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EXPULSION FROM GERMANY.

An eastern contemporary attributes the expulsion of "Mormon" Elders from Germany, to the discovery of 136 "Mormon" missionaries in the various states of the empire, and thousands of converts. "The present drastic measures," the paper adds, "are expected to put an end to American proselytizing in Germany."
German government authorities, we presume, are under the false impression, due to the notorious reports sent out from Utah, that the "Mormon" missionaries are a sort of emigration agents whose activity is detrimental to the state, and especially to its military interests. That, we believe, is the ground for the suspicion with which they are watched. But expulsion of "Mormon" Elders from Germany is nothing new. For several years the "drastic" measure has been tried. If the Church still growing in the Empire, it is evident that that form of treatment does not have the desired effect.

Germany is a great country, but it needs some of the modern spirit of liberty and toleration infused into its institutions. It is claimed that there are more suicides among adults in that country than anywhere else, and that even among the children the suicide rate is growing at an alarming rate. There is something wrong in a country where death is more attractive than life in so many. Children begin work in school at an early hour and are kept at it all day, and then have tasks to learn at home. Every half year come the examinations, when failure means disgrace and a prolongation of the hard work. The little brains overworked and fagged out fail to respond. Bad marks are given and the victims of too strenuous child life very frequently go home and attempt suicide. Men grow pessimistic. To many life's burdens become unbearable, and they perish in despair. Germany as well as other countries, needs the gospel of peace, of liberty, of brotherhood. It would become better for it. Every nation that has abandoned the medieval practice of persecuting dissenters has become better in every respect.

GUIDE FOR DRY FARMING.

A recent bulletin, from the station at Bozeman, Montana, deals with this question: What are the crop possibilities in a region of thirteen inches of average rainfall?

Since that is a rough average rainfall for many Utah and other regions in the West, the conclusions of the writer will no doubt be of peculiar interest to many of our readers.

The bulletin shows that one inch of precipitation amounts to about 227 pounds, or approximately 113 tons on one acre. Allowing that 750 pounds of water are required for one pound of dry matter and also that half of the dry matter in wheat is grain, one such precipitation furnishes sufficient water to produce 151 pounds or two and one-half bushels of wheat. Thirteen inches precipitation furnishes water enough to produce nearly 21 bushels of wheat if it could all be saved and utilized in the crop's growth. Of course, it will be impossible to retain all the precipitation of any one year, as some will be lost as a result of the snow being blown off and from surface evaporation. Some instances are reported where yields nearly as great as this have been secured. When such is the case summer fallowing or the accumulation of some of the previous year's moisture has been resorted to. Just how much may be stored in this way has not been accurately determined under Montana conditions, but the investigations so far seem to indicate the advisability of such practice. However, if half of the amount of annual precipitation could be saved for crop growth and a yield of 16 bushels of wheat obtained each year, dry land farming would be a very paying proposition. In answer to the question as to the crop possibilities with 13.4 inches annual precipitation, the bulletin says that could it all be utilized for crop growth 25.5 bushels of wheat per acre could be grown. If only half of the total moisture of a year could be retained, 16.4 bushels, a very paying crop, could be raised.

Since nearly all of the moisture from natural precipitation in Montana is held as capillary moisture and since it is in this condition that water is of value in plant growth, a discussion of the movements of capillary moisture in the soil will lead to an explanation of why all of the water of precipitation is not always available for plant growth.

The movements of capillary moisture in the soil may be in any direction and are similar to the movements of water in a sponge; from the wet to the dryer parts. This may be down as in the case of rains after a prolonged dry spell, or up to the spring when the surface soil first becomes dry, or laterally in the soil as occurs in the case of furrow irrigation.

No rise of the moisture from particle to particle can take place unless they are in contact, that is, unless a continuous ladder of particles exists up which the moisture can move. Moreover, the movement of water through a thoroughly dry soil by capillarity is not as rapid as through the same soil when wet; the case being analogous to the much slower absorption of water by a dry cloth or sponge than by a similar one when wet. Water will rise nearly

four times as fast in a moist soil as in a perfectly dry one.

By distributing the soil so as to break the moisture ladder, or by allowing the soil to become dried out, the movements of capillary moisture may be kept in check.

Both the breaking of the soil ladder and the drying out of the surface result from surface cultivation. This lifts the particles apart, and as they are loosened the contact is not so close. Again, by admitting the air which has been warmed, the particles composing the cultivated layer are thoroughly dried out.

The answer, then, to the question as to how moisture may be retained in the soil for plant growth is: When possible keep the surface soil stirred so as to break the continuity of soil particles which furnishes a ladder for the rise of moisture to the surface and at the same time dry out the soil by allowing the warm air to circulate amongst the soil particles. In other words, continued cultivation of the surface soil will imprison the moisture.

FOR NAVAL EXPANSION.

The dispatch of Uncle Sam's warships to the Pacific may be but part of a powerful argument in favor of enlarging the navy. When that question next comes up for discussion in Congress, it will be possible to point to the unprotected shores of the Atlantic. And that argument will have its weight.

Admiral Evans is reported to have said that "We should have more war ships or quit trying to be a sea power." And Secretary McMillan, who is a naval expansionist, when some one the other day ventured to suggest that possibly Congress might be willing to authorize the construction of three new battleships, replied quickly, "Four would be better."

This was very moderate. Half a dozen, or an even dozen, would make heavier the ideal of the expansionists.

A Washington dispatch the other day said it is not anticipated now by friends of the proposed naval increase that there will be such difficulty in getting their measure through Congress this winter as has been experienced in recent years. If it turns out that the Pacific cruise was ordered merely in the interest of naval expansion, our eastern contemporaries that have denounced it as a menace to peace will probably feel reconciled.

The progress of the fleet will be watched with interest, whatever the underlying policy of the cruise is. The ships, it is supposed, will be dispatched in sections, and not go all together. The average time of the vessels, says the Portland Oregonian, is expected to be about fifty-eight days. About 14,000 miles will be the distance, reckoning San Francisco as the western terminus. They will take coal enough at the start to steam them to Trinidad, some 2,000 miles, where they will receive from coalfishers new supply sufficient to carry them to Rio de Janeiro, 3,000 miles further. In the Straits of Magellan, 2,400 miles from Rio, they will meet coalfishers dispatched in advance, which will supply them with coal sufficient for their consumption to Callao, about 2,700 miles. At Magdalena Bay, 5,000 miles from Callao, they will take coal again, sufficient for steam to San Francisco. The estimate for coal for the voyage, not including that for the voyage, is 100,000 tons.

CLEAN MONEY.

Mr. A. Cressy Morrison has sent to the press of the country an article on "clean money," that cannot fail to attract attention, and if the suggestions made are acted upon, good results should follow.

Mr. Morrison claims that many diseases are spread through the handling of money that has been in the possession of sick persons. He says, for instance: "How about any penny that the baby may pick up from the floor? How do you know where that penny has been? Did you not give one to Jamie to spend a little while ago? He is a tiny boy and he put the penny in his mouth while he tied his shoe. He now lies sick with diphtheria. You cannot imagine how he could get diphtheria! Your home is absolutely sanitary. You pride yourself on that. The penny could tell."

But the greatest danger lurks in the paper currency. It is said that it has been proved by microscopic investigation that moderately clean bills in circulation, contain 2,500 living bacteria, while others have been found to contain as many as 13,000 of those forms of life. The author says:

"Very strange isn't it, that a dear friend of yours, a lady whose character is above reproach, whose husband adores her and is a dignified representative of your church, should be suffering from disease? You gave her a beautiful pocket book for a Christmas gift. She had cut her finger a little that day. She had quite a roll of bills and she changed her money from her purse to the new one. She had no reason to handle a certain two-dollar bill several times. That two-dollar bill looked innocent enough, but it could have told a story if it could have spoken. The trouble that renders your dear friend mentally and physically miserable had hidden itself in that two-dollar bill. But it came forth out of its little lurking place! It was tiny, invisible, unthought of. It made no impression at first, but now it has wrought doubt, suspicion, jealousy, and has become a living death to your friend."

But, granting all that can be said of the dangers of handling microbe-infested money, what can be done about it? It is suggested that the law be amended to permit holders of worn and defaced United States Currency to forward same by registered mail without charge, to the Treasurer of the United States for redemption. This would help some. It is also suggested that the subsidiary coins that are returned to the Treasury be cleaned and sterilized before they are distributed again.

"The amount of subsidiary silver redeemed during the first quarter of 1907 in the office at Washington, Baltimore, New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Cincinnati, St. Louis, New Orleans and San Francisco amounted to \$10,578,832. What if every piece of this currency had been cleaned before being handed out? Can one estimate the value of such a procedure? Can one estimate the results of its not having been done? All germs died, and subjected to 300 degrees of heat. Could not all coins be subjected to such heat at the sub-treasuries of the above cities?"

Another suggestion is that influential business houses make it a rule to subject coins to a cleaning process. The

story is told of a Boston firm that made an arrangement with their bankers, by which they were enabled, as a rule, to give only clean or new money for change. But when they could not secure it, as was often the case during the holiday season, they caused all coins received to be dropped into a bath containing a germicide and then had a girl take them out and polish them on a "buffing" machine, at a small cost, the process being shown on the first floor and attracting most interested attention. The result, it is said, has been most gratifying. Ladies "caught on" to the idea, were pleased and attracted. The firm has now enlarged its establishment by taking in two or three other shops. Yet they did not advertise the fact.

That there is need of some effort to fight the disease germs that linger on coins and bills will readily be admitted. The public undoubtedly need enlightenment on this point. And when there is a public demand for some practical precautions, they will come. It is a subject that boards of health should consider.

My neighbor knows no more.

There's a storm a-bruin' for those Louisiana bears.

One may have the price and still not be able to get the coal.

It is better to "talk" right out in "meeting" than to snore.

If the two-cent fare is a go, it goes; if it isn't a go it goes.

The quickest way to evaporate apples is to let boys into the orchard.

Why didn't the U. S. phonograph hang the banner on the outer wall?

China is to have a constitutional government. But is it to hold?

John D. Rockefeller is wearing a bright green skeleton suit. Sure sign of a green old age.

Charlie Chadwick may not go to a better world, but the world will be better for her going when she goes.

The "Little Black Book" seems destined to become as infamous as the "Little Red Schoolhouse" has become famous.

Members of the Leflingwell-Mikkelsen polar expedition had a dog's life of it. At least they were compelled to eat their dogs.

Bees are being sent to the Philippines. But they are not presidential bees. Secretary Taft would not permit them to be entered.

Make the Constitution fit the circumstances instead of making circumstances conform to the Constitution, appears to be the latest theory of constitutional law.

The Standard Oil company has run a poisonous because it has been so well groomed, but Counsel Kellogg will make it squeak before he is through with it.

One of the jurors who voted for the acquittal of Tires L. Ford is being investigated by the grand jury and may yet be placed on trial. If he is, it will be a sort of a wheel within a wheel case.

Kemp V. Bigelow, the young man who made and sent infernal machines to Governor Butcher and other prominent Coloradans, would soon have out Orchard Orchard, had his infernal courage not deserted him.

In addressing the Chinese merchants at Shanghai, Secretary Taft said he spoke as an American citizen and not as a representative of the government. But what crest can bear a prouder legend than this, Civis Americanus sum?

"Washington is well aware that Japan is straining every resource in preparation for war despite the protestations of friendship we hear from certain sources. The plan to mobilize a great fleet in Pacific waters is the most strategic move for peace which could possibly have been taken, and shows the necessity for more ships," declares Rear Admiral Joseph B. Coughlan.

DESTROYING OUR EYES.

Buffalo Express.

People have done a lot of talking about the number of little children who are to be seen these days wearing glasses. These small ones look so odd with their big lenses that it would be to laugh if the matter were not really so serious a matter. There has been a lot of speculating as to the cause of this apparent increase in the number of defective eyes among the children. And there has been some sound investigation. Professor Walter D. Scott tells in the Popular Science Monthly that he has found through his investigations into the causes of defective eyesight among the young. Put briefly, it is that our children are reading too much too young. He declares that the eyes of our children are being destroyed, and that the destruction is taking place at the age of 7 to 14 years. Professor Scott regards that fact as of such a serious character that he thinks it ought to cause parents to be on their guard to lessen the evils. 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