"The souvenir postal card crazi meems to be governed by none of the bounds of propriety and decency," deklared a postal clerk at the federal building as he was distributing the supposits found in the public drop boxes, says the Philadelphia Telegraph.

"If the government doesn't put stop to this nonsense I'll have to find a better job," he continued to muse. It was a disgraceful lot of stuff, to be sure. In the collection were any number of worn and soiled collars, suffs and shirt bosoms, not to speak of old socks, garters, and even sev-

eral pairs of shoes. The proper postage had been prepaid on everything—the cuffs, collars and shirt bosoms bearing stamps and addresses, the socks, garters and shoes keing attached to tags inscribed with designations.

"There is no doubt the post office reseipts are increasing everywhere besause of this popular custom of sending oddities through the mail," said another clerk in the same department, "but I wonder where it's going to end. The government will accept m the mail anything not over four pounds in weight. Why, the other tay we found a set of false teeth merely attached to a tag and adcressed to a woman in Germantown. he the limit."

CRYSTALLINE ILLUMINATION. Light Emitted by Many Such Formations, the Alkaloid Class in

Particular.

The light flashed from crystals is the light that has dawned upon the mind of Herr Tchugaeff. Of 400 arystalline substances examined by him, 121 were found to emit light, the alkaloids as a class being particularly active, but only six out of 110 inerganic bodies showed the phenomepon. The colors of the light varied with the different substances, and its intensity could be classified according to an arbitrary scale in which uranium nitrate was taken as typical of the first class, tartaric acid, of the second, and ammonium oxalate, of the third. The minute crystalline octahedra that may be formed by the ordinary white arsenic of commerce by dissolving it in boiling hydrochloric acid, when sooled and shaken in the dark, emit a succession of brilliant flashes. The property is by no means fugitive, and the dry crystals will yield sparks months afterward, if rubbed with a glass rod. And, contrary to text books, the light is smitted just as meadily from the opaque variety of oxlide crystals as from those of the vitreous modification. This light has a continuous spectrum in the visible part of which the yellow and green rays predominate, though red rays are also present. It is apparently iden-tical with the light emitted by solid hodies in a state of incandescence.

JUSE OF WASTE HARDWOOD

By-Products of Michigan Sawmills Beturn Appreciable Money Profits.

All the world's woodcutters might be millionaires if they knew how to gather up the 12 baskets of industrial crumbs as does a distilling plant in a Michigan town. This establishment has a capacity of 90 cords of hardwood a day, the wood consumed being slabs, crooked logs, treetops, and other hardwood offal from logging and lumbering operations. From one cord of this material there is made ten gallons of wood alcohol. 981/2 per cent. being pure; 200 pounds of acetate of lime, quicklime being added for this purpose, and 50 bushels of charcoal. Every product of the wood except the charcoal passes off in the form of gas and is reduced by distillation. Some irreducible gas and a attle tar product are used as fuel. Nothing is lost. The alcohol is worth 60 cents a gallon. The acetate of time is worth two cents a pound, and the charenal is worth ten cents a bushel. The value of the lime used is worth not over one-fourth of the value of the acetate. The value of the final product of the cord of refuse wood is, therefore, not far from \$14. The process is not expensive. The slant, running at full capacity, will turn aut a product daily worth \$1,260 from material that has but little commercial value in its crude form.

Underground Garden. A clever Dublinite has turned a deserted wine-cellar in his native city Into an underground market garden. In this retreat, which once sheltered marrels and casks of flery liquors, now grow seakale, rhubarb and mushrooms As the produce is right in the heart of the market district, the city farmer has no railway charges to pay, and in truth many of his customers, desirous of obining fresh vegetables, visit his underground farm and select what they desire by the light of a lantern.

Benzine Buggies in Germany. In Germany a-motorist can be punhed for allowing his car to give off a strong smell of benzine. A German aucomobilist was fined for this offense recently, and appealed to a higher court. It has now been decided that punishment for such an offense can only be meted out "when the smell of the bensine is so great as to force passers-by to take another road."

An Invalid. Frankie-Papa, what's the difference Between being sick and an invalid? Papa-An invalid, my boy, is one who makes those around him sick.-W. Y. Times.

PASSING OF PESO.

MEXICAN DOLLAR HAS ABOUT SERVED ITS TIME.

New Coins of Other Countries Are Taking Its Place in International Trade Tranmetiens.

The days of the old Mexican peso are numbered. The esin which for nearly four centuries has been an important factor in the commercial transactions, not only of Mexico but of the Antilles, Central and South America and the orient, has served its term of usefulness, says the New York Herald.

The new monetary system of the Philippines will drive the peso from the archipelago; the dellar of Indo-China already circulates in such quantities in the French possessions in the far east that practically it has banished the Mexican dollar; the British dollar has replaced the peso in the Straits Settlements, Hongkong and Labuan, and the international exchange commission has undertaken to draw the attention of the civilized world to the necessity of the adoption by China of a monetary sys-

tem of its own. The old Mexican dollar, when this latter measure shall have been adopted, will have come to the end of its career as a trade coin, and, like the thaler of Maria Theresa, it will survive only as a memory of what was once a factor of civilisation, and progress in the ancient nations of the cast.

Now, Mexico itself has sounded the death knell of the peso in the place of its birth. The monetary commission which has been studying the question of currency reform asked itself this ques-

"Ought the present dollar, which, whatever else it is, is chiefly one of our oldest historical monuments, and the trade coin par excellence of America and the far east, to be retained in circula-

In answering the question in the negative the commission has thrown sentiment to the winds, yielded to the requirements of the times, and, when the prospective legislation is placed in force, a new coin will be put in circulation in Mexico.

The old peso is far from being an artistic model, and the imperfections in its design, the poor finish and the indistinctness of its milling invite counterfeiters to imitate it. Recognizing this, and also that the necessity of conserving the prestige which the peso had won in the far east has passed, the monetary commission has recommended to the government that the old coin be demonetized, and that when the new monetary system is put into force a suitable substitute, carefully designed, acculately coined and bearing a distinctly different effigy, be offered the people.

The romance of the Mexican mint is without parallel. It was established in 1535 by royal decree. No gold coins were minted until nearly a century and a half later. During the Spanish dominion, which lasted until Mexican independence was recognized in 1821, the silver output of the mint was more than 2,000,000,000 peacs. The gold coinage only amounted to \$69,000.000. Since the establishment of Mexican independence over half a billion silver pesos have been coined.

In the latter years of the sixteenth century, or within 50 years after the mint was established, the Mexican peso was in circulation in the Antilles. Central and South America and in the Philippines, whence its regime was extended to China and the East Indies. It was not until 1895 that the peso was demonetized by the Spanish government in

Cuba and Porto Rico. In the first century of the Spanish discoveries and colonization the merchants of Cadix and Seville sent their cargoes to Vera Cruz. These were freighted by burros over the mountain trails and through the passes to the City of Mexico. Here they were exchanged for silver dollars, which were packed on the backs of the burros and carried to the port of Acapulco, on the Pacific coast. Thence the money was taken to the Philippines in the Spanish galleons, which came back laden with silks and spices and other products of the orient. Again the burros transported the merchandise, this time across the country to Vera Cruz, where it was transshipped to Spain. The burros still compete with the railroads as common carriers across Mexico, but now they seldom carry burdens of silver dollars.

whose lowest worth is estimated at \$10,000,000, and, saved will offer living room to over 20,000,000 additional inhabitants. In the government project at Yuma, Cal., it will cost \$3,000,-000 to bring this project to the selfsupporting point. To fully develop the system until it shall reclaim the 1,200.-

Millions in Irrigation.

Redemption by irrigation is the cry

of 100,000,000 acres of arid America,

800 acres proposed will cost \$22,000,-000. There will be an extensive canal system over the entire recisimed country, nearly 2,000 square miles. These canals will furnish waterways for traffic and pleasure boats. The waterfall will furnish all necessary water power, for mills, factories and electric lighting, all as a by-product without diminishing the value of the water to the crops. At the lowest probable price this land will bring \$120,000,000. the electrical energy \$100,000,000, the navigation \$10,000,-000, making a total of \$232,000,000 of value for an investment of \$22,000,000.

Doing the Handsome. "How can you sell cigarettes?" asked the reformer.

"Why not?" asked the manufac-"They are a deadly polson." "Well, we offer a free funeral for

\$.000,000 coupons."-Chicago Sua.

AUTO WITH KITCHEN ANNEX

In Which Negro Chef Prepares Lunchcon While Going Thirty Miles

A sensation was created the other day on the Pelham Bay road by a touring car that had a kitchen annex. While the machine was merrily bowling along at some 30 miles an hour a negro chef prepared luncheon over a little oil or possibly electric stove, reports the New

Spectators laughed and cheered; small boys ran after the auto. It seemed either the limit of human progress or the quintessence of American humor.

The car was light green, inclosed with glass as to front and sides. Three men and three women passengers sat on the

side seats facing one another. Between them a narrow folding table that had been lately used as a card table and a phonograph stand was set with plates, cups, knives and forks. The table had racks like those used on shipboard to keep the dishes from joiting,

AWAY. The kitchen was a folding sort of box that hung over and projected from the tail of the car. It was just big enough to contain the small stove and an array of long spoons, pots and pans of aluminium hung on hooks.

The negro chef, belted at the waist and securely strapped, stood on the threshhold of the kitchen and manipplated the utensils. Just as the car came near the chef was heard to shout: "Don't go so fast, boss! I done lost a lamb chop back in de road."

"Slow down a little," said a lavender veiled woman to the chauffeur. "What's that? A lunch wagon?" in-

quired one of the spectators. "I'll find the lamb chop, mister."

eagerly cried a small boy. The tourists did not seem to see anything funny in the situation. As the car slowed down they unfolded their napkins and prepared to attack the sizzling chops that were not lost by the way-

A rich boarding house aroma mingled with a smell of gasoline and the flowery effluence of country fields. A can of condensed coffee and a tall bottle marked "Rhine" showed that the luncheon would be complete.

When the car had passed on the oldest inhabitant of Pelham Bay turned to another spectator and said:

"I guess this is about the limit of what I'm going to see. Only two things more could a-happen-to have people born in them 'mobiles and to throw the corpses of the dead overboard like they do at

CHRISTMAS TREE TEUTON. Is Probably the Famous Yew-Tree of

Morse Mythology-Germans See Luther as Author.

The Christmas tree originated with the Germans, relates the New York Herald. It was probably a dim remembrance of the mysterious Yggdrasil or gigantic yew-tree of Norse mythology, which was fabled to bind together earth, hell and heaven.

German tradition, however, persistently attributes the invention of the Christmas tree to Martin Luther. On Christmas Eve. so the story runs, he was traveling alone over the snowcovered country and was deeply impressed by the contrast it made with the star-bespangled heavens. On arriving home he vainly strove to explain this impression to his wife and children. Suddenly an idea occurred to him. He went into the garden, cut off a little fir tree, dragged it into the nursery, put some candles on its branches and lighted them.

One of the most popular of German prints represents Martin Luther sitting in the bosom of his family, with a lighted Christmas tree in front of him.

As an archaeological fact the Christmas tree can be traced back almost as far as Luther's time, and may consequently have existed then. A manuscript, dated 1608, preserved in a private collection in Friedburg, Hesse, describes an illuminated fir tree as being a recognized feature of the Christmas festivities in that part of Germany.

For 200 years the fashion maintained itself along the Rhine, when suddenly at the beginning of this century it spread over Germany, and 50

years later had conquered all Europe. Duchess Helena of Orleans introduced it into the Tuileries in 1840, and it subsequently won the favor of Empress Eugenie. To-day Paris uses some 50,000 trees every Christmas. The French plant the entire tree in a tub, so as to be able to preserve it until New Year, when it is "plundered."

Trying Her. A Kansas City girl who recently returned from New York, where she studied music several years, was telling her mother's old negro cook about her work in the metropolis.

"So you'se ben studyin' music, has yoh?" said the old negress.

"Dat's fine," said the old woman, straightening up from her work of rolling dough. "Now, less see how much you'se learned in New Yawk. Who writ Bill Bailey, Won't Yoh Please Come Home?" "-Kansas City Star.

Going Chestnutting.

Mrs. Walker-Has your husband been out chestnutting this season, yet? Mrs. Torker-No; but he's going to a dinner where he is to make a speeh. next week, I believe.-Yonkers States-

Money in It. Knicker-Strange they didn't name the baby after its rich uncle. Bocker-No; he looked at it, and said he'd give them \$10,000 not to.-Harper's Bazar.

WORLD'S FOOD SUPPLIES.

Must Be Augumented by New Articles to Meet the Growing Demands.

In these days of food trusts and constantly advancing prices for all the common articles of food it behooves man to cast around for new means of supporting life, and the result will undoubtedly be that many animals and fishes now regarded as unfit for food will become common articles of diet. As a matter of fact, says the New York Times, man's prejudices and tastes in this direction are constantly changing. and to-day we relish as delicacies things the mere mention of which would have turned a strong stomach 3 few generations ago.

Persons who have studied the food problem declare that there are very few animals, birds or fish that are not relished as food in some part of the world. China's ability to support her swarming population is due to the fact that her inhabitants do not scorn to eat a great many things that we regard as unclean. There is no doubt that much of the prejudice of western peoples against certain forms of foot is due to a survival of the belief in the Mosaic law. Even in this courten there are many persons not Hebrews; who regard pork as unclean, and " will not eat anything that cam be classed as reptilian.

If one stops to think for a moment. however, one must see that most of the prejudices which we have both in favor of and against certain articles as food are unjustified. The common fowl is a scavenger of the worst kind, and the lordly turkey is only a domesticated cousin of the vulture. Perhaps if the turkey buzzard were domesticated and cleanly fed he might taste as well and offend the imagination as lit-

Down south the terrapin used to be despised as "nigger's food," but to-day ir is a delicacy esteemed by the most exacting epicures. The idea of eating a rat a few years ago would have inspired only disgust, and many of the stories of privation in sieges and famines were built upon the necessity of supporting life in this way, but to-day we hear frequently of muskrat banquets, and the little rodent is in a fair way to establish himself as a delicacy.

In the same way our prejudices regarding the food qualities of various kinds of fish are very irrational. Not so long ago sturgeon was considered unfit food for civilized man, but to-day it is esteemed as a delicacy, and its roe in the form of caviar brings high prices.

These reflections are comforting when one reads the predictions of learned professors that if wars and epidemics cease the world will be unable to feed the rapidly increasing population. The old world has food supplies that civilized man has not tapped yet, and the best feature of it is that most of these animals and fishes which are now despised, but which have a high nutritious value, are among the most prolific of the inhabitants of the

MISTLETOE: ITS TRADITIONS

Ancient Britons Worshiped Sun and They Gathered Only What Was Sacred to That God.

There are some pretty traditions connected with the use of the mistletoe at this season of the year that date back to the ancient celebrations. declares the Detroit Free Press. The ancient Britons worshiped the god Tutanes, the god of the sun. Of course the winter solstice, or the turning point of the sun in its course, the change from decreasing to increasing length of days, was an occasion for rejoicing among that people. Their customs, practiced by the Druid priests, were therefore appropriate. They went out at this season of the year to gather the revered mistletoe. and it is significant that they cared for none but that which grew upon the trunk of an oak tree, which was sacred to the sun god. Two white bullocks. were led out and tied to the oak tree upon which the plant was found. When the mistletoe had been detached by the priests the bullocks were sacrificed. The mistletoe was hung up shove the doors of the houses to insure good luck for the year that was about to begin. In Normandy the plants are still gathered in great quantities and shipped to Hugland and America for what purposes we well know. The hanging up of the mistletoe seems to reflect somewhat the custom of the Druids and the Britons of centuries

The mistletoe grows in England and parts of France, especially on appled trees. So closely does it cling to the trees that it saps their life and often kills them.

Typesetting Machines.

In answer to the query, "How old are typesetting machines?" the London Chronicle prints an extract from a copy of the local Herald of 1823: "Dr. Church is now at. Birmingham preparing his new printing machine. The compositor has only to sit down at this curious mechanism as he would at a pianoforte, and as he strikes the keys the types all fall from the case into their proper places with a velocity that keeps pace with the most rapid speaker. The form having been worked off, the type moves into the melting pot, from which it is returned. recast into its original state, without any diminution of material, and thence distributed into the case quite new. One of these machines placed at the bar of the house of commons would always insure a correct report of the debate. Dr. Church, the inventor, is a native of Boston, in New

THE STOCK SPECULATOR. His Varying Sensations While Engaged in Frenzied Struggle

for Wealth. In the World's Work a nameless speculator tells some of his experiences in "trading" on the New York stock exchange and describes the sensations of winning and losing, and the other incidents of the nervous gamble for wealth "on margins." He writes:

The life is one of earning one's bread and butter by the sweat of one's brow. I have found that there is no particuiar exultation in winning, but there is a momentary feeling of relief and exhilaration in taking a loss. Many times I have longed to be a

worker in a more constructive field. To wear a smiling countenance when you lose your money in an uphill fight may be natural to some men, but it was hard for me to acquire the habit. in my first year, I smiled on occasions when the smile pained me as much as it did when I was a young-

ster and had to have the barb of a dshhook cut out of my forefinger by a half-blind doctor. Now it seems like a good joke. I early found myself becoming introspective, and analyzing my emotions and thoughts. I do not say that all speculators do, for some of my

friends have the successfully reckless manner of accomplished horsemen. Often I have envied them their happygo-lucky temperaments, their carefree dispositions. Often before making my first trade

I feel the same momentary reluctance experienced when about to take a cold water plunge. A shudder and it is all over. After that the fascination of it all has grasped you. Men stick to it after their physicians order them to quit. Take ----, who contracted tuberculosis. He would not go away, but came to the board every day until he was too weak to stand. Even then, he came down to his office, and he almost iied there.

Again, ---, too, had tuberculosis of the lungs. He went to Colorado and was getting better, but came back in the winter against the advice of his physician. He was ripe for pneumonia. and it killed him: Stock speculation tre sufferers from nervous diseases, diabetes and kidney trouble; the Wall street kidney, I believe, would be a joke to several physicians if it were not so very serious a matter.

WANTED MULE TO KICK HIM One Time When the Smart Drummer Was Off in His Calculations.

"You know that eld game, of course," said the Chicago drummer. You are walking along the screet and a man comes running after you with a fat wallet in his hand and says he saw it fall from your pocket. You want the wallet, but you don't want to open it in the presence of the man. Therefore, you go down to your pocket for a couple of dollars to reward his honesty. Then you make a sneak some place where you can count the cash, and your knees grow weak as you discover that the fatness of the wallet is owing to slips of newspaper.

"I've had them try that little game on me half a dozen times and always got the laugh on them. A month ago. however, in St. Louis, I was walking about with an old hayseed when a fellow presented the wallet and said I dropped it. I smilingly denied it, and he tendered it to old hayseed. He bit at once and gave up a dollar.

"Then I opened on him and called him names and made his heart ache. and I didn't stop talking until we had reached a hotel where we could investigate. Say, I want to hire a mule to kick me for the next year! That waltet contained \$1,600 of as good money as Uncle Sam ever turned out, and the old chap from the turnip fields was just that much ahead: I tried to arque an even whack, being we were both together, but he stuffed the wad down into a hind pocket, shook his acad and replied: " 'Not any, my friend. Goeseberries

won't be more than half a crop this year, and this will help me pull through nicely!"

Pacific Survey.

Rocked in the billows of the deep Pacific ocean, a wood built, nonmagnetic sailing vessel of about 600 tons is expected to make a clockwise spiral course from San Francisco through the entire northern part of the ocean for making a magnetic survey. The total length of the proposed cruise is about 70,000 knots, and the estimated duration is about three years. The scheme is the outcome of the recent commercial activity in the Pacific regions which has necessitated more reliable values of the magnetiz elements. Except for data from occasional expeditionswand such as were acquired in wooden vecsels years ago, the present magnetic charts in use depend largely upon observations made on islands and along the coasts, whose prevalent local disturbances make true values difficult to determine.

Joak on the Iceman. "Will you have enny ise twoday lady. says the ise man two the womun." "No, I guess nott, she says, Ide ruth-

have a tun of kole." explanation—she ment thatt it was getting two kool foar ise & awlmoast hott enull for kole this is 1 of mine.-Georgie McDermott, "office boy" in the

Roston Post. His Lunacy Under Good Control. She-Suppose I were to die, what could you do?

He-I should almost be crasy. "Would you marry again?" "Weil, I would hardly be as craxy an that "-Puck

CURING TREES OF DISEASE Medicine Administered with Results

by Scientific Russian Investigator.

While the science of animal medi-zine is obviously antiquated, it is cortainly much more advanced than the science of vegetative medicine, says the Boston Transcript. Animals are weated locally and internally with cusative medicines, while, aside from fumigation and spraying of diseased breaking in treating diseased plants and trees with medicaments, some nutritive, and others curative. A Russum investigator has just reported the result of some 500 experiments of this character, which he conducted by introducing into the trunks autritive salts, both in the dry state and in nolution.

Experiments were made with oaks. poplars and sycamores, which suffered from frost, diseased white acacias, pear and apple trees. In ail cases the results were more or less favorable. Chlorosis, or bleaching of leaves, was treated successfully with iron sulphate, as well as a destructive fungus disease of the grape vins known as anthracnose. Fungus disease of the apple and oak were also successfully combated by administering medicine internally, as it were, allowing the plant to distribute them w the diseased cells in this way.

The extensive changes of the tissue of old trees into gum, as familiarly encountered on cherry trees, a procens known as gummosis, was effectively treated by solution of acetic, oxolic and tartaric acids. Of greater significance, however, was the attempt to combat the numerous boring insects that infest orchards by poisoning them by the introduction of poisonous solutions into the sap. For this purpose arsenic, copper sulphate manganese and barium were used, and the results were quite satisfactory in destroying the bark borer, apple moth. and one species of plant louse. With an extension of the knowledge of plant, pathology and physiology, the new method of healing, nourishing and stimulating trees may be looked for to assume proportions undreamed of at present.

NO WHEELED VEHICLES.

Ancient City Which Until Becently Had Never Seen Such a Conveyance.

In all the 5,000 years since the great-grandson of Noah founded the city of Sidon, never, until a few weeks aco, so at least tradition asserts, had a wheeled vehicle been seen in als streets. On that occasion, states Youth's Companion, an obliging and undaunted driver brought his horses and carriage to take two missionary ladies to Beirut. Admiring bystanders lifted the carriage up the frequent steps and round the sharpest corners of the narrow streets. Another exponent of antiquity of the place is Murex hill, near the castle. This hill is formed entirely of the shells of the murex, from a gland of which the historic dye of Tyre and Sidon-the Tyrian purple—is made. Compare with this magnificent purple, the manufacture of which has gone on uninterruptedly for many centuries the cheap aniline dyes of this age, which resemble natural dyes just long enough for the purchaser to get home again! It is interesting to note, also, that the two ladies for whom the carriage rumbled down Sidon streets were daughters of the honored Dr. Eddy. and that the years of the two generations of noble missionary workers in Siden now number just 100.

LOOK NOT TO THE EAST. To Do One's Best Work His Desk

Should Be Placed to Face Towards the West.

For a long time it has been declared that those whose heads pointed toward the north while they slept enjoyed better rest than those whose feet were pointed in that direction. Now a savant gravely declares that

fluences his capability, and that to do one's best work the seat must face the It, is asserted in all gravity that those who face the south lose at least

the position of one's desk largely in-

one-third of their capability, and a seat facing the east is only less hurtful than one which faces the north. The originator of the theory de-

clares that he stumbled upon the solution by finding himself anable to work; in a new library until the position of his desk had been changed, and that he has verified the correctness of his claim by experiment with a score of his friends. In the course of time the compass will become as essential to the landsman as to the mariner.

Appropriate Title.

He-I wonder what the meaning of that picture is? The youth and the maiden are in a tender attitude. She Oh, don't you see? He has

just asked her to marry him, and she is accepting him. "Ah! How appropriate the title!" "I don't see it."

"Why, the card at the bottom says: 'Sold.' "-Chicago Journal.

Good Suggestion. Mike-Oi've had th' noight mare for three noights, Pat. Phwat would you

ricommind for th' throuble? Pat-Yes moight trade th' mare for was av thim automobiles, b'gorry.

Prosperity in Georgia.

A Georgia poet writes to the Whitsett Courier: "I've made enough out of my poetry the past year to buy a new hat and have my hair cut."-Atlanta Con**st**itut**ion**.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

er Louislane et dans tens les Etats in Suc. Se publishté effre dons au commerce les avantages exceptionneux. Prix lés l'abonnement sur l'anné : Beitieus Ozetidienne ED-2.05 ! Middle bebla estate f St. 100 100