a science, but it is nothing like science. Doctors are mere empirics when they are not charlatans. To declare tuberculosis infectious in the face of so many facts conclusive to the contrary is to repeat the blunder of the English Royal College of Physicians, who declared in 1754 that the inoculation of smallpox was a highly salutary practice. The first and most efficient act to prevent the spread of tuberculosis will be to abolish the enforcement and encouragement of the murderous superstition of vaccination.

Dr. Charles K. Hole, of Helena, Mont., jumped to his feet and moved that the paper not be printed in the minutes. This was easily carried. A vote was also taken severely condemning the criticism of the medical profession by Dr. Leverson. This was also carried. Dr. Leverson protested vainly and left the room.

Resolutions were adopted on the recommendation of a special committee, calling on the government to take steps to limit the spread of the dread disease by certain specified methods.

BRITISH AGRICULTURE.

Statistics Which Have Been Nade Tp for the Year 1900 Show That the Decline In Persistent.

The London correspondent of the New York Tribune says the agricultural returns of Great Britain for 1900 which have just been issued show that the decline of British agriculture pursues its steady course. The area under corn crop in Great Britain, which in 1870 occupied 9,548,000 acres, has fallen to 7,335,000 acres.

The area under green crops has fallen almost as heavily, while only the acreage laid down in grass and clover shows an increase. In horses, cattle, sheep and pigs there is a slight advance in this period, but not such as to keep pace with the increase in population, or to compensate for the diminished corn production. England, which used to grow her own corn and was able to feed herself, is becoming every year more and more dependent upon imports from foreign countries.

HISTORIC SECRET ROOM.

Workmen Discover Refuse for Singer in Dismantling New York House,

In dismantling an old brick house at 32 Baxter street, facing Mulberry Bend park, New York city, the workmen unexpectedly pried open a square trapdoor at the left of the stair leading on the second floor. The trapdoor opens into a secret chamber extending the whole depth of the house. 48 feet. The hidden chute-for that is its shape—is three and one-half feet wide and four feet deep.

Investigation shows that the place was for years before the war one of the chain of stations on the "underground "railroad" by which Quakers and other friends of the negro sent fugitive slaves to the north.

Henry Ward Beecher directed runaway negroes to the house, there to lie concealed in "the cage" until the coast was clear.

RUSSIAN COTTON FIELDS.

Growing in Extent and Productiveness - Will foon Supply All Her Own Needs.

It is expected that Russia will be able soon to supply her own needs in cotton, according to a report received at the state department from Deputy Consul General Hanauer, at Frankfort, Germany. She is one of the few countries which levies a tax on imported cotton. A tax equal to almost five dollars per 110 pounds, and amounting to about two-thirds of the value of the staple, is imposed. The importation of cotton diminished over 72,000,000 pounds in 1899, while the production increased 34 per cent. during the same year. Great fields in Russia are now planted with cotton, for the cultivation of the fiber is much more profitable than that of wheat.

Names for Lecuts. Italians call locusts "little horses," and the German term for them is "hays horses."

IMPORTED POTATOES.

Thousands of Barrels Brought Dally from Europe to the United States.

The potato crops hae been good for the last few years, and dealers as well as consumers have been satisfied with the prices. The daily receipts in New York city within a few days ewraged about 16,000 barrels, and this figure was pointed to by a large dealer when he was asked whether potatoes were imported from Europe in large quantities. It was explained that in years ! when crops were poor, Scotland, Ireland and Germany had been drawn ! upon for potatoes, "but this year and last year there was no necessity for going across the water, and no potatoes were imported."

The custom house records do not agree with the potato dealer's statement. They show that 155,861 bushels of potatoes were imported in the year ending June 30, 1900. This included 72,780 bushels from Bermuda. The importation from Germany was 25,948 bushels. France sent 352 bushels and the Chinese empire contributed 668 bushels. There are certain dishes which are popular with the Chinese in which potatoes are largely used, and the proper flavor cannot be produced, the Chinaman thinks, unless potatoes from his native land are used. The 668 bushels from the Chinese empire and 170 sent from Hong-Kong were probably used in making that particular dish.

In the six months ending December 31, 1900, there were imported from Germany 27,795 bushels of potatoes, valued at \$11,897. The import duty is 25 cents a bushel. The German potatoes sent to the United States are of a small variety, and reach this post usually in September and October. They are used exclusively in the preparation of potato salad. The potato is oily and moist, and may be sliced evenly. The American potatoes become dry when boiled and are likely to break when sliced, thus making the salad "mushy" and uneven. Only a small part of the importation finds its way into private kitchens. The potatoes are bought by the dealers in German delicatessen, who make the saind and sell it to the consumers.

The custom house statistics show, also, that in the year ending June 30. 1900, pickles and sauces to the value of \$306,223 were imported, of which the United Kingdom sent \$218,206 worth. the Chinese empire, \$30,199 worth, and Japan, \$74,368 worth. Vegetables in their natural state, exclusive of potatoes, valued at \$28,879, were imported from China last year, and the prices realized for these goods were so good that some of the popular articles are being cultivated on Long Island and in New Jersey for the epicures of Mott and Pell streets.

THEORY OF INSTRUCTION.

Blind and Deal See and Heur in Vienna-Organa That Have Not Proper Brain Connections.

In the institution for the blind, in Vienna, there is a boy of seven years who, blind from his birth, has learned in 14 months to read and to distinguish color, form and objects of daily use. These he recognizes either by day or by artificial light without previous touch and at continually increasing distances. Prof. Heller, of the institution, who has spent 30 years with the deaf, dumb and blind, recently introduced the lad to the Soelety of Physicians at Vienna and explained his methods of instruction, says the New York Tribune. Prof. Heller's theory is that the cause of. deafness and blindness in persons who possess perfectly formed organs of hearing and sight is due to a loss of proper connection of those organs. with the brain. Basing his teaching upon this principle, he has, it is said, made 72 children, formerly deaf and dumb, hear and speak. Three years ago two Hungarian boys, brothers, were brought to Prof. Heller for preparation for the blind school. Both, according to a leading oculist of Vienna; have eyes that are perfectly formed and are suffering from "psychical blindness." With both Dr. Heller's methods were adopted. They were placed in a perfectly dark room in which there was a movable, transparent, illuminated disk, and after long and patient effort learned the difference between light and dark. The youngest was soon able to localize the disk. Then a large house key was placed in his hands that he might feel it. When he had learned to know it, the key was hung behind the disk and the boy said: "What you have placed in the light is your house" key." In the same way he became acquainted with a ball and soon learned to distinguish them apart. When a piece of red glass was hung between the lamp and the disk, the boy said: "There is another light." This, he learned, was red. In the same manner he became familiar with all the colors. Outside the darkened room the child was still blind, but there he learned geometrical figures, ; letters and figures. Gradually the instruction was extended to daylight and he now reads with his eyes.

The Deer's Trusting Eye. "Buffalo Bill" once allowed himself to be put to shame by failing to shoot a couple of deer at an easy distance. "Everyone has his little weakness," he explained; "mine is a deer's eye. I don't want you to bay anything about it to your friends, for they would laugh more than ever, but the fact is, I have never yet been able to shoot a deer if it looked me in the eye. With a buffalo, or a bear, or an Indian, it is different. But the deer has the eye of a trusting child-soft, gentle and confiding. No. one but a brute could shoot a deer if he caught that look."--From Mrs. Wetmore's "Life of Col. Cody."

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS