Some Interesting Figures Presented by an Authority on the Subject-Cost of the Weed.

The habitual smoker is occasionally meminded b. his abstentious friends that smooting is an expensive habit mud a wasterel one; and he is asked to consider how much money he could Bave a maily by a discontinuance of the mant, the habitual smoker, if he gives consideration to this proposition at all, invariably comes to the conclusion that the money he might not expend for cigars or toblicco would not be "saved" at all; and that the other things he would probably buy with it would not give him a tenth of the genuine enjoyment and solid comfort der ved from his pet luxury.

Whatever the conclusion of the individual smoker, however, it must be admitted that the habit of smoking, as indulged in by Americans, costs, in the aggregate, a lot of money. Tobacco Leaf presents some interesting figures on this subject. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1905, there were manufactured in the United States 7.689.337,-207 cigars, an increase of more than 185,600,600 over the record of the prededing year. The cigarette crop, too, In spite of Indiana's anti-cigarette law. showed a healthy activity, the increase amounting to over 141,000,000 in a total output of 3,368,212,740. The United States also produced over 21,-600,000 pounds of snuff last year and 334.489.110 pounds of smoking tobacco, the latter an increase of only about two per cent.

The value of all this tobacco product is not given with exactness, but is estimated at over \$300,000,000. The last three census returns were as follows: For 1880, \$116,772,631; for 1890, \$195,-536.862; for 1900, \$263,977.514. At the wate of increase of production in 1904-05 over the preceding year, the estimate of \$300,000,000 does not seem exeessive.

An interesting fact in connection with these statistics is that the great bulk of the product is raised here, manufactured here, and consumed here. Compared with the grand total, our imports and exports are relatively insignificant. Importation of tobacco in all its forms last year amountto only a little over \$22,000,000, and exports to a little over \$37,000,000. Smokers of good Havana cigars, by the way, have not been slow to recognize the results of American capital and enterprise as applied to the Cuban product.

The New York Sun estimates the American population of males who may be regarded as of "cigar age" at 24.000,000. At that rate the domestic product of cigars last year was sufficient to allow each smoker 320 smokes during the year. That is less than one cigar a day-which any inveterate devotee of the weed will maintain is an absordly moderate allowance. So, despite the big figures, we are a nation of moderate smokers, after all.

Perhans the most formidable view of the tobacco habit in America is obtained when we look at the annual consumption by weight. A cigar is not a heavy object; neither is a pipeful of tobacco or a cigarette; but American smokers burned last year about 300,-060 cons-enough to make quite a smudge. The habitual smoker, however will calmiv assert, between puffs. that he knows of no other product the burning of 300,000 tons of which would afford as much pleasure to the 24,000,-000 men who burned it, or as much profitable employment to the hundreds of thousands of persons engaged in growing manufacturing and selling the "horrid weed."

Foxy Old Duke.

An ingenious time-keeping arrangement exists to-day which was designed by the famous duke of Bridgewater, who laced South Lancashire with canals and died over 100 years' ago. The duke was a great stickler for punctuality and he was annoyed that the workmen on his estate at Worsley did not return to work after dinner as promptly as they left off when the clock struck 12. When the duke remonstrated with his men they replied that, while they always heard the clock strike 12 times, they often failed to hear the single stroke of one p. m. The duke of Bridgewater quickly found a remedy for this state of affairs. He had a clock made which would strike 13 times an hour after noon, and that clock proclaims one o'clock with a baker's dozen of sonorous strokes to this day. This "thirteen" clock is one of the curiosities of Worsley Hall .-Dundee Advertiser.

Island of St. Helena.

St. nelena, the lonely Atlantic rock on which Napoleon lingered out his last years, was once a regular calling! place for ships from England to the Cape of Good Hope, India, Augeand the east. The liftle island lived and flourished on the money spent by these callers. But the construction of the Suez canal diverted this trade and mimed a fatal blow at St. Helena's prosperity. A pathetic reminder of the good old times and the present bad ones is the announcement in the latest issue of the St. Helena Guardian that the local sailors' home is to be sold.

Explain, Please! Anythink

Mrs. McSosh-Do you mean to tell me, sir, that you were sober when you came home last night?

Mr. McSosh-Absolutely, my dear. "Then will you explain why you filled the refrigerator with coal and put six shovelfuls of ice in the furnace?"-Cleveland Leader.

RED STREAM IN CAVERN.

Mysterious Cave in British Columbia Which Was Explored by Two Women.

Daring the superstitions of the natives and braving the dangers of an unexplored cavern at Ross peak, British Columbia, two Philadelphia women, Miss Elizabeth Waln Vaux, a daughter of the late Mayor Vaux, and Mrs. Charles Schaffer, had an exciting experience lately. The result of their courage is a more extended knowledge of the depths of the recess in the rocks, which is known locally as Dutchman's cave, says the Philadelphia Bulletin. One of the most wonderful things they saw was a stream which had the appearance of blood. In the dim light of the candles which they carried the women were unable to determine if the water itself were colored or the red effect was given by it flowing over a deep red rock base.

The trip was fraught with many dangers. None of the natives ever ventures more than a hundred feet from the mouth of the cave. It is their belief that the place is inhabited by igres and creatures of magic power. The tales only whetted the desire of the two Quaker City visitors to penetrate the depths of the rocks, so they secured large candles to light the way into the unknown galleries. No one would accompany them, but it was arranged that if they did not return that night a searching party was to be sent for them.

After making their way along a parrow ledge for about a hundred yards from the mouth of the cavern, the explorers found themselves in a large grotto, the roof hung with beautiful stalactites, which glittered in the flickering light of the candles, which gave the scene a weird aspect. The floor was covered with a veritable forest of stalagmites that arose like gigantic columns, many of them joining the stalactites.

It was through this cavern that the blood-red stream runs. The ladies walked along the edge of the water until it narrowed so that they could scarcely squeeze through. At the other end was another cavern, larger and more magnificent than the first. Their candles were burning low by this time and they had to hurry back to the entrance, the last candle sputtering out just as they reached the beginning of the incline leading to the entrance. The last stage of the trip was made in total darkness, but the venturesome tourists reached the outside world safely, and astonished the natives with accounts of what they

OUR FIRST GREAT HICHWAY

It Was the "Shod" Mulepath from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico.

The first great commercial highway in America, and for more than three centuries incomparably the most important, was that romantic calzada or "shod" mulepath from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, writes Charles F. Lummis, in McClure's. This is not forgetting the "military roads" of the Incas, which the romantic historian (who never saw them) invariably compares with the great Roman highways to which they are about as comparable as a Boston alley to Pennsylvania avenue. They were extraordinary works for aborigines and greatly facilitated the fremarkable operations which distinguished the Incas as the only American Indians that ever made what can in sober language be called a military campaign; but they weremerely improved trails for the passage of the llama; and while subject to much traffic, they had no commercial rating which we can count.

by Cortez in 1522, and improved in later days to the tune of \$3,000.00 was a more or less stone-paved highway nearly 100 leagues long, from the scaboard to the capital which, for 31/2 centuries, was the largest city in all the western hemisphere; and over its rough meanderings, for that long span of time, pottered up and down a commerce so vast in value as to seem incredible to any "American" generation except this present one. Down its declivity from the Tierra Fria of the great plateau to the pestilential Tierra Caliente toiled the enormous revenues to which the output of the bonanzas of Zacatecas, Guanajuato, and other great silver mines swelled the royal quintas (fifths); besides the vast riches of indigo, sugar, cochineal, sarsaparilla and jalap from Mexico, the cacao of Peru and Ecuador, the copper of Coquimbo and the silks and spices of China and the Philippines

The Vera Cruz road (first laid out

(from the "Acapulco ship"). There are reasonably well-known railroads in the United States which to-day do not haul half as much value in freight in a year as yearly shuffled down the Vera Cruz calzada 300 years

In the Art Gallery. Softleigh-I feel great reverence when I stand before one of these old

masters. Don't you? N. Peck-Yes. I am greatly awed by one I have at home.—Kansas City Telegram.

Cruel Thrust.

"I can't see why it is that some men will go in raptures over a silly woman," said the fair girl to her chum. "Who's been making love to you now, dear?"-Milwaukee Sentinel.

The Up in Maine. "Do you believe all signs fail in . dry season?" asked the hunter. 'Why, yes," replied the Maine guide; "but they don't always fall in a dr: town " -Vonlors Statesman,

THE CZAR AS TOYMAKER.

Russian Autocrat Is Clever at Dressing Playthings for His Children.

The czar does not let the untoward state of his empire weigh heavily upon him. Lately he has been employing his time in making toys for his children, some of them pretty and ingenious. It was the czarina who awakened the chars ambitions in the matter of artistic toys.

There was a magnificent bear which he made out of plaster, and which is. to be carved in wood for the czarevitch. Another effort is a serpent with a beak painted blue, which he named after one of his ministers, who is not too popular at court. He has a water mill in course of construc-

Their majesties have finished their cruise among the islands of the Gulf of Finland, where they led a pleasantly irresponsible life. Sometimes they fished, sometimes they went ashore for a hunt after otter or badger. They were fond of picnickings under the pines; the czarina made splendid tea on such occasions, and more than once stray English peasants who wandered in their vicinity have been treated to tea.

For every little service it is said the emperor and empress lavish presents, watches, scarfpins and rings being distributed in profusion. The czar went ashore in a gray Norfolk jacket, soft tweed hat and leather gaiters; the czarina in a gray Scotch tweed skirt and motor cap.

PAPIER-MACHE STAGE FOOD Actors Demand Real Estables and Fake Articles Are Bele-

gated.

"Papier mache food won't be seen on the stage this season. Everythingchickens, chops, cutlets, loaves-will be real.'

The speaker, a manufacturer of stage properties, says the Philadelphia Bulletin, dusted a casque and resumed. a little sadly:

"I have had to do away with my papier mache food department, discharging two men and an apprentice. For even the 10, 20 and 30-cent shows won't carry fake viands now. They say that as far back as Paint Rock. Merna and Lodi, the people insist that actors eat real food on the stage.

"It looks better, I suppose. At the same time this new fangled realism is playing the deuce with the stage prop erty business. It is putting good mer out of work.

"And consider its expense. I know of one comedy, with a banquet scene in the second act, where a bottle of real chambague and a real lobster salad are used every night. This comedy has been played 1,000 times in the las: three years. There is expense for you -an expense of \$4,000 for food alone. Well, one papier mache champagne bottle and one papier mache saladworth about two dollars-would have saved all that money."

OLD QUAIL HEN'S COVEYS.

Single Bird That Brought Off Fifty-Four Young in One Season.

An interesting incident in reference to the breeding of quail was told re cently by a gentleman living in the vi cinity of Cypress, states the Houston (Tex.) Post.

He says that an old quail hen nested in his yard and that during the year. three separate coveys of young birds were raised. The party mentioned watched the old bird during the breed ing season and was careful that noth ing molested her or her eggs. Early in the summer the first covey came of with 20 birds, all of which were raised Then another covey of 16 was raised. and finally, late in the summer, anoth er hatch of 18 birds was brought off That makes a total of 54 birds raised

by one hen this season. The incident offers several interest ing suggestions namely, that the pres ent closed season on the bird is about correct to cover the entire breeding period. It also shows that the killing of quail in September and October is nothing short of murder, as the old birds are too poor from caring for their young, and the young birds too young to be of any value for eating.

Moorish Carpets.

A thing of beauty may be a talisman forever, according to the Moors, whose celebrated carpets originated in magic to ward off the evil eye, dreaded along all the coasts of the Mediterranean The designs, as studied by Dr. Westermarck, consist of hands, crosses, eyes. rosettes, squares, octagons, triangles. and numberless conventional embroidery patterns; and all are grouped around the one central idea, whose purpose is to throw back, by a counter charm, the evil influence emanating from the evil eye. This is usually done by stretching out the five fingers of the right hand. All these designs can be traced to some elaboration of fives, originally representing the five fingers, or of eyes, for if baneful energy can be transferred by the eye obviously it can be thrown back by

Of Course. -Gerald-What does she want with a copy of Burke's Peerage? She hasn't money enough to buy a count, let alone a duke.

Gladys-Maybe not, but a girl can shop, can't she?-Louisville Courier-

Rarely Longer. We pardon as long as we love .-Rochefoucauld.

CORPSES HELD IN LAWN. Agitation Against a Practice That Has Been Prevalent in

England.

Rev. H. Pitt, the vicar of St. Mary's, Southwark, has started an agitation against the practice of undertakers of holding corpses in pawn. He was moved to do this, says a London report, because of being compelled to seek magisterial advice owing to the fact that a man's body had remained unburied for ten days because of dis-

pute. "It seems almost incredible," observed Mr. Pitt. "that a body should be seized and held as security for expenses entailed by the deceased's relatives in connection with the funeral that had not then taken place. Nevertheless, the following case, which recently came under my notice, is not,

I am afraid, of an uncommon nature: "A man died, and the agent of the office in which he was insured informed a neighboring undertaker of the fact-a business which insurance agents carry on for commission paid to, them by the undertakers. It so happened, however, that the policy had lapsed, and the man's widow was en-! titled to receive only quarer benefit, amounting to about \$12.

"This fact proved no bar to business." The undertaker supplied the coffin; but once the corpse had been placed in the coffin the undertaker refused to carry out the funeral until he had received the full amount. Finally, after trouble with the neighbors, who complained, the undertaker, as a 'favor.' removed the body to his stable. Thus the corpse was in pawn for a number of days. Eventually the widow borrowed the necessary money at ruinous interest."

OLD PUMPS AS FENCEPOSTS

The Unique Fence That Was Built by a Hoosier Well Contractor.

Commodore Perry Rogers was the name of a man who built the oddest fence in Hoosierdom.

Rogers was a well contractor and went about digging wells and putting up windmills. When he finished his jobs he would always take along with him the pump that he had thrown out of service.

Probably no other collection of numping contrivances ever could equal that the commodore gathered up from the farms and homes of Starke and other counties of his state. The scene of his operations covered a very large field and he had plenty of jobs to do. There were wooden pumps, iron pumps, siphons and suckers of all makes, sizes and conditions. He hauled them to his home near Knox, and tinglig made use of them in this queer way. He made fence posts of them. Passersby on the road from Knox to Bass lake often ask the stage driver why there are so many wells in a row along the road, for that is the impression that one receives by looking at the quecr posts. Then he is told that the iron and wooden objects sticking up out of the ground at regular intervals are the posts of Commodore Rogers' outlandish

There are probably ten miles of pump post fence. There would be more if the commodore had not met an untimely end while on a hunting expedition. The posts have been in use for several years now, but as yet show no signa of decay and it is probable that they will outlast many of the more orthodox posts of the late commodore's neighbors.

ABOUT ELECTRO MAGNETS.

Interesting Facts Concerning the Workings of the Electrical Current.

The familiar horseshoe magnet is made of highly tempered steel and magnetized so that one end is a north pole, the other a south, or perhaps more commonly known as a negative and a positive. Once magnetized it is always magnetic unless the power is drawn from it by exposure to intense heat, writes Joseph H. Adams, in "The Practical Boy" in St. Nicholas. An elctro-magnet, however, can be made from any scrap of soft iron, from a piece of ordinary telegraph wire to a gigantic iron shaft. When a current of electricity passes through an insulated wire coiled about a soft iron object such as a nail, a bolt, or a rod, that object becomes a magnet as long. as a current of electricity is passing. through the coils of wire or helix. A coil of wire in the form of a spiral spring has a stronger field than a straight wire carrying the same current, for each turn or convolution adds its magnetic field to that of the other turns; and by having the center of the coil of iron, which is a magnetic body, the strength of the magnetism is greatly increased.

The Salt in the Ocean. If the ocean did not have sait it would freeze somewhat more readily than it does now, but there would be no very marked difference. The ocean is prevented from freezing not so much by its salt as by its size and by its commotion. On account of its size, large portions of it extend intowarm climates at all seasons, and: by reason of its great depth it is a vast storehouse of heat. Its currenta distribute much warm water among the cold.—St. Nicholas.

Tamily Secrets.

"I hope you'll grow up to be a good, and intelligent man like your father," said the natronizing relative.

"That's easy," answered the painfully precocious youngster. "Mother says I've got him beat aiready."-Washington Star.

IN MODERN MI

ELEMENT OF CHANCE BY THE DE...

Obstacles of Primitive Methods "Lake" Been Done Away With in Up-to-Date Hunt

for Gold. Placer mining came to a stop Egypt and Spain when their fell to the level of hand in stopped in Brazil partly for the ... reason, and partly because the and being small and tine, the place, he are nearly flat and the mines are or of grade." It stopped in Carron states the Chicago Chronicie, c : the tailings choked up the riv the law courts interdicted the Li-

draulic process. in Australia it had almost pas the level of hand labor when the dredge was invented, in 1 though stopped in wiffer time to a of running water, it is still going or during the summer time, when we streams are released from frust. in none of these countries was planda mining arrested because there was no more gold in the gravel, but on for the other reasons given, an or which are now remedied by the good dredge.

This invention supersedes aand labor: it requires no "grade" or ue clivity down which to sluice its gravel; it will choke no river; it needs only enough water to float itself ir and to wash the gold with; and ail of this water it can and does use ever again. It is as much at home in the arid but auriferous deserts of Arizona as in the golden marshes of the Feather river.

What is this "goldship?" It is simply a dredge that floats in a ponc of its own making-pond which accompanies it wherever it chooses to go, and which enables it to move over the land in any direction. It soes of up the gravel subjects it on its decke to the action of any desired process mechanical or chemical, and then, having exhausted it of its gold, casts the gravel behind, and keeps on advancing until the field before it is sifted and treated from surface to bedrock.

As the ground can be thoroughly tubed and sampled beforehand, this process lifts gold mining from the category of speculative enterprises to that of a manufacturing business. The gold dredge is a gold manufactory with an insatiable demand and an assured market for its product, at the rate of \$20.47 for each troy onnce fine, paid down by the mints in sole coin.

No risk, no idle stock on hand, no bad debts, no commission, brokera reor discounts, no monopoly of trade now or ever possible. An instant sale for the entire product at a nied price paid in cash. Such are the incomparable conditions of the gold-manu facturing business.

It goes without saying that unless the cost of taking part in it is be yond the ordinary means of bus ness men such an industry will not fail to invite a vast number of participants This contingency can be settled at once. The dredges cost from \$35 -000 to \$50,000 each, according to size -a sum quite within the means of 'ne average business man, commercia

partnership or small corporation. Like most other inventions, the goldship is a development. A gold dredge was used on the Mardaiens river 20 years ago; the device was further developed several years laterin New Zealand; it was brough; almost to perfection in California; at the present time a dozen machine shops scattered all over the United states are rivaling one another ir turning out a more and more perfect dredge.

The home demand for these machines is so urgent that but few have as yet been shipped abroad, yet several of them have already gone to South America, and several more to Europe. The present rate of outfurr is about one machine a week; in the course of a few years it will be one per diem; in ten years it probably will be ten machines per diem. When this takes place, and perhaps before it, the world's production of gold even should the quartz mines yield no more than at present, will be \$2,000. 000 a day.

Strength of Katydids. "Enormously strong are the katy. dids," says a man who trained one of these insects—a kind of grasshopper "If a man were as strong, proportion ately, he would be able to tear up . church. I harnessed my katydid to a sied made by folding a piece of ordinary note paper, and then loaded the sled with various articles. The insect proved able to draw, in addition to the original paper, 12 paper siteets, each three by four and one-half inches. s large screw, two steel pens, a stone weighing two ounces, and three and a half lead pencils. When the weight became too heavy to be drawn other wise, the katydid got its forefeet over the edge of the table for a better hold and, on the addition of another weight it increased the adhering power of its feet by moistening them in its mouth.

His Qualifications. Senior Partner-I think that office boy of ours would make a good po liceman.

Junior Partner-Because why? "Because he's never around when wanted."—Chicago Daily News.

Emergency Case. Bacon-The young doctor uses his dress-suit case for carrying home bot tied beer in.

Egbert-Calls it an emergency case 1 suppose.—Yonkers Statesman.

ARE BUYING LARGER FARMS

The Rural Population Decreases as Wealth in the Country In-Cronsas.

It seems a paradox, but is nevertheless well established as true, that in certain of the best farming regions of the United States great and abounding agricultural prosperity has resuited in decreased rural population. A no less striking than surprising illustration of this, says the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, in given in a recent state census report of lowa, which is reported to show a falling off of two per cents in the population of that great and prosperous state since the general cersus of 1900. Of course, such a result was not acceptable to lowa's pride, and it was not readily accepted. Close inquiry, however, is reported not only to confirm the general correctness of the new count, but to show a sufficient reason for its disappointing result.

The explanation offered is that it is all due to the land hunger of the prosperous Iowa farmer. Having money shead and well knowing that good farm land in the Mississippi valley is one of the safest and most probtable of investments, he has been buying in the adjoining farms of his less fore-handed neighbors to such an extent, the reports say, that vacant farmhouses dot every township in the state. Many of these vacant farmhouses may again be occupied by the sons and sons-in-law of the purchaser; some of them will be abandoned, and the newly acquired lands consolidated into larger farms. And if lowa follows the course of development that has been going on for many years in the magnificent farming regions of central Illinois, the consodidated farma will be leased in tracts of 80 to 328 acres, or more, to thrifty and prosperous tenant farmers.

The process as it has gone in Ilinois for a number of years, is that the wealthier land owner buys out the 40 and 80-acre farms of his neighbors, tile drains and otherwise improves them, often renting the same land or larger tracts to the vendors, who generally make more money as tenants than they had done as . wners. The tenant farmer of central Illinois put their capital into the cest of farm implements and machinery and live stock. Their prosperity is seen in their comfortable and well furnished houses, the well kent vehicles and horses with which their families drive to church, and to country gatherings. In Central Illinois just now the tendency is to larger farms, the tenant generally desiring to increase his area, and the landlord. regulating the quantity of land he will teage by the proved conneits and avecess of each tenant. For its best farm land lows appears to be approaching the same system.

THE WAITER'S LARGEST TIP

It Was Raised a Fiver by the er Diner Who It to Him.

It was in a Chicago restaurant. Two handsomely dressed young women entered, accompanied by modishly attired youths, one of whom bore every evidence of a recent and thorough plunge into the depths of dissipation. relates the Chicago Record-Herald.

The party seated themselves, and the distipated-looking chap proceeded to order an extensive supper. During the course of the repast the youth in question made repeated allusions in a somewhat loud voice to the condition he had been in the night before. According to his statement, several things had transpired on that occasion of which he was entirely oulivi-

His friends listened and laughed at the account of his doings, and the supper went merrily onward to the cafe noir and liqueurs.

When the time came to pay the check the gilded youth ostentatiously produced a large roll of bills and turned to the expectant waiter with the question:

"Paul, what is the largest tip for a supper you have ever received?" The waiter smiled delightedly and said:

"Twenty dollars, sir." "Well," said the young Crossus, with an air of bravado, "here is twenty-five for you."

He turned to his friends with a mock effort at shifting the conversation to some other subject, and shortly afterward they all rose to go. As the waiter was assisting the girls with their wraps the prodigal turned to him and asked:

"By the way, Paul, who ever gave you \$20 as a supper tip?" "You did, sir-last night, sir," replied the smiling waiter, and the eaves-

droppers roared. Coming Presidents.

The chauces are that the presidents after 1932 and up to 1944 are now preparing for college. It would take a very far-seeing man to guess who will be president ar any elections between 1928 and 1944, or even to name the procable candidate of a single party after 1924. Perhaps schoolmasters and college posidents might make as good guesses as anyone elso. A law preceptor at Columbia pointed out Theodore Roosevelt when he was a law student as a man who would be presidenk of the United States.-Washing-

tom Post. In Our Boarding-House. "You don't taste any veal in these chicken croquettes," said the landlady, her face beaming with conscientious

pride. "That's right," rejoined the hardened hardware clerk. "What are they made of-codfish?"-Columbus Dispatch.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS Ret très résendue en Leuisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sade Sa publicité offre dons au commerce les avantages exceptionnelle. Prix de l'abonnement sur l'anné : Edition Ouctidienne U.2.06

Malves Seban-suder y Stade.