

THE USES OF TIN FOIL

MADE IN ATTRACTIVE FORMS FOR VARIOUS PURPOSES.

An American Inventor's Machine Which Performed Wonders—Ornamental Designs Win Favor.

It used to be that tin foil was beaten out as gold leaf has always been and is today, but about 50 years ago an American invented a machine for rolling out tin foil that revolutionized the tin foil industry.

A little later the American who invented the tin foil rolling machine invented a machine for embossing tin foil by means of which any desired design or pattern could be used, and processes were designed for coloring the surface of the tin foil in any desired color.

The embossed foils were made also with gold and silver surfaces, as were likewise foils smooth surfaced in short, tin foils had now come to be a thing of beauty as well as utility.

And with tin foil produced in such forms it came to be used not only for purposes of utility, but for various uses in which it would add to the attractiveness of the goods around which it was wrapped.

Besides being used in the wrapping of various sorts of products sold in packages, tin foil is used for wrapping around bottle necks, and over the heads of some.

There is an old story of how tin foil helped to make one man's fortune, that of a man well known in this day and still well remembered, a tobaccoist and a tobacco manufacturer.

The tobacco man hit upon the plan of wrapping the general tobacco in tin foil wrappers. This plan worked beautifully, and there sprung up for tobacco wrapped in tin foil a great demand.

Chandeliers are wrapped up in tin foil, in fact there is a special foil in long strips made for this use. Soap is wrapped in tin foil. Violet colored and pretty embossed tin foil is used for wrapping up the stems of bunches of violets.

A sort of tin foil, which, however, is not called foil, but cap metal, is extensively used in the manufacture of bottle caps, of which there were now used in this country alone hundreds of millions annually.

He Was Satisfied.

A North Carolina lawyer was trying a case before a jury, being counsel for the prisoner, a man charged with making "mountain dew." The judge was very hard on him and the jury brought in a verdict of guilty.

Bearded Women

Two German doctors have been looking into the question of bearded women, and they have discovered that out of every 1,000 sane females, 290 are bearded.

LAND OF WONDROUS CAVES

Subterranean Hiding Places of Former Outlaws of the Indian Territory.

Jim Friday, a desperate negro outlaw, was the terror of the Arkansas mountains for many years, but was finally hanged at Fort Smith, Ark., in 1852, for the murder of a man and his wife near Fort Arbuckle, relates the Kansas City Journal.

He first murdered the husband and carried the wife away into a cave near by and here forced her to remain until he grew tired of her and then murdered her. The bones of both victims were taken in a box before Judge Parker and a jury and when Friday saw it was no use denying the charge he confessed and told of several other deeds still more horrible.

It appears that outlaws would live in these caves for months at a time and the officers were powerless to dislodge them. A man living in Davis says that he knows of caves within ten miles of Davis where cattle have been slaughtered and their heads and horns are still there as evidence.

It is believed there is a large stream of water running through all of the caves in that vicinity. A ranchman says that Honey creek comes through the caves and offers proof by showing the large springs which gush out of the mountain side just above Turner's falls on Honey creek.

Thomas Grant, a cattleman and farmer, who lives within a mile of the old fort, says caves abound in that part of the country, and mentions one midway between Elk and Foreman, small inland towns that can be seen from the wagon road. It is on the very top of a big hill in the prairie and a few feet down it widens out into one vast cavern.

ATTRACTIVE VOCAL TALENT

Boy Who Could Imitate Quarreling Cats Reaped a Harvest of Shoes.

I had been taking a horseback ride through the southern part of Missouri, says a writer in Lippincott's, and one night finding myself in a very sparsely settled district, I was forced to continue in the saddle until midnight.

"Is that you, Tad?" came a gruff voice from within. "No, said I. 'Open the door a minute. I want to ask you something.'"

"I thought you was my boy, Tad," he explained, rubbing his eyes, "and snip my ears; here he is now!"

"Good!" the man said, and then he turned to me with the manner of one who thinks an explanation would be polite.

"You see, Tad can make a noise that sounds louder and has more worry to it and sounds more natural like a tom cat than any cat in this country can make. So he just goes into the village and yells under windows about this time in the fall. Then he picks up what is fung out."

World's Coal and Iron.

It is stated that in a scientific journal of recent date that the United States, Great Britain and Germany together produce approximately 80 per cent of the coal and iron of the world, and if the industrial importance of the materials be considered the supreme test these countries would necessarily be adjudged the leading mining countries of today.

Paradise of Epicures.

Paris still maintains her reputation as the paradise of the epicure. One day in January a wealthy Hungarian ordered strawberries at a fashionable restaurant. He and a friend ate four baskets, which each held about 15 berries. The bill was \$20. A few days later the bill for wines at another smart Parisian restaurant for a party of a dozen diners came to \$250.

BLUEBERRY CULTURE

NOVEL INDUSTRY BUILT UP BY MAINE CANNERS.

Ground Cleared for the Purpose by Burning Off the Barrens—Interesting Particulars.

In grazing sections throughout the west an old and well-known custom is that of burning the dry grass to improve the next year's pasture. Formerly the fires were allowed to spread and burn themselves out at will, and the practice resulted in great forest destruction.

About 1870 a factory for canning blueberries was located in Maine, and as it prospered it was followed by others. In 1885 and again in 1895 similar factories and canning companies were established, until to-day blueberry raising and canning is an important industry in that state.

A century ago these "blueberry barrens" were, for the most part, covered by a dense forest, chiefly of white pine and spruce. The forest was thinned by lumbering the pine, and the increased amount of light permitted new kinds of undergrowth to get a foothold.

The blueberry owner divides his land into three portions; each year he picks the berries from one portion, burns another portion, and allows the third to rest. The first year after the land is burned over the blueberry bushes sprout and grow a few inches. The second year they yield a full crop of berries. The third season the crop is small and of little value, and the bushes reach a condition in which they can be burned most effectively.

Under this system of blueberry culture the land does not "run out" with constant use for the same crop. Where the burning has been properly done, the same tracts have grown blueberries continuously for 50 years without showing any decrease in the yield.

In addition to the 2,600 acres of present barrens, there are in Hancock county over 5,000 acres which have been reduced almost to a barren condition. Here, if necessary, this industry could be profitably extended. But when lumbering and fires have not materially depleted the forests, the land should be continued under forest cover and the stand improved.

The old-fashioned Russian travels with his own gear and makes himself comfortable according to his own ideas, and they are by no means narrow. A place to sleep on is provided, the rest he brings. On the Russian sleeping cars, those who have not their own bedclothes and who wish to undress and go to bed in the American fashion can have all that is requisite for 50 cents.

The old-fashioned Russian travels with his own gear and makes himself comfortable according to his own ideas, and they are by no means narrow. A place to sleep on is provided, the rest he brings. On the Russian sleeping cars, those who have not their own bedclothes and who wish to undress and go to bed in the American fashion can have all that is requisite for 50 cents.

High-Priced Stamps. Stamps costing \$19,500 were recently required for an agreement between two London railway companies.

LIFE HANGS ON MINUTES.

Chances for Recovery in Surgical Operations of Long Duration Are Small.

Time saving is one of the most important considerations in all surgery. Any major operation lasting more than an hour and a half entails an additional risk. In operations of long duration the chances of recovery are comparatively small, says McClure's Magazine.

Two visiting surgeons at one of the New York hospitals got a markedly varying percentage of mortality in a common abdominal operation. "What is the difference between the two operators?" I asked of one of the house staff in attendance.

KANSAS VERSUS NEW YORK

A Challenge in Porcine Literature Hurlled at the East by the Boundless West.

The article from a New York paper which is referred to below has been going the rounds of the Kansas papers, but the St. Johns News has been the first to attempt to do Kansas justice.

The New York papers are chronicling the startling news that a hog, after being buried in a snowdrift for four days, was rescued and

is getting over its experience in fine shape. That may seem like a pretty big hog story to a New Yorker, but to an old Kansan such little things are passed unnoticed. Why, we can beat that hog story to death, and not half try, and it won't be a lie, either. During the big blizzard of January, 1886, we had a hog that was buried in a snowdrift just 21 days before she was discovered, and when removed from the drift she was ready for her corn, but was still in good squealing condition.

ON THE FUTURE OF OZONE

Chief Application Thus Far Has Been in Sterilization of Air, Water, Foods, Etc.

Although ozone is a substance which is present in the air in relatively minute quantity, yet it is possible that its future in metallurgy, both dry and wet, may be greater than would be commonly believed at present, says the Engineering and Mining Journal.

The necessity of noting the influence of the humidity in the atmosphere has been well shown by James Gayley's notable experiments on dry air blast. It certainly will be interesting to observe what the experimenter and the practitioner will do with ozone in metallurgy.

Long Distances in Florida.

We often laugh at the ignorance of Europeans as to distances in this country. We sometimes display as much ignorance ourselves when we speak of distances in Florida and Texas. A land trip from one end of Florida to the other is as long as from the great lakes to the gulf.

Greater Than Niagara.

The great Victoria falls, on the Zambesi river, are estimated by British engineers to represent 25,000,000-horse power, or five times the power of Niagara, with some diminution in the dry season. It is proposed to develop the power for irrigating Rhodesia, operating the mines on the Rand, etc.

WHERE PRUNES COME FROM

Formerly from Foreign Countries, But Now Many Are Grown in California.

In the United States 100,000,000 pounds of prunes are eaten yearly. Prior to 1886 the supply came almost wholly from France and the Danubian provinces and sold under the designation of "French" or "Turkish" prunes. In the year referred to prunes of American growth appeared on the market and with each succeeding year the supply has increased until the importation of foreign fruit has been reduced to extremely small proportions.

After the planting, which is usually done in the rainy season, the shoots are cut down to a uniform height of about two feet. In the second year the trees are pruned, from three to five branches being left and are again pruned in the third and fourth years. Twice during the spring and summer the soil is cultivated. In September the fruit ripens and is gathered by spreading sheets under the trees and shaking the branches.

Ten thousand tons of fruit spread out in one unbroken tract may be seen in Santa Clara in the drying-rooms. When sufficiently cured the prunes are stored in separate bins and there allowed to "sweat," this process taking from ten to twenty days, when they are ready for marketing.

TREES BUT LITTLE KNOWN

Many in Tropical Forests Which Are Too Dense to Be Explored.

According to an expert in the bureau of forestry of the department of agriculture there is, comparatively speaking, little known concerning tropical trees, and this, despite the fact that naturalists and botanists are constantly exploring the regions near the equator. Indeed, there must be many hundreds of varieties that have been little known and that are unidentified by name.

This curious fact is due to the exceptional conditions of the tropical forests. In temperate zones forests are fairly open, and generally speaking, include trees of only a few varieties. Thus there are oak forests, hickory forests, etc., but rarely any forests where more than three or four kinds of trees exist in any number.

In the tropics, on the other hand, the case is exactly the opposite. Forests composed of one variety of tree, or even of only three or four kinds, are unknown. So many different sorts of trees grow close together that frequently more than 100 varieties may be counted within a short radius. Moreover, all these grow together in great confusion. They tower to extraordinary heights, each tree, it would seem, striving its best to reach the sunlight. Consequently the trunks are extremely long and thin, because each tree is reaching to get higher than its neighbors, in order to escape the twilight of the primeval tropical forest. Leaves and branches are so confused that in many forests one can see neither sky nor sunlight for miles, the crowns of the trees interlacing and forming a thick, impenetrable roof.

It is said that it is well-nigh impossible to cut down any one tree for purposes of examination, for the reason that the forest is so dense that there is insufficient room for the tree to fall, even after its trunk has been cut through. It would be necessary to clear a great space, and that is impracticable from the standpoint of the naturalist or botanist. Hence, the world is still in comparative ignorance of the wonders of the tropical forest.

Food Heating Without Fire.

At various recent food exhibitions there has been on show an invention for heating food without fire, and without the usual troublesome accessories of pots and pans. An innocent looking tomato soup tin has four holes punched in at one end, and immediately that is done, the whole thing begins to fizz and boil. It is left for five minutes, until the heating materials evaporate, turned upside down, and left for another five minutes; then it is opened in the ordinary way, when thoroughly cooked soup can be poured out. The name is calor-it, and the food, which is prepared by some well-known firm, is of the first quality. About a dozen varieties of soup can be had, and the same number of entrees besides coffee, cocoa and chocolate.—Chicago Tribune.

Big Auto Trade.

It is estimated that the output of automobiles for the current year will be 20,000, of a total value of \$20,000,000. Accessories made will reach \$5,000,000.

TO DESTROY WILD CARROTS

Legislation in Massachusetts for the Extermination of Noxious Plants.

A bill is pending in the Massachusetts legislature to prevent the spread of wild carrots or parsnips. It provides that every person or corporation owning lands within the state shall cut down or otherwise destroy all wild carrots growing thereon, or growing in the highways adjoining the land, on pain of a fine for every day of neglect. This, says the Portland (Me) Press, is a matter which should receive attention in other states. The weed in question is comparatively new in these parts. It is but a few years since its appearance in any quantity was noticed, but already it has spread through many parts of the state and infests the mowing fields and roadsides far and wide. What is everybody's business is nobody's. While many farmers keep their land free from the pest to a great extent, their efforts are of little use so long as careless and lazy neighbors allow the weeds to flourish and go to seed unrestrained, and so long as the highways remain the nursery and breeding ground for them. It is an easy plant to eradicate, if the proper measures are taken, as mowing or pulling up by the roots before it goes to seed. If allowed to mature, it bears a feathery tuft of seed and these, protruding above the snow, are whipped by the wind and blown in every direction to spring up the next summer. The only way to get rid of it is by concerted action, and the only way to secure such action appears to be by some such method as proposed in Massachusetts. It should be the duty of the towns to keep the public places clear of noxious plants, and it should be the duty of private land owners to do the same in respect to their premises.

GIVES FRUIT TO HOSPITALS

As Result of Vivid Dream New York Man Donates Many Oranges.

The commissary department of one of New York's largest hospitals, primarily devoted to caring for the sick poor, receives monthly a contribution of a crate of the best oranges the market affords. The oranges are of the seedling

the superintendent, who knows the circumstances that led to the gift, always refers to them as the dream oranges. A couple of years ago the donor, an old victim of this disease, suffered an unquenchable thirst, to which was added the torment of a persistent and ever recurring dream. Always he seemed to stand on the shore of a river in which ran floods of sparkling lemonade, while hundreds of oranges cut in half and covered with powdered ice floated on its surface.

Hour after hour he would stand on his brink, forever unable to obtain a drop of the liquid or capture one of the oranges. It took two trained nurses to restrain his ardor when he started out after the fruit, and he kept them busy until his temperature stopped soaring and he was once again normal.

When he was convalescent he told the nurse his vivid dream and of his intention to send a monthly offering to some hospital where the demand for delicacies exceeded the supply. She suggested the institution, that is now the object of his beneficence, and few of the patients enjoying the very best yellow spheres guess that they are eating "the stuff that dreams are made of."

TALE OF A BURGLAR ALARM

Worked All Right, But Didn't Prevent the Entrance of the Burglar.

Mr. Hillier was a heavy sleeper. He was a man, also, with a chronic fear of burglars. It was these two things that led him to have the window of his sleeping-room equipped with a burglar alarm of the latest and most approved description, relates Youth's Companion.

A few mornings after the device had been installed he came down to breakfast with a grin on his face.

"I had a funny dream last night," he said. "I dreamed that a burglar raised my window and the alarm went off, but he didn't seem to mind it. He rummaged the bureau drawers, found my watch and pocketbook, and slipped out the way he came in. By the way," he added, "I forgot to bring down my watch and pocketbook. I'll go and get them." He went upstairs and returned in a moment with an entirely different look on his face. The watch and pocketbook were gone. It had not been a dream.

Sickness from Worry.

A famous physician on being asked recently what is the chief cause of ill health, replied: "Thinking and talking about it all the time. This ceaseless introspection in which so many of the rising generation of the nervous folk indulge is certainly wearing them out. When they are not worrying as to whether they sleep too much or too little, they are fretting over the amount of food they take or the quantity of exercise necessary for health. In short, they never give themselves a moment's peace."

Can't Pronounce It.

Near Paris is a village the name of which no European can pronounce. The name is "Ws." The Frenchmen, by way of compromise, pronounce it "Us," but this is not absolutely correct.

Limit of Effeminacy.

"Is young Sissykins as effeminate as people say he is?" "Is he? Say, he sits on the floor to put on his stockings in the morning!"—Cleveland Leader.