INSIDE VIEW OF JAPAN

A Native's Description of Its Cities, People and Flowers.

HOW OUTDOOR NATURE IS LOVED

The People Often Take a Holiday, Says a Japanese Student, Simply to View Flowers—Beauty and Great Size of the Wisteria—Osaka, the Venice of Japan—Chrysanthemum Festivals.

Under the auspices of the Workingmen's club in Hartford, Conn., Taisa Tanaka, a Japanese student at the Hartford Theological seminary, recently gave a talk on Japan at the Lawrence street school hall, says the Hartford Times. President William J. Ryan of the club presided.

Mr. Tanaka spoke of the love of the Japanese for everything of an outdoor nature and said that often they take a holiday simply for the purpose of viewing flowers. Yokohama, he said, is 4,500 miles from Vancouver and is the principal port of entry in the empire. It was an insignificant fishing village in 1857. The principal pier is 4,000 feet in length. Said the speaker: "People think of Japan as already half European, but within a couple of hours after landing you will find that Japan has employes of fashion, but never really changes. Here are all the plain and little people you have known so long upon fans and screens. Here is the tiny Japanese lady whom you left, as you thought, on the lid of the cheese box at home.

"It is eighteen miles from Yokohama to Tokio, and the distance is traversed by a railway built after the English style. The emperor's palace is at Tokio and is a large and beautiful structure. In ponds and trenches in Tokio are acres of the beautiful iris. Wisteria is one of the national flowers. It is generally reared upon large trellises arranged to cover long walks, bridges or arbors in pleasure grounds and gardens. The sprays of its flowers are often pendent three feet in length, while a hundred or more have fallen into the sauce, and the stems grow to the thickness of a man's body. Its branches are used as cables.

"Osaka is the second city of Japan in point of size and considered by many to be the first in commercial importance. It lies upon the banks of the famous Yodogawa and is celebrated as the military capital. In the eleventh century the great Taiko built there a short stretch of wall which holds the greatest fortress that Japan has ever possessed. Osaka has been called the Venice of Japan, for on a smaller scale than the canals of Venice are crossed with bridges, boats and thickly populated banks enjoy the cool breeze from the river, the sound of musical instruments and the sparkle of fireworks.

"When one thinks of Japan he does not forget its chrysanthemums, for no where else in the world are they so plentiful and so beautiful. It is said that almost 500 varieties are found in Japan. The sun dial, moonstone, elephant, dragon's claw, chrysanthemum, plants of single stem thousand and single plants of 100 to 700 blossoms. In November, 1902, in the imperial garden, Tokio, there was one plant with 1,272 blossoms, each two and a half inches in diameter. On the occasion of the chrysanthemum festival it is customary to wear a special dress, called kikigasane, purple outside and white inside, and to drink kikusu or sake. This festival has been practically merged into that of the emperor's birthday."

HARMLESS NOISE AT LAST.

Physics Professor's Cannon That Won't Destroy the Boy.

The casualties of Fourth of July have inspired Professor William Stoddard Franklin, head of the physics department at Lehigh university, to invent a toy cannon which will make as much noise as the death engine operated with powder, but do no damage, says a special dispatch from Wilkesbarre, Pa., to the New York World.

The harmless cannon is operated on the principle of the gas engine. An electric spark ignites the gas and air, causing a loud explosion; hurls a cork shell and emits a flame, which is of such a low temperature, however, that it does not even scorch tissue paper. Professor Franklin says that the cost of 5,000 shots is not more than 5 cents.

Biggest Grass Steer on Record.

Adam Thomas of Montrose, Colo., recently shipped to Kansas City the biggest hay and grass steer ever sent to that or any other market, says a dispatch from Ouray, Colo. In the pen at the Kansas City yards his back nearly touched the top of the fence, and he crossed the scales at 2,480 pounds full weight. The entire shipment averaged 2,060 pounds.

Raising Onions a Recreation.

Eleven young men of Hutchinson, Mo., have organized a company to raise onions, says the Hutchinson correspondent of the Kansas City Journal. They have leased a ten acre tract on Cow creek and will put it all in onions. They expect to do the work themselves. It will be their recreation from their other jobs.

House Cleaning.

I heard a robin yesterday,
And in the dusty lumber rooms
Where summer hopes were flung aside
I opened all the windows wide.

Warm rain and honest winds deride
My hoard of doubting: busy brooms
Have swept the winter's dust away—
I heard a robin yesterday!

—Margaret Lee Ashley in Harper's Magazine For May.

BLACK-DRAUGHT STOCK & POULTRY MEDICINE

This great stock medicine is a money saver for stock raisers. It is a medicine, not a cheap food or condition powder. Though put up in coarser form than Thedford's Black-Draught, renowned for the cure of the digestion troubles of persons, it has the same qualities of invigorating digestion, stirring up the torpid liver and loosening the constipated bowels for all stock and poultry. It is carefully prepared and its action is so healthful that stock grow and thrive with an occasional dose in their food. It cures hog cholera and makes hogs grow fat. It cures chicken cholera and roup and makes hens lay. It cures constipation, distemper and colds in horses, mortain in cattle, and makes a drought animal do more work for the food consumed. It gives animals and fowls of all kinds new life. Every farmer and raiser should certainly give it a trial.

It costs 25c. a can and saves ten times its price in profit.

Perryville, Ky., March 27, 1904.
I have been using your Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine on my stock for some time. I have used all kinds of stock food but I have found that yours is the best for my purpose.
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DOOM OF LOCOMOTIVES.

Railroad Contractor Says They Will Be Taken Off Trains by 1925.

"The big industrial development in the next few years will be in electric railway construction," said W. R. Stubs, a Kansas railroad contractor and politician, here, according to a Topeka (Kan.) dispatch. "I can see it coming.

"Railroad traffic will be revolutionized within twenty years. Mark this prediction. All the big steam engines on the standard railroads will be scrapped and electric engines will be doing the work by 1925. Every town and hamlet in the more thickly settled portions of the west will be connected with a network of electric lines. Rural districts had no telephones a few years ago. Now telephones are going into nearly every farmer's house.

"The development of interurban electric railways will be just as rapid when it gets under headway, and it is beginning to start. This means work for railroad contractors, and when a dollar and a quarter is taxed it means the distribution of a vast amount of money for labor. I think of no business where a greater proportion of the expenses goes to labor than in railroad work. Building a railroad is a labor proposition pure and simple. Therefore the more contractors go into the more prosperous one is labor. With the development of electric lines labor will be well employed.

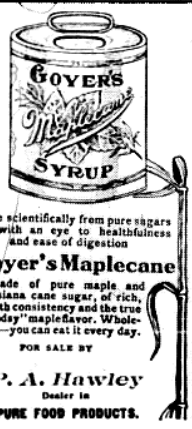
"I believe that the eastern half of Kansas will get its share of these lines. It is thickly enough settled now to make them profitable. The lines will be used for not only passenger service, but also to convey the farmers' produce to market. Persons will be riding in Pullman cars on the electric lines of the west before many years."

Mr. Stubs has foundation for his prophecy. An interurban line is being built to connect the big towns in southeastern Kansas. Another line has been projected to connect Wichita, Winfield and Wellington and intermediate points. A Kansas City-Olathe line is under construction. A right of way has been procured for part of the proposed Kansas City-Topeka line. A Topeka and Eskridge line is almost a certainty. Bonds have been voted to aid in its construction by the townships and municipalities through which it purposes to build.

ANTIGRAFT PRAYER.

Petition of Negro Preacher in New York Assembly at Albany.

A unique and startling prayer was offered by a colored speaker in the New York state assembly at Albany, N. Y., the other morning, where members were exhorted to stand for the



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that to the general assembly of heaven, where "graft" and the dictation of the lobbyist are not, says the New York Tribune. The prayer, which was offered by the Rev. C. H. McDonald, was as follows:

O thou most merciful Father, we thank thee this morning for the realization that thou art the Supreme Legislator of the universe. Therefore we beg thy special guidance as we proceed with this morning's session. We ask thy special blessing upon the chief executive of this nation; bless the cabinet and members of both houses. We ask thee, O God, to bless his excellency the governor of the state. Bless, gracious Master, the subjects of this state.

Last, but not least, we would ask thy special blessing upon this our able and most efficient speaker. Bless the members of the distinguished body, and when life's journey is at an end we ask thee to bring us to the general assembly where Jesus Christ will be the speaker and the business shall be transacted without the graft or the dictation of the lobbyist.

Mr. McDonald has prayed in the assembly before, but never with such effect. His prayer, as usual, was taken by the official stenographer, and copies were in great demand among those members who keep scrapbooks of documents relating to their legislative experiences.

Milwaukee Man's Healing Power.

Marshall T. Conner, a resident of Bay View, Wis., seems to be possessed of a remarkable power which enables him to heal people of diseases by simply the laying on of hands, says a Milwaukee special dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald. Mr. Conner is sixty-eight years of age and has lived in Bay View for twenty-five years. He has cured one woman of cancer and several young people of rheumatism after they were helpless and had been given up by physicians. Mr. Conner says he does not know what his power is, though he believes it is electricity of some sort. His accounts for his being able to heal some people and not others.

Rely upon your own energies, young man and young woman, and do not wait for aid dependent upon other people.

The Chicago Examiner

"THE EXAMINER, the leading morning paper of Chicago, has just announced a unique Travel Scholarship Contest, in which it proposes to give away 50 prizes to successful contestants, ranging in value from $5.00 to $500. First prize, $500 in gold, to be given away about Christmas, another commencing February 25th and continuing for six months, and 50 prizes in all. Details will be published in the Examiner, and The Examiner is authorizing that anyone in Chicago may be a contestant. Simply cut out the coupon from the Examiner, bring it to the office of the Examiner, pay three months' subscription, and get the home and school newspaper published, contestants will come to Chicago from all parts of the United States."

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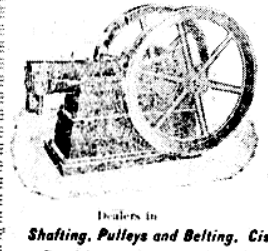

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