# GIVE OYSTERS CARE

**Dutch Government Exercises** Supervision Over Industry.

Beds and Pits Where Bivalves Are Grown Carefully Watched by Inspectors - Water la Given Painstaking Investigation.

The Hague.-Just now is the right time of the year for oysters and no first-class menu in Europe is complete without the far-famed Zeeland loyster. But it has required many years of labor and many patient researches by the government of Holfland to secure this position of preeminence to the national product. Only a short time ago the wholesomeness of the Zeeland oyster was again challenged by Belgium and there was Quite a scare among the "gourmets" of Europe. The Dutch government has, however, allayed all fears by making it widely known with what extreme care control is exercised over all breeding places or oyster beds. and over the so-called "oyster pits," -vhere the mollusks are kept until they are fit for delivery to both Dutch and foreign dealers.

It is since 1903 that such parental government solicitude has been extended to this inmate of Holland's (waters, for in that year many persons in Holland, France and Belgium suffered evil effects from indulgence in the Zeeland ovster and for a time the trade in oysters and mussels was paralyzed. In parliament and in the "provincial states," as well as in Zeeland municipalities, the matter was taken up and the result was that a government inquiry was instituted. This disclosed the fact that the waters near Hertogenbosch were contaminated by the sewers from the town and by the drainage water from two sugar factories. The water in the harbor was simply alive with deleterious bacteria and the oyster pits near by got their water from this very harbor. All the cases of serious "oyster infection," as it was called, were traced to the fact that the victims had eaten of oysters taken from these oyster pits. The government immediately had them closed and they have never been used for the purpose.

To prevent such a scare in the future a special government service was instituted for supervising oyster growing, the fisheries and the oyster trade in general. A laboratory was ibuilt in the district and there a minute and careful study is made, both chemically and bacteriologically. The water from the Zeeland streams and estuaries and the mollusks themselves are continually "under observation" there and only when all has been proved to be in good order does the Dutch government give an official guaranty certificate to the buyers of both oysters and mussels. So if only every dealer insists on getting the government guaranty with the wares the and his customers can be perfectly sure that they run no risks.

T One thing, however, it is impossible to guarantee, and that is that the retail dealers keep the oysters in good condition. It has been found that it sometimes happens that the water in which bivalves are put to keep them fresh is contaminated and in that way those who partake of such oysters are often infected by bacteria. Of course the larger and more reliable firms are very careful to provide pure water, for they know that even a slight scare will put them out of business for a considerable time.

It can hardly be imagined with what painstaking care the government service continually investigates all the Zeeland waters, even many miles away from the oyster beds and pits. The direction of the currents is ascertained by ingenious devices; also the way the sewage and drainage water is carried out to sea. The numher of bacteria, both innocuous and deleterious, in every cubic inch of water at various depths and in various parts of the same stream is determined in the laboratory after the many samples of water have been studied. Generally some thirty samples of water are taken near the same place, and these thirty samples again require about 500 glasses and retorts to be subjected to all the various tests. From this it will be seen how this branch of the service alone requires a large amount of patience and skill. The bare possibility that, some contaminated water current might come in the vicinity of an oy. ster bed or pit is sufficient to cause the government to forbid the cultivation of mollusks there.

# GIRLS CHANGE FREAK NAMES

One Called "Nothing" and Other "Something"-Tire of Their Peculiar Cognomens.

Mexico, Mo.-Nothing Tuttle and Something Tuttle are now Trix and Kitty Tuttle, respectively. They have changed their names through court action. The young women are daughters of T. T. Tuttle, a retired farmer.

Tuttle's first child, a girl, was born in 1881, which was a dry year. In order to commemorate the year he named her Eighty-One. She is now the wife of Rufus Jackson.

The second child, a boy, brought about a disagreement between Tuttle and his wife as to a name, and they compromised by calling him It Tuttle. The third child, a girl, was named Nothing and the "freak" name plan was carried out in the naming of the Toungest. She became Something.

# LAW OF GRAVITY VIOLATED

Simple Proof That There Are Exceptions to Every Rule That Can Be Laid Down.

"Water seeks its level," is an expression heard so frequently as to be almost trite, and yet the law has its exceptions. There are conditions under which water actually flows upward and rises above its source. If a glass tube be dipped into water, the column inside will be above the level of the surrounding surface. Moreover, if a tube of half the diameter be substituted, the column doubles its height. The water creeps along the inside of the tube, owing to the adhesion, and forms a cup shaped depression at the ton.

An explanation is not difficult. It can be proved mathematically that if the diameter of a circle be diminished one-half, the circumference is also reduced to that extent, while the area is one-fourth of its former value. The circumference of the column of water being reduced one-half, its contact with the glass, and hence the adhesive force, is also diminished that extent, while the cross section, and hence the weight, is decreased to a; fourth of what it was before. Therefore, the second column can be twice! the height of the first without exceeding the lifting power.

Remarkable as the underlying principles of this phenomenon undoubtedly are, nature made use of them long before man made their discovery. Every tree and flower adds its testimony. The core of a tree or plant, instead of being a single open channel, consists of a spongelike substance containing many miniature tunnels, through which the sap and moisture collected by the roots flow upward in small rivulets, rising higher and higher, in sheer defiance of the great law of gravity.—Sunday Magazine.

# CATHEDRAL GOING TO RUIN

Magnificent Structure at Messina Rapidly Being Destroyed by the Elements.

The cathedral of Messina, which was greatly damaged by the great earthquake, has been neglected to such an extent that its ruins are in a worse state at present than they were immediately after the disaster. Thus the traces of the Romanesque and Gothic periods of the original building, which fires and earthquakes had spared, have now disappeared.

Many of the choir stalls designed by Giorgio Veneziano in 1540, and considered excellent specimens of artistic wood carving and inlaid work, have been irrevocably damaged from exposure to the sun and rain, as tarpaulin to cover them was only provided six months after the earthquake. The magnificent ciborium of gilt brouze and different colored marbles on the high altar is covered by ordinary sheets, which do not afford a sufficient protection against the weather: besides it weighs on the ceiling of the crypt, which is flooded with every rain and threatens to col-

Deputy Nava: who represents the province of Messina in parliament, says that \$12,000 is needed to repair the cathedral provisionally and save the artistic treasures it contains, but although \$20,000,000 has so far been spent in building wooden houses and clearing the streets of the ruined city the cathedral has been entirely forgotten, despite the fact that it is one of the most important churches in Sicily and state property.

# Sign Language

An English ethnologist has discovered that deaf-mutes are frequently able to understandd the signs used instead of words by many savage tribes. Thus in Berlin he found that deafmute children understood, without previous instruction, the signs employed, according to Sir Richard Burton, by the Arapahoe Indians for such words as mother, sister, yes, no, truth, lie food, thinking, seeing, trade, day,

This fact, together with others of a similar nature, indicating a striking identity in the sign language used in widely separated parts of the earth. have led to the suggestion that mankind may originally have had a "natural language" of signs, common to all

# Debt Kills Independence.

How many men are to-day anticipating their earnings, pledging their salaries, and are thus under the necessity of dragging after them a load of debts and obligations which seriously affects their action as free and independent men.

Nothing lowers a man in self-respect like placing himself at the mercy of tradesmen. Running into debt is not only slavery of the worst kind, but it is hard for a man who is in debt to be truthful, for while he is framing excuses for postponing payment he is apt to contrive falsehoods. Many a man has dated his decline from the day on which he first borrowed money. -Exchange.

# When You Have Pets.

One often blames Tabby or Fido for having a capricious appetite or worries for fear one's dearest pet is about to pass away because it scorns food. when the fault lies with one's self.

Remember that both a dog and a cat have a keen sense of smell and sometimes will not eat food because the plate or pan in which it is placed is not fresh. A cat, for instance, will often refuse yesterday's milk, though to human taste and nostrils it is sweet. Thus a sour saucepan acts as a deterrent and should be carefully scrubbed each time before using.

#### APPEALED ON HIS RECORD

Happenings of the Past That Convinced Squire of the Honesty of the Plaintiff.

Miss Lydia Conley, a Wyandotte girl, is the only Indian woman lawyer in the world. At Kansas City, anent a recent Indian case that she conducted, she told an interesting legal story.

"So I put my man on the stand," she said. "That, it your case is a just one, is always the thing to do. You know the story of the Kansas land claimant?

"Well, out here, many years ago, a man brought suit before the scuire to recover some land that had been outrageonsly filched from him. His case was a good one, but the other side had doctored its witnesses-had even doctored the plaintiff's witnesses, tooand-up to the time when he took the stand himself not a jot or tittle of testimoney in his favor had been recorded.

"He, as soon as he was sworn,

turned to the justice and said: 'Squire, I brought this suit, and yet the evidence excepting my own, is all against me. Now, I don't accuse anyone of lying, squire, but these witnesses are the most mistaken lot of fellows I ever saw. You know me, squire. Two years ago you sold me a hoss for sound that was as blind as a bat. I made the deal and stuck to it, and this is the first time I have mentioned it. When you used to buy my grain, squire, you stood on the scales when the empty wagon was weighed, but I never said a word. Now, do you think I am the kind of a man to kick up a rumpus and sue a fellow unless he has done me a real wrong? Why, squire, if you'll recall that sheep speculation you and me-

"But at this point the squire, very red in the face, hastily decided the case in the plaintiff's favor."

#### WHAT PUZZLES THE SENATOR

Statesman Wants to Know Why Cats Discriminated Against Cross-Eyed Brother.

A senator came into the cloakroom in a rather pensive mood and stood silent for some minutes-thoughtfully smoking. It was supposed that some problem of legislation lay heavy on his mind, until he broke the silence, without even a prelude:

"I have been bothered with rats and it makes me nervous because I have been reading so much about the bubonic plague. We had six cats in the house, but suddenly five left, leaving a lonesome Tabby. I tried a ball of yarn on him. Every time he jumped after that ball he struck wide of the mark. Then I caught him, looked closer at him and, behold, the cat was crosseyed!

"What puzzles me now is to decide whether or not there is an aristocracy of cat life into which a crooked-eyed cat cannot come. He was evidently an outcast and a pariah with his kind. for he carefully kent his corner all the time the other cats were around. Now. the rats left with the cats, and what I want to know is whether there is not some feeling of caste among rats as well as cats in refusing to even associate with a cross-eyed cat. No bubonic plague, gentlemen, with crosseyed cats available. It's in the old Hindu Hoodoo book."-National Maga-

# Scion of the "Old Elm."

It has been decided that the elm tree growing within an enclosure in Boston common is not a scion of the "old elm," as practically every one had supposed.

The committee appointed to investigate consisted of William C. Bates. Thomas W. Silloway and Charles F. Read and their finding is that the present elm was brought from a nursery in Dorchester and planted on the site of the "old elm" tree by City Forester John Galvin. However, they find that there is a real scion of the old tree that grew from the foot of the original elm and was set out about fiftythree feet from it and is in a fiourishing condition. Another scion is growing near the Soldiers' monument. This tree was propagated from a cutting by Thomas S. Adams, an old-time policeman, and it was transplanted during the administration of Mayor Hart .-Boston Transcript.

Better Even Than Eels. Many African tribes count snake flesh among the delicacies, and John Ward says that with the Australian natives "a dish of snakes is a muchesteemed luxury." Many kinds of birds eat snakes. Pigs are particularly fond of them, as also are some deer; but in the old days it was understood that deer only ate snakes in summer, for which reason their venison was at that time poisonoue, a sagacious fiction which it was doubtless well to make widely known in times when there was abundant temptation to deer stealing and regulations concerning closed seasons would have been treated with indifferent respect.

# Pig Loose in Ballroom.

Somewhat of a sensation was caused at Stamford, Conn., at an assembly dance given by Stamford's exclusive social set, when a little pig was led into the ballroom by two young men and turned loose. The pigran sqealing about, and some of the ladies climbed on chairs, presumably thinking of rats. When they discovered that it was just a harmless little pig they joined in the chase about the ballroom floor.

The scared little porker was finally captured and taken out of doors. The prank was enjoyed by everyone.

# MAKE A FETICH OF CUSTOM

Incidents That Show How Slowly Changes Are Made in European Countries.

Some amusing incidents are told of how slowly things move in the older countries, and how hard it is to stop them, once they start. The Westminster Gazette tells of a Cossack being kept on guard day and night at a certain spot on one of the lawns at Peterhof, until somebody raised the question as to just why he was stationed there. Nobody knew. When old records were turned up and a great deal of research had been carried through, it was found that Catherine I. had once passed that way and, admiring a crocus that then grew on the spot, had ordered that the blossom be protected. Cossacks relieved one another through the centuries after that, although the crocus had long ago perished, like the woman who loved it.

In another instance it was the British house of commons that afforded the story. A policeman was one day noticed pacing back and forth in one of the lobbies, strolling up and down, always keeping members to one side. A member asked the question, why was the sentry stationed there? Nobody knew, and everybody was struck by the absurdity of his being there at all, now that somebody had called attention to him. After much study of archives, it was unearthed that some 60 or 70 years before the lobby had been painted, and a policeman had been placed on duty to keep members from soiling their clothes on the paint. Nobody had ever remembered to recall the order that placed him there, and he-or his successors-paced on and on, for half a century after the paint was dry and dimmed.

#### SURELY IS KING OF LETTERS

Importance of the Letter "G" Will Be Accorded After a Perusal of This Article.

What letter of the alphabet outshines all the rest, and reigns king over all the others? It came first with God, and it will end in all things. It is in what is most valuable to mengold and gems that glitter-and you will find it even in the middle of a fight and in the gambler's den.

And it even stoops to conquer in the most inferior objects, in the goat, while he kicks up his heels and horns, and in the hog-in fact, in all pigs. It is in our faithful friend, the dog, while at our feet we find it in the green grass; and how could we build a house except for the ground where it begins? Just see how it sticks to us in gum like glue, and in the middle of the night, be it never so dark, it can be made to shine.

While it commences in the most great, grand and glorious things of earth, it ends in the most gruesome of all, the grave. You will find it in the best and in the worst, even in garbage. In what is it more glorious than in our flag that waves, then droops over the grave of the soldier? And then this wonderful letter immediately arises and perches itself right in the center of our great and glorious American eagle.

Who can dispute that the letter "G" is the king of letters?

# Bringing Up Children.

There are plenty of debatable points about how to bring up a child. Shall he use right hand and left equally? Shall he toddle to kindergarten at 4: or run wild, untaught till 7? Shall he ever under any circumstances be spanked? The world is not agreed. But on one subject enlightened opin-

ion is unanimous. Children must not A shock is never justifiable. There-

fore, when there is screaming at the sea din we temper the ordeal to swim. ming baths. For that fear of the dark that comes sometimes, no one knows whence, to children free from all bogylore, there is the humane night-light and the comforting society of a plush bear as bedfellow. Everything should be delightfully and smoothly ordered. in fact, for a normal rising generation, if only parents will restrain themselves and keep their nerves out of the nursery.

# Disraeli's Jug.

A quaint political souvenir which belonged to Lord Beaconsfield has come under notice by the death of Thomas Stallwood of High Wycombe, who was for years employed at Hughenden manor, says the London Daily Mail. It is a large jug of Shropshire manufacture, capable of holding three quarts. Twelve of the pattern were specially manufactured in Shrewsbury to commemorate the return of 12 Conservatives for Salop in the general election of 1841. Mr. Disraeli was one of the dozen, and each member received a jug. Lord Beaconsfield's was accidentally broken in the removal of furniture from Hughenden after his death and cast away, and so it came into the possession of Stallwood, who had the fragments pleced together.

# What's the Use?

"Generally the gas man fits the meter to the shorn East side lamb," said the New York woman. "Gas bills are not half what they are on the West side, but lately something's wrong somewhere. I think it's my new neighbor across the little hall. She burns gas all the time. She cooks all day and keeps the gas lit up all night. We've also had a new reader of the wheels lately. I don't cook at all and go out to the theater nearly ever night of the world, leaving the flat in darkness, but this month my bill was just exactly the same as

#### TO LCOK AND KEEP WELL

Plentiful Use of Water, Internally and Externally, is One Recommendation Made.

What would you do to keep well and look well? Cultivate a belief in water. It is hard to get too much of it, either externally or internally.

Every woman who values her digestion and her complexion should drink at least six glasses of cold water a day. If desired, the glass taken before retiring and first thing in the morning may be hot, with a pinch of salt in it. Have appointed hours for this water

drinking and take it at those times. In the morning, just as you leave the bed, and the last thing before entering it at night, a half hour before each meal and in the middle of the morning and afternoon will divide the periods

At first it may seem a great nuisance to drink water by rule, but soon it will become a habit that you will get almost unconsciously without disturbing your routine for more than a minute. If you have trained maids they should be instructed to bring the water at the appointed hours.

Equally important to the waterdrinking babit is that of taking a cold shower or dashing one's self with cold water after the daily hot bath. This not only prevents taking cold, but acts as a tonic to the skin, stirs up the circulation and adds color to lips and cheeks and brightness to the eyes. This, too, is hard at first, but the system soon gets accustomed to the shock and is benefited by it.

#### HAD STUDIED HIS BUSINESS

Organ Grinder Knew the Tunes That Were Likely to Appeal to His Hearers.

"Make the right kind of sentimental appeal to a city man," said the cynic. "and separating him from his coin becomes a snap.

"A man with a gurdy-gurdy came down our street the other day. He wasn't playing any of the popular tunes. He's got a repertoire that included some of the good old songs-'In the Gloaming,' 'Kathleen Mayourneen,' etc.-the kind that one hears only too seldom in Philadelphia. The hurdy-gurdy murdered them in a shocking way, but they touched the heart-strings of the listeners, all right. Windows were thrown up in every direction, and he got quite a shower of pennies and nickels. He must have gathered in at least a dollar on that one block.

"When he moved on I could not resist running down to the corner after

"'Say, why do you play those tunes?' I asked him. 'Do you really have the good taste to prefer them to "Gee, I Wish I Had a Girl?"

"He looked me over in a contemptuous sort of way.

"'Naw,' he answered, 'I t'ink dey're on de blink. But dey seem to make the guys around here loosen up.

Mules and Kindness. "In the fifteen years that I have been connected with societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals in this and other cities I never have received a complaint alleging cruelty to a mule," said the humane looking man. That immunity of mules from harsh treatment is an interesting question. Why are they immune? Does nobody beat them? Does nobody underfeed them? If not, why not? Does a mule show such a decided ability for taking care of himself that his owner is afraid to abuse him? Or do men beat mules and escape punishment because the persons who witness the beating think it is only a mule and not worth bothering about? What is the explanation of that phase of the mule question, anyhow?"-New York Press.

# Cat's Sense of Locality.

A kitten about six months old was taken to a house a few miles distant from its birthplace, confined in a room and tenderly cared for during a week. and then set at liberty. It was supposed to have become habituated to its new surroundings, but it returned to its old home on the day of its release.

The sense of locality and direction was exhibited still more strikingly by an old tom-cat, which was stolen and carried a distance of twenty miles. confined in a bag. The cat was imprisoned, but made its escape, and in a few days reappeared in a pitiable state at the home of its former master, which was separated from that of the thief by a high wooded cliff.-Scientific American.

Short, and to the Point. One of the shortest speeches recorded in forensic annals is that of Taunton, afterward a judge. Charles Philips, an Irish orator, had made a flowery speech in an assault case. Taunton, who was for the defendant, said in reply: "My friend's eloquent complaint amounts, in plain English. to this: That his client has received a good, sound horsewhipping; and my defense is as short—that he richly deserved it."

# The Needle's Revenge.

"It's a habit in the south to sit on the bed and sew," said the southern woman, living in New York. "They make sitting rooms of their bedrooms down there, you know. Yes.

"Well, I had recovered from the nabit, but yesterday I sat on by little had before I made it up and mended my petticoat, but never again.

"I made up the needle in the bed sterward and 'way in the night it .ose up and stabbed me."

#### POSITIONS FOUND FOR ALL

ingenious Scheme of Philanthropist That Worked Well for All Parties Concerned.

After the civil war many freedmen were sent from the southern states to the north to find employment, and exactly how to aid them was often quite a difficult problem. In one case, for example, a Boston clergyman found himself responsible for the welfare of 30 negro women, coming by boat from Virginia. Time was passing, and he did not know where he could put them. On the day before the steamer was due he chanced to meet the late Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale on the street.

To him he told his story. Dr. Hale looked puzzled. "I'm sure I don't know what to suggest," he said. "I could give you five dollars, but that wouldn't do much good. Let me! think."

Finally this scheme was evolved. It is was decided to insert an advertisement in one of the local newspapers to the effect that 30 cooks were coming from Virginia, Dr. Hale, who doubtless was aware of the domestic troubles of the Boston ladies, went away smiling, and the other posted off to the office of the Transcript.

The next day Mr. Hale left town for his summer vacation, and it was not till fall that he heard the outcome of his experiment. On his return be found a letter from the -clergymanawaiting him.

"Thirty carriages were at the wharf when the boat came in," it said, "and all the cooks are satisfactory."-Youth's Campanion.

#### SEES FAULT IN SCIENTISTS

Thinkers of To-Day Lack Imagination, According to Writer in Cassier's Magazine.

Men of science, your faculties are weakened by the very exactitude which is your pride. You measure and weigh, and you are surrounded and overwhelmed by the limitations im--posed by the experiences of your senses. You seek causes upon observing effects, or determine the effects resulting from given causes; but such analyses do not lead you into the realm of imagination. You are too. material. If you had been Newton upon observing the apple fall. y would have thought, "The reason w it fell was because its stem becau too weak to bold it." Newton, by ever, had no imagination, and there he discovered the law of gravitatic declares a writer in Cassier's Magazine. Columbus did not care to provi simply that the earth was round. Hi imagination fired him with a knowl edge of benefits to mankind resulting from a possible (and, as it turned out chimerical) northwest passage due to such roundness. His imagination inspired the discovery of a continent. And so it is with name after name in history, and so it will be with you and me. We may achieve some small measure of success by doing what our fathers did before us, but our really big deeds will be offspring of our imaginations. Sometimes we see inventions acomplished by chance or a benefit opened to mankind by a stumbling footstep. Such are rare, and shiftless we should be did we count upon circumstances for success.

# Training for Cowboys.

There is a school for cowboys near London. This may seem surprising, but is less so when you learn the purpose of the school, which is to train young men who intend to locate in western Canada and Australia. On the bank of the Thames, within a few hours' ride of the center of the world's metropolis, the students are surrounded by a good imitation of life on the prairie or the bush. In winter they sleep in the rough bunk houses, and in summer in tents or in the open air. They are taught to care for their horses, and how to ride them, how to make fences, brand cattle, repair saddles and bridles, how to handle rifles and revolvers. The school also provides a course in scouting and tracking. The school is said to be quite popular.

#### A Model Man. Periodically there are published the

names of celebrities who were famous before they were 35. But genius is exceptional. The great mass of peoplemight enjoy the facts about some desirable model whom they may hope toequal some time if they live and learn. For their consideration, therefore, wehere set down the achievements of a certain man. At 20 our hero had learned to bathe properly and to sleepwith the window open: at 25 he had loved a wholesome girl and married her; at 35 he had mastered his temper and learned to reserve judgment: at 45 his children were proud of him; at 60 he has achieved kindness, moderation and the respect of his neighbors.--Collier's Weekly.

An Author's Inspiration. My inspirations for "Quo Vadis," that early and most popular of all my productions, had their source in my study of three famous masterpieces. First of all, in the works of Tacitus, with which, of all the Latin classics, I am best acquainted. Then I was deeply influenced by Chateaubriand's "Geniedu Christianisme," esepcially by what he has written about the early Christian martyrs. But I owe most of all to the English cardinal, Wiseman's "Fabiela: The Church of the Catacombs," an able and picturesque story which exercised over me a powerful

tascination from dawning boyhood.-

Henry Sienkiewicz, in London Chron-

# L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

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