

RURAL READING.

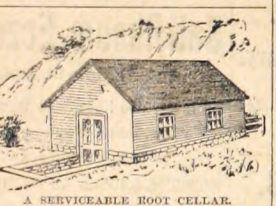
AGRICULTURAL TOPICS INTELLIGENTLY DISCUSSED.

An expensive Root Cellar Built Wholly Above Ground—The Stock-Flanch, Dairy, and Garden—Helpful Hints to Housekeepers, Etc.

THE FAIRM.

An Inexpensive Root Cellar.
ROOT cellar wholly above ground is not advisable where frosts frequently penetrate to the depth of two or three feet, says the *American Agriculturist*. But a cellar partly underground is safer and usually cheaper. If possible, choose a location, protected from the prevailing winter winds by a hill, or woodland with natural drainage; make an excavation to the depth of four feet, and a length and breadth sufficient to hold the anticipated crop. This is easily done by figuring on 2,800 cubic inches as the space required by one bushel of potatoes or other root crops.

Lay up a good stone foundation to one foot above the ground, using a liberal amount of mortar. The stairs of five steps may be located upon the outside, as shown in the engraving, or placed inside the cellar as desired. The superstructure may be of wood; the corner posts need not be over six feet in height. If a balloon frame, the studding should be covered with matched lumber, both outside and inside. This is to be covered with heavily tarred paper, and sheathed with matched lumber. The expense of four thicknesses of matched stuff is not heavy, and a building is secured that is quite frost proof. The windows, which are placed upon the side, two feet above the wall, are double sashed, with a four-inch air chamber between. The door is double, with a space between. The ceiling should be made as impervious to cold as the side walls. A heavy application of mortar should be applied where the sills rest upon the wall, besides, the sills should be laid in mortar. The roof may be of any material desired. The interior should be divided into bins, located so



A SERVICEABLE ROOT CELLAR.

that they may be reached by a long wooden trough, one end of which can project out of either window, into which the roots are scooped direct from the wagon. Windows should be arranged so as to be readily opened or closed for ventilation.

A building with a capacity of 300 bushels can be substantially built at an outlay of from \$40 to \$75, owing to the amount of work the owner performs himself.

Orchard Grass.
W. J. Beal, in his "Grasses of North America," says: Orchard grass is perennial, lasting for many years, two or three or even five feet or more in height, rather large, coarse, rough, of a light green color, and grows in dense tufts, unless crowded by tight seeding. The lower leaves are sometimes two feet or more in length. The clustered spikelets make dense masses on the small spreading panicle. The flowers appear with those of early red clover. It is a native of Europe, and is also now found in North Africa, India, and North America, and perhaps in other countries. Although it came to this country from Europe, it did not attract much attention in England until sent back there in 1864 from Virginia. So far as quality is concerned, if cut in good season or pastured when young, it stands well the test of cattle and the chemists. It is very nutritious, and is a rich source of food, and is a very vigorous growth, and if the grass is not a very valuable one it is certainly not from the lack of testimonials from practical farmers. The stems are not very abundant when compared with the leaves, hence the plant is more suitable for pasture than for meadow. It is the first to furnish a bite for the cattle in spring; it is little affected by the droughts of July and August, and continues growing until the severe cold of November blocks up the sources of nourishment. When cut or grazed it starts up with great vigor. No man should sow it on his lawn, for it would need cutting every day before breakfast. If cut while in blossom, both cattle and horses are exceedingly fond of the hay and do well on it. If left to stand until the seeds are mature it becomes more tough and woody than even timothy, and cattle will need to have their teeth sharpened to eat it in this stage of its growth. Orchard grass loves a deep, rich, moist soil. Grown on poor, dry land by a hazy farmer, it will not give satisfaction. It may be cut two or three times a year, producing large crops of the very best of fodder, just as long as the fertility of the land can be maintained by top-dressing.

Use of the Roller.
The farm roller is a most important and valuable implement for those who exercise good judgment as to when it is to be used. It is just what is needed to press winter grain firmly in the ground after the surface has dried sufficiently. It is also excellent on clover in spring to press down small stones that might be in the way of close cutting with the mowers. But it will not be used on spring grain until the latter is up three or four inches, nor on corn ground at any season if the soil be at all heavy. Corn ground needs to be light as possible, and it must be made mellow by harrowing up, not by rolling down.—*New York Herald.*

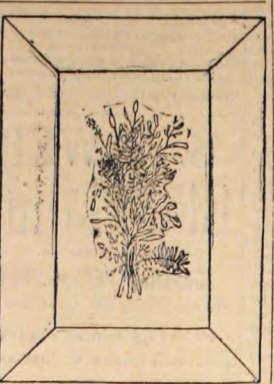
THE HOUSEHOLD.

From Field and Wood.
When we arranged, dried, and pressed flowers we always beautiful. As much of their beauty consists in the graceful

forms of delicate stems and tiny seed-pods, that arrangement is best which allows this dainty tracery to be seen.

An ornamental panel made of the treasures gathered from field and wood is something new and pretty, says the *Country Gentleman*. It is much to be preferred to the old-fashioned "dried bouquet," where delicate grasses, soldierly cat-tails and everlasting were often packed tightly together, effectually destroying the distinctive beauty of each.

To make a panel like the one illustrated herewith, there will be required a thin board of the desired size (board on



PANEL OF DRIED GRASSES.

which certain kinds of dressed goods are wrapped answer nicely, and can be had at almost any dry-goods store for the asking), a cup of well-cooked flour paste, a sheet of wadding, enough pongee or China silk of a cream shade to cover the board, sufficient plush of a bright golden brown to make a border two or three inches wide around the panel, and a paper of the smallest-sized double-pointed tacks.

From the wadding cut a piece the exact size of the board, and fasten it on by pasting along each edge; do the same with the silk; join the four plush strips at each corner with a bias seam and turn the edge under, around the inside of the oblong thus made. It is best to fasten the turn by hemming with long stitches. The plush must be cut large enough to cover the board, and the silk to be cut large enough to cover a quarter of an inch. Carefully put some paste on the board at each corner and along both edges, place it right-side down on a table and put the panel on it, pressing softly in place; cut square out of each corner of the plush where it projects beyond the board; then turn down the projecting edges on to the back of the board. A piece of heavy brown paper, cut a trifle smaller than the panel, should be pasted over the back to conceal raw edges and give a finished appearance. Drive a tack on each side of the panel near the top, on which to tie a cord to hang the panel by. Great care should be taken that all edges are cut perfectly straight and that all joinings are exact.

The panel is now ready for the grasses, cat-tails, etc., which should be arranged gracefully on it and firmly fastened into position with tacks. These will not show if a leaf or full head of grass is skillfully allowed to drop over them. The panel should be hung almost flat against the wall, and on a level with the eye of a person standing. This is the manner recommended by artists for the hanging of all pictures.

Hints to Housekeepers.

RELIEVE pains in the sides by the application of mustard.

FOR NOSE BLEED, get plenty of powdered alum up into the nostrils.

SANDPAPER applied to the yellow keys of the piano will restore the color.

THE best thing to clean tin ware is common soda, on which to wash with a damp cloth, after which wipe dry.

FOR coffee stains try putting thick glycerine on the wrong side and washing it out with lukewarm water. For raspberry stains weak ammonia and water is the best.

COFFEE pounded in a mortar and roasted on an iron plate, sugar burned on hot coals, and vinegar boiled with myrrh and sprinkled on the floor and furniture of a sick room, are excellent deodorizers.

TO INSURE paste from moulding, put into it a proportion of alum and resin. A few drops of any essential oil will preserve leather from mold, and a single clove put into a bottle of ink will have the same effect upon it.

POWDERED borax mixed with a little powdered sugar and scattered about in spots will prove certain death to cockroaches and to ants, and if that is not handy, a few drops of spirits of turpentine sprinkled about and there will be as effective in the case of these nuisances as it is in the case of moths.

WHEN linen has turned yellow cut up a pound of fine white soap into a gallon of milk and hang it over a fire in a wash kettle or bottle. When the soap has completely melted put in the linen and boil it half an hour, have ready a lather of soap and water, wash the linen in it, after which rinse it in two cold waters with a very little lime in the last.

DO you use eggs for frosting? Don't do it. Take five tablespoonfuls of milk, one cup of granulated sugar, flavor nicely with lemon or vanilla, then boil five minutes. Beat it hard until it is cool enough to spread on the cake. The beauty of this frosting is that it is ready to cut as soon as thoroughly cold. It is very nice with cocoanut or grated chocolate stirred in it. When eggs are high it is quite a saving.

THE GARDEN.

Early and Late Potatoes.
The advice is being widely copied to plant all potatoes, and especially to plant the earliest varieties, at least likely to be affected by blight and rot. There is something in the theory that the longer a variety of potatoes is maturing, the greater chance disease has to attack it. The same principle favors early planting and early varieties in order to escape attacks of the potato beetle. The old-fashioned peach-bloom potato was so extremely late that it furnished food for successive crops of potato larvae all through the summer until frost came. For this reason probably it was the first to run out when potato beetles began to be numerous.

Yet it is an unquestioned fact that the larger proportion of potatoes grown for market are of late varieties, and late planted often at that. The very early

price is often much higher, and a few prepared, to meet the demand about the 4th of July, when \$1.50 to \$2 a bushel is the ruling price for a few days. Yet these very early potatoes are such light yielders that no large grower ever thinks of planting them extensively. They usually yield delicate grasses, soldierly cat-tails and everlasting, which they can obtain from more northern regions in better condition for planting next spring. What is the use of keeping over from July to April potatoes that in the first-named month will bring fancy prices for early, and which it is almost impossible to keep through the fall and winter without sprouting till their substance is wholly exhausted. If farmers want to grow their own seed potatoes of early varieties they should plant as late as the first of the middle of June. By the time the potatoes are setting the weather will be cooler, and the fall rains will usually have begun.

Late varieties of potatoes are often better crops when planted quite late. An early planting for them means forming the tubers during the hottest and driest season of the year. But, season for season, it is impossible to foreknow which planting shall be the best, but for early potatoes two plantings, the early for market at higher prices, and the later for seed and a larger crop, would seem to be advisable.

THE DAIRY.

Care of Milk for Cheese-Making.

Prof. Jas. W. Robertson, of the Guelph, Ontario, Agricultural College, is the author of a valuable little pamphlet bearing the above title. After giving a number of practical suggestions the Professor divides the gist into the following short paragraphs, which are the following of a careful reading.

1. Milk from healthy cows only should be used, and not until at least four days after calving.
2. Any harsh treatment that excites the cow lessens the quantity and injures the quality of her yield.
3. Cows should be allowed an abundant supply of wholesome, suitable food, and as much pure water as they will drink.
4. A supply of salt should be placed where cows have access to it every day.
5. Cows should not be permitted to drink stagnant impure water, nor to eat cleaning from horse stables, leeks, turnip tops, nor anything that would give the milk an offensive taint.
6. All milk vessels should be thoroughly cleaned; first being well washed, then scalded with boiling water, and afterwards sufficiently aired to keep them perfectly sweet.
7. Cows should be milked with dry hands and only after the udders have been washed or well brushed.
8. Milking should be done and milk should be kept only where the surrounding air is pure and free from all objectionable and tainting odors. Milking in a foul smelling stable or yard imparts to milk an injurious taint. Sour whey should never be fed, nor should hogs be kept in a milking yard, nor near a milk stand.
9. The pails only should be used.
10. All milk should be properly strained immediately after milking, and for that purpose a detached strainer is preferable to a strain-pail.
11. In preparing milk for delivery to a cheese factory it should immediately after straining be thoroughly aired by pouring, dripping or stirring. The treatment is as beneficial for the morning's milk as for the evening's, and is even more necessary when the weather is cool than when it is warm.
12. In warm weather all milk should be cooled after it has been aired, but not before.
13. Milk kept over night in small quantities—say in tin pails—will be in better condition than if kept in larger quantities in one vessel.
14. When both messes of milk are conveyed to the factory in one can, the mixing of the morning with the evening's milk should be delayed till the milk-wagon reaches the stand.
15. While the milk is warmer than the surrounding air it should be left uncovered but when colder it may with advantage be covered.
16. Milk pails and cans should be protected from the rain, and milk stands should be constructed to shade the cans from the sun.

THE KITCHEN.

Potato Surprises.
Take six large, well-washed potatoes of uniform size. Boil until nearly tender, then cut off one end of each, reserving the ends to be used as "lids." Scoop out the center, leaving a wall about a quarter of an inch in thickness. Fill with cold chicken, chopped fine, and well seasoned with pepper, salt, and parsley. A teaspoonful of the chicken gravy, if at hand, may be stirred into the mixture. Put the end on each potato, securing it in place with a fine thread—then put into the oven and bake until the potatoes are brown. Almost any cold meat will do in place of chicken.

Boiled Meats.
Meats, whether fresh or salt, should be placed over the fire in hot water, so as to keep the juice within the meat. Let it boil slowly, keeping the meat covered with water and skimming off all substances that may arise to the surface. After it is done put the meat in a stone jar or a well-tinned pan and cover it with the liquid in which it was boiled. Do not let it cool in this liquid over night and you will have a tender and juicy piece of meat.

Boiled Chicken.
If it is intended to serve the chicken hot with a sauce, boil it till it is well done. Remove the pot containing the chicken from the fire and keep it covered till it is ready to serve, as chicken kept in this manner will be more tender than when taken from the pot while boiling. A three-pound hen would require one and three-quarter hours slow boiling.

Boiled Corn Beef.
Before placing corn beef in the boiling water it should first be soaked in cold, well and thoroughly cleansed. Boil slowly until well done, and if it is to be served hot keep it in the pot over the stove for at least one-half hour before sending it to the table. During that time be sure and have the corn beef covered.

Chicken Soup.
Save the broth after boiling a chicken, add to it a sliced onion, two beaten eggs, six sliced raw potatoes and a thickening of flour and water.

Sponge Pudding.
One cup of sugar, one cup of flour, three eggs, 1½ teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Steam one hour.

ILLINOIS LAW-MAKERS.

Among the bills introduced on the 14th was one by Mr. Laughlin, classifying the various railroads in the State according to their gross earnings per mile, and providing for a 2-cent, 2½-cent, and 3-cent per mile fare, according to class. The bill was introduced by Mr. Corlett, and gave bounty of 1 cent on every pound of beet maple, or sugar of a red grade, for each bushel of products raised in Illinois, the bounty to be paid out of a fund for that purpose, placed in the hands of County Treasurers and provided for by the State. The amending proceedings in the House are likely to begin at any time. There is little doubt that if the House Democrats meant Hamilton the Senate Republicans will at once assent. Noonan, it is thought, also, if Hamilton is unseated, Sotow will be put into its place, but if Noonan or any Democratic Senator be unseated, it is said, a new election will have to be called.

In the Senate, on the 15th, no business of importance was decided. A number of bills were introduced, prominent among them one appropriating \$100,000 for the State Horticultural Society; another to correct corrupt practices at elections by providing penalty for bribery; and compelling all candidates to render to the County Clerk a sworn statement of all expenditures during the campaign; and a third to prevent obstructing streams by falling timber in them. At the House the report of the Select Committee on Rules was unanimously adopted. Mr. Moore, F. M. B. A. member, introduced a resolution providing that Thursday, Feb. 27, be observed as Monday Day, and Helen M. Gougar and others invited to be present on that day and address the House on woman suffrage. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 100 yeas to 40 nays. Several resolutions for additional employees were presented and referred, and the House adjourned.

On the 16th, after a session of but thirty minutes, the Senate adjourned till the 19th. Among the bills introduced during the session was one by Senator Newell, allowing every inhabitant who shall kill an English sparrow, or any other species of bird, the House also held a short session, and among the bills there introduced were the following: By Mr. Norworthy—Fixing the maximum rate of interest at six per cent. By Mr. Scott—To provide for the examination of mine bosses and superintendents of mines to protect the life and health of the men. By Mr. Moore—A bill to confer the privilege of suffrage and to hold office in the cities, towns and villages of this State upon women. By Mr. Johnson—Providing that no sleeping-car company shall charge more than \$1 for lower or upper berth, \$2 per section, or \$3 for state rooms for a period of twenty-four hours. By Mr. Morris—To amend the present civil rights bill by giving justice courts jurisdiction of civil suits brought under that act. By Mr. Dearborn of Kane—to authorize cities and villages to acquire, construct and maintain electric power plants, and to regulate the same. To revise the pharmacy law by granting a license of pharmacy to all physicians holding a certificate to practice.

A MAJORITY of the Senators on both sides of the Chamber are in favor of the order when the presiding officer rapped for order. The Clerk of the House informed the Senate of the passage by the House of Senate bills 1 and 2, providing for the incidental expenses of the State, and for the care and custody of the State House, together with the necessary expenses of the State government until the 1st of July next. Senator Palmer, in a speech of about 10 a. m. the following day, the session not exceeding fifteen minutes. The only thing done in the House was the consideration of a resolution, offered by Representative Headen to amend the journal so far as it related to the defeated Harrison resolution of Mr. Wilk. The resolution provoked a great deal of acrimonious debate and a party dispute, but finally the resolution was adopted by a vote of 10 yeas to 4 nays. Speaker Crafts suggested that the vote be verified in the morning. The suggestion was acquiesced in by both sides.

On the 20th, the opening gun of what proved to be a most final session was fired. In both houses Richard J. Oglesby was placed in nomination for United States Senator by the Republicans, and Palmer by the Democrats, which in the House the F. M. B. A. members nominated A. J. Streeter, and the first ballot was taken. The vote in the Senate was 27 for Oglesby, 24 for Palmer; in the House, 56 for Palmer, 37 for Streeter. No joint ballot was taken. Interest in the event is intense, spectators filling all available space. The houses will meet in joint session on the 21st, at noon. Several bills introduced by the Senate were considered. At a conference between leaders of the two parties, it was decided to drop all election contests. Representative Watson introduced a resolution declaring it to be the sense of the House that United States Senators should be elected by direct vote of the people, and calling upon Congressmen from this State to vote at Washington. The resolution was adopted, the Republicans voting no.

The Quiet Way.

A boy 7 or 8 years old, whose parents live on Third avenue, was beating a drum in the alley, when a neighbor appeared and asked: "How much did your father pay for that drum, sonny?" "Two shillings, sir." "Will you take a dollar for it?" "Yes, sir; my said she hoped I'd sell it for ten cents."

The exchange was made and the drum put where it would do any more good, and the neighbor chuckled over his stratagem. However, when he got home at night there were four drums beating in front of his house, and the drummer boy was prompt to inform him: "These are my cousins, and I took that dollar and bought four new drums. Do you want to give us four dollars for them?" The neighbor bowed to the inevitable and retired.

This and That.

Some men buy umbrellas, some men achieve them, and some get wet and swear.

SCHOOLS of fish ought to have some effect in the improvement of rivers and harbors.

MOST people would succeed in small things, if they were not troubled with great ambitions.

FAMILIARITY does not breed contempt except of contemptible things or in contemptible persons.

DETROIT is the place for Prohibitionists—six and a half barrels of pure water for one cent.

WE swallow at one mouthful the lie that flatters, and drink drop by drop the truth that is bitter.

MRS. MOODLE—Well, Maud, how did you and Mabel enjoy the performance of "Hamlet"? Maud—Not very well, mamma. Mrs. Moodle—Was the acting poor? Maud—Oh, I suppose the acting was well enough, but we forgot to take any caramels.

CONDITION OF CROPS. AFFAIRS IN ILLINOIS.

EFFECT OF THE WEATHER OF THE PAST MONTH.

Winter Wheat Holding Its Own—Snow Here and There Slightly Covers the Crops—Considerable Frost and Chilling Weather—Little Wheat Sowing and the Flour Trade Dull.—The Situation in Illinois, Indiana, and Other States.
(Chicago dispatch.)

Two years ago the present week the ground was full of moisture, frozen hard and solid, and all the reports as to the general condition of the winter wheat at that time were of an encouraging character. The conditions of the corresponding week a year ago were, in the main, similar, with the difference that up to Jan. 20, 1890, the winter had been exceedingly mild, and even at that early date we were hearing a good deal of the development of insect life and an unnatural midwinter growth of winter wheat.

With the exceptions of some areas through Kansas and Missouri the winter wheat crop has been entirely bare of snow all winter. Then came our first widespread snow of the season, extending largely over the southern area of the winter wheat belt. At that time the reports as to the general condition of the winter wheat crop were conflicting, some areas reporting that the winter wheat never looked better, other stating that the midwinter had developed considerable insect growth, and that the wheat was rank and tender.

As the season advanced both of these reports proved to be correct, and these were the causes no doubt which had so much to do with the partial failure of the winter wheat crop of 1890.

Northern Texas reports that the general condition of the growing wheat is good. That there has been very little if any snow this winter. Central Texas reports it is drawing its supplies of wheat from Kansas, and that the acreage this season of wheat in that section is small. In Southern Texas, owing to the good prices that farmers have obtained for their wheat, the acreage sown is a trifle larger than last year. There has been plenty of moisture and the crop is doing well.

Up to a week ago the condition of winter wheat in Kentucky was fairly good, but now that the snow has all gone and the weather has been cold at night, the earth full of water, with more or less freezing or thawing, there is quite a change in the general condition of the crop.

Tennessee reports that it has had no snow this winter and plenty of rain. The wheat is generally in good condition. Mills hold but little if any wheat, and are drawing mainly on the North now for supplies.

In Northern Kansas the winter wheat has for the last week been covered with about two inches of snow. In Southern and Central Kansas, until recently there has not been any snow on the ground except for two or three days since Dec. 1, and the crop all over the State was needing moisture badly. Little wheat is moving. Mills are generally well supplied with wheat. In Northern Missouri the wheat looks fair, but needs more moisture.

In Central Missouri wheat is in better shape than a year ago at this time. Farmers are not holding much wheat. In Southern Missouri, since Dec. 1, the ground has been covered with snow for about three days. The winter has been mild and favorable for growing wheat. Flour trade has been better for the last two weeks than for some time. The general outlook seems to be in this part of the State, that the reserves of wheat now in farmers' hands will all be needed by the mills at home.

In Central Illinois winter wheat had its first covering of snow Jan. 1. The general conditions of the crop in this area as compared with a year ago are not so good. The plants are smaller and do not look as heavy. The ranges of the fly are much more apparent.

In Southern Illinois the wheat is bare. There is more complaint of fly than a year ago. The early wheat has suffered considerably from fly. Freezing at night and thawing through the day is also having bad effect upon the wheat.

In Northern Indiana wheat has been nearly all winter. The plants, however, seem perfectly strong and healthy, and the present prospects are good. Farmers are generally holding their wheat, and only sell when they are obliged to. Considerable wheat is being shipped in. In Central Indiana wheat has not been covered with snow more than seven days since Dec. 1. Farmers are holding their wheat in this section, and it becomes more apparent that the shortage of the crop was fully as great as estimated. A great many of the country mills in this portion of the State are shipping in wheat from Michigan to supply their home trade. In Southern Indiana they have had no snow since Dec. 25. The wheat is looking down, and is not as promising as last year at this date.

The reports from Southern Indiana are generally of a favorable character with regard to the condition of the growing winter wheat. Farmers are still disposed to hold their wheat, and receipts for the last six weeks have been extremely light.

Up to the opening of the present week the winter in Michigan has been mild and the winter wheat has been practically bare of snow. The wheat generally looks better than it did last year at this time. Since Dec. 1 in Northern Ohio the wheat has been covered with snow about half the time. The crop is about holding its own. The general conditions are hardly as good as last year at this time.

WHEN business pursuits fill the whole horizon of life, and are separated from their higher connections, that pleasure and profit soon fade out. That which is material is but the lower half of an ideal life. As subordinated and held merely as the lower half, it may be well; otherwise it ends in failure. Grasp spiritual forces, and they result in physical vigor.—*Henry Wood, in "Edward Burton."*

NINETY years ago the seven principal languages of Europe, English, French, German, Russian, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, were spoken by 162,000,000 people. Only 21,000,000, or 13 per cent, spoke English. Now these languages are spoken by 400,000,000 people; and 125,000,000 of them, or 31 per cent, speak English.

TAKE a quart of best vinegar, two ounces of white sugar, two ounces of salt. Boil these together for a few minutes and, when cold, moist with a brush the meat to be preserved.

ITEMS GATHERED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

What Our Neighbors Are Doing—Matters of General and Local Interest—Miscellaneous Deaths—Accidents and Crimes—Personal Portraits.

The Dickson Block at Peoria, one of the handsomest structures in the business part of the city, was destroyed by fire. Damage to building and stocks, \$150,000. The building was erected a year ago, and cost \$50,000. It was insured for \$13,000. The buildings and stocks of the Walker Hardware Company and Comstock, Avery & Co., located on either side of the burning building, were also damaged about \$8,000.

JOHN W. ROOR, consulting architect of the World's Fair, died of pneumonia, at Chicago, aged 38. He designed and built the Rookery, the handsomest office building in the world.

The financial record of the State Board of Charities shows for three months that the average number of inmates in the twelve institutions under the supervision of this board was 6,768. The gross cost of maintaining them was \$303,846 and the cost to the State \$291,407. The average cost of maintenance per capita was, gross, \$44.80; net, \$43.06. The distribution of inmates was as follows: Northern Insane Hospital, 563; Eastern Insane Hospital, 1,701; Central Insane Hospital, 913; Southern Insane Hospital, 609; Asylum for Insane Criminals at Chester; Institution for Deaf and Dumb, 503; Institution for the Blind of Chicago, 1,000; Insane-Minded, 428; Soldiers' Orphan's Home, 429; Eye and Ear Infirmary, 131; State Reform School, 379; Soldiers and Sailors' Home, 927.

MRS. A. V. JONES, of Chatham, wife of a farmer, was probably fatally burned by the explosion of a kerosene lamp.

DETECTIVE CAMPION, of Chicago, shot a grocery thief in the shoulder, and captured him, when the thief bit off the officer's finger.

TWO wolves broke from their cage in a Chicago shooting gallery and severely bit two men.

LAST June Joseph Montag killed his wife in Chicago. He is sentenced to death by hanging.

ARTHUR SKINNER, Albert Ott and John Connors, miners, were terribly burned by an explosion of fire damp at Lincoln. The mine was badly damaged.

B. H. NIEHOFF, Cashier of the Ramsey Bank at Carlyle, was quietly married to Miss Ida Rink.

The United Mine Workers of America at Springfield passed resolutions calling for radical changes in laws governing the working of mines.

C. E. GOTTL, alias L. S. Loring, an alleged Louisiana lottery agent, was arrested at Chicago; professed to be conclusive. It is a penitentiary offense. His operations were extensive.

"GITTY" SMITH, of Chicago, stole Mamie Reichberg's purse, with \$50, in broad daylight; captured, after a clubbing.

DR. HENRY OLIN, noted aurist and oculist, of Chicago, is dead.

ILLINOIS short-horn breeders will make a big display at the World's Fair.

Mrs. Todd, wife of a business man at Lyons, N. Y., returning home from a visit at Chicago on a Lake Shore train, gave birth to a boy.

MISS MAUD BENEATHAM, aged 17, and Frank R. Ziders, a veteran, aged 46, died at Freeport.

ELSWORTH BURHAM, brained John Becher with a billiard cue at Brooklyn. The co-operative store which the F. M. B. A. intended to start at Alton is a failure.

MAURICE CANAVAN fell into the river at Chicago and was drowned. An unknown man suicided by drowning also.

FIVE white men were captured in a Chicago opium joint. Three elegantly dressed women had just driven to the place, but as they had not entered could not be molested.

MRS. ADELAIDE JOHNS of Lake Forest was thrown 200 feet by the cars and killed.

JULIUS DANIEL, a 14-year-old Pole of Chicago, while stealing a ride on the cable was killed.

A. P. LUSE, one of the most prominent type foundry men in the world, died at Los Angeles, Cal. He was a member of the house of Marler, Luse & Co.

JOHN G. HOWELL, a well-known citizen living near Vandalla, was found by the roadside near his home dead. He was in Vandalla the day before, and started home late in the evening, and it is supposed, went to sleep and froze to death.

The Equal Rights convention at Vandalla is postponed because of the death of Mrs. Zerelda Wallace, mother of Gen. Lew Wallace.

JOSEPH SACISEL, a 4-year-old Chicago boy, was almost killed by a furious cow.

THOMAS BUCKLEY, a Chicago blacksmith, while drunk, fatally shot his wife.

J. F. BURCK, of Chicago, was killed by an engine.

BELVIDERE, after a hard fight, voted \$35,000 for water works. This is more than 5 per cent of the assessed valuation, and the deal is off.

An ex-conclave of Illinois chiefs of first departments at Edwardsville, E. W. Barkman, of Polo, was elected President. A memorial was drawn up asking the Legislature to appropriate money for disabled firemen.

The tenth annual convention of the Illinois Short-horn Breeders' Association was held at Springfield. The mission of the association is to boost the short-horns into the proud position they once occupied.

The 11-year-old son of Philip Orr, of Benton, was kicked in the head by a horse, and died.

CHARLES POLING, of Mendon, aged 59 years, took a gun from a closet, when the hammer caught and discharged the weapon. The charged entered the right eye and killed him.

The State Board of Agriculture appointed as a committee on the World's Fair: President Lafayette Fank, Chairman; John P. Reynolds, David Gore, John Virgil, D. W. Vittum, E. E. Chesler, E. C. Pass, Geo. S. Haskell, James K. Dickinson, Samuel Dysart, and James W. Jody. This committee appointed a sub-committee to visit Chicago and hold a conference with Director General Davis and the commission, after which the estimates of the appropriations required for the State exhibit will be made public.