

PERSONAL MENTION.

People Visiting in This City and at Other Points.

—Dr. O. D. Faust is spending the holidays with his children in Macon, Ga.

—Mr. Belton Hair arrived in the city last week for the holidays from Furman university, Greenwood.

—Mr. Will Brabham is at home for the Christmas season from Bailey Military academy, Greenwood.

—Mr. Roy Cooner, of the University of South Carolina is spending the holidays at home with his parents.

—Mr. Norman Kirsch is spending the Christmas holidays in the city with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Kirsch.

—Misses Arrie Free and Mildred Knight have arrived in the city from Converse college to spend the holidays at their homes.

—Mr. and Mrs. C. J. S. Brooker returned Sunday from Richmond, Va., where they attended the sessions of the Southern Commercial congress.

Gardening City Lots.

Back a number of years ago Mayor Pingree, of Detroit, sprang into national prominence by advising the people of that city to grow potatoes on vacant lots. An unthinking public was inclined to treat the proposition as a joke, and the newspaper paragraphers had a lot of fun at the expense of "Potato Patch Pingree." But Mayor Pingree had given birth to a great idea, one that could be put into operation today with highly beneficial results.

An enormous amount of food could be grown on the vacant lots, and even on the back lots, of every city in the land. The men who grow it would be benefited, both physically and financially. A number of cities have taken up gardening on vacant lots in connection with the work of public schools, and so far as the results are of record they nowhere have been disappointing. The children have grown vegetables for use in their own homes and for sale, and in doing it both their minds and their bodies have been improved. It has given them an appreciation of nature and an insight into nature's workings than ever could have been learned from textbooks. It has taught them the dignity of farming, and they are less disposed to regard as a "rube" the man who lives in the country.

For office employes and others of sedentary occupations, gardening on city lots offers a splendid opportunity for both health and profit. Flat dwellers are barred, unless they can get the use of vacant lots, but every man who lives in a house that has even a small back yard can grow something. The doing of it will give him enjoyment and beneficial exercise, and also vegetables, the quality and freshness of which will be a revelation. If his back yard is 30 to 40 feet deep and 18 to 20 feet wide he can come pretty near to supplying his table with several varieties of the best-liked vegetables. Whatever else he grows, he should try tomatoes, for they do well under adverse conditions, and tomatoes ripened on the vine are superior to the best the market stalls afford. A strip the depth of his lot and three feet wide would accommodate a dozen plants, which can be purchased of any seed dealer in the spring at 15 to 25 cents a dozen. The dozen vines should give the average family all the tomatoes it wanted throughout the season, with a considerable surplus for canning. Then, just before frost, there would be a large quantity of green tomatoes to pick for preserving.

Two rows of "snap" beans 30 or 40 feet long also would supply a family. Several varieties, of which the stringless green pod probably is the best, will bear all season long and still will be in blossom when frost comes. A couple of rows of lima beans also would be profitable. South of the Northern Pennsylvania line, in a favorable season, they will bear two crops. It would pay to plant as many rows of peas as there was room for, because their season is finished early enough so that the ground could be used for some second crop. The catalogue of any seed house will give the necessary information as to varieties and the time and manner of planting. Just what to grow is a question each gardener would have to decide for himself, but cucumbers and radishes are two highly desirable choices because of their superiority when fresh.

All the tools absolutely necessary for such a garden are a spade, a hoe and a rake, and the only really hard work connected with it would be the spading up of the ground in the spring. The cost, aside from fertilizer, ought not to be more than \$2 to \$3. The use of fertilizer would be benefited by a load of good stable manure or street sweepings. The city man who will try gardening on

IN THE PALMETTO STATE

SOME OCCURRENCES OF VARIOUS KINDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

State News Boiled Down for Quick Reading.—Paragraphs About Men and Happenings.

K. G. Sutton, aged 92, the oldest veteran at the Confederate home in Columbia, died last week.

J. W. Powell, of Richland county, harvested 1,000 bushels of sweet potatoes from five acres this year.

Erick Gambrell, of Princeton, Anderson county, was accidentally shot through the neck last week and is in a critical condition.

A Florida promoter has purchased the Chicora college property in Greenville, and proposes to convert the same into a tourist hotel.

Wade Allen, a negro inmate of the State Hospital for the Insane, was killed last week by Ashley McFadden, also an inmate of the asylum.

J. Y. Cantrell's gin house, machinery and warehouse, in Spartanburg county, together with forty bales of cotton, were destroyed by fire last week.

The Wesley Bible class of Walterboro, proposes to erect a class room on the church lawn some time in the near future. The class room will be built by members of the class in one day.

The Oolenoy graded school building, in Pickens county, was destroyed by fire, believed to be of incendiary origin, last week. The building was valued at \$2,500. The sheriff of Pickens county is investigating.

George Werts, J. P. Long and Arthur Sims, negroes of Newberry county, have been arrested and lodged in jail, charged with setting fire to the ginnyery of M. W. Oxner, at Kinards, September 24th.

The Piedmont and Northern railway purchased additional property in Greenville last week at a cost of \$50,000. They propose to erect twelve new warehouses to cost in the neighborhood of \$100,000.

W. R. Bradford, clerk of the printing commission of the general assembly, has announced that in future the printing bill for the railroad commission will be charged against the railways of South Carolina.

Owing to his physical condition, Rev. A. J. Foster has resigned the pastorate of Barker's Creek, Broadmouth and Donalds churches, in Anderson county. He has accepted a position as field representative for the Baptist Courier.

Contiguous Support.

President Wilson could start from Seattle, Wash., and cross the continent three times without entering a single State twice, and keeping all the time within the boundaries of States which he carried in the presidential election.

From Seattle he would go eastward across Idaho, swing southeast from Montana through Wyoming and Nebraska to Missouri, and into Virginia.

After coming near enough to Washington, D. C., to hurl a dollar a very little way into the Potomac, he would pass south into North Carolina, and westward via Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas to the far West, taking a direct route through Colorado, Utah and Nevada to San Francisco.

Bending southward in California the return trip would be made along the southern tier of States, beginning with Arizona and ending with Florida, Georgia or South Carolina.

This trip three times across the continent could be made and still the president could avoid traversing six States which he carried, namely, Maryland, Georgia, South Carolina, Ohio, North Dakota and New Hampshire.

It is also possible to travel from Seattle to Washington, D. C., without crossing a State which contains saloons, and to make a return trip through other dry territory as far as the Mississippi river.—Des Moines Tribune.

Caring for Wounds.

In the sterilizing process of Dr. Carrel, the French-American surgeon, every part of the wound is flushed with antiseptic every two hours. After a trial of 200 different antiseptics, choice was made of a specially compounded solution of calcium chloride, sodium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate in ordinary water, and this is passed from a container through rubber tubes carefully placed and held in place by gauze packing. The wound is dressed anew every day, sterilization is soon complete, and remarkable acceleration of healing is claimed.

his back lot not only will have cheaper and fresher vegetables for his table, but he will have a lot keener appetite when he sits down to them.

Arabia in Africa.

What manner of people constitute the "body politic" of the world's newest kingdom, that Arabia forms the subject of a timely war geography bulletin issued from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society. The bulletin is based upon the observations and experience of one of the society's correspondents who has spent many years in the Near East. Concerning the Bedouins, the nomadic class in Arabia, whose extensive camps are scattered over the interior of the great southwestern peninsula of Asia, the bulletin says:

"Of the Bedouins and the Fallahs (the settled agricultural class), the former are the more numerous people and by far the more interesting. The Bedouin pities the city dweller because fate has decreed that he must pass his days in the confinement of a house or inclosed city, while the city man congratulates himself on his good fortune in being spared the dangers, inconveniences and exposures that are the lot of the tent-dweller.

"The life of the latter is an uncertain one. His tent is home-made, spun and woven by the women of his harem from goats' hair, an accumulation of many years. This tent cloth is waterproof and a good protection against the fierce sun of the desert. It is very portable and serves for many generations. Each camp has its chief, part of whose tent is set apart as a guest room, in which visitors are entitled to three days' hospitality.

Prerogatives of the Chief.

"The chief gives the order to move camp and decides on the new pitch. Local disputes are referred to him for settlement, and in the event of his being unable to adjust the matter, the disputants must go to the capital and present their case to the Emir. This they are slow to do, for it means a long journey and absence from home for an uncertain time, as well as some amount of expense. The chief, too, is responsible for the good behavior of the people in his district and for the return of the tax due from the tribe.

"The desert which the Bedouin calls 'home has to be lived in, crossed, slept on, made one's abode for a time before it can be thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed. The boasting of the Bedouins about the free life they enjoy, and their pity for their city neighbors, confined in their close and dark dwellings, can be excused after a sojourn in their tents. But the desert life is not all honey, by any means, for is there not always the danger of attack from the nothing-to-lose and all-to-gain members of society, or the risk of perishing for want of water, or the giving out of one's food without the possibility of being able to replenish the supply?"

"When traveling through inland Arabia the routine of travel is somewhat arduous. Up with the day-break and as soon as possible load the camels; ride for some four or five hours; then put down for the first morning meal, which usually consists of dates and water; then off again until late in the afternoon, when a halt is made for the night. Supper usually consists of warm bread with an onion or dates as a relish. Bread is prepared in as simple a manner as possible. While the coarse flour and water are being kneaded into dough, a large fire is made which provides a good heap of hot ashes. On part of these the flattened dough is laid, then covered with the remainder of the ashes. In about 15 minutes the dough is sufficiently baked. It is then well beaten to free it from the ashes, broken in pieces and divided among those who, from their bags, have contributed to the meal.

"After the evening feast coffee is made by some member of the party and in tiny cups handed round to each one, as much regard being paid to etiquette as if al were assembled in the most spacious guest room in the largest city in the country.

Are a Social Lot.

"Conversation never lags, and until late in the evening the men talk, some telling imaginary stories, others reciting impromptu poetry, until, tired out, all except those designated to keep watch, roll up in their large cloaks and are soon asleep.

"Most of the houses of Arabia are built of sun-dried bricks; many of them are three stories high, and all have flat roofs. As a rule the interiors are quite devoid of furniture, the coffee roaster, pounder, pots and cups being about all that is visible that savors of daily life and needs. Many of the houses are doorless, accounted for by the scarcity of suitable wood.

"Wherever people are found in the Arabian peninsula with the most limited number of milk-giving animals, such as sheep, goats, or camels, there will be found the national substitute for the lard of the Occident, or olive oil of other lands, a very favorite production called 'semmin.' This is a butter which is made in

primitive, simple and unappetizing manner by being churned in a skin which has been none too well cured and does not recommend itself for cleanliness. The mode of procedure is simplicity itself, the milk being put into the skin and then either swung backward and forward on a tripod, or rolled to and fro on the ground until the fat of the milk forms itself into butter. A favorite dish to set before the distinguished guest is a mixture of dates and butter.

"Throughout Arabia there are many things in common among the Bedouins and the Fallahs, as, for example, the manner of clothing among both sexes; little distinction is made between rich and poor, and from a man's apparel it is impossible to get any idea of his social standing.

"In all homes it is customary for the host to assume the place of waiting during the serving of food. He takes his meals after all the others have been served.

"As in other Mohammedian lands, the women in the cities and towns of Arabia are secluded, but in the village and camp life they enjoy the same freedom as the men; the women, too, do a large share of the work in co-operation with the male members of the family."

Patrolmen Purtell and Mahoney and Building Inspector Cocoran, of Ansonia, Conn., claim to have seen a parrot which manured its nails with a penknife. While these men watched, this bird picked up the knife from the bottom of its cage and, holding it in its mouth, carefully scraped its toes on the blade. When this was done to the parrot's satisfaction it dropped the knife.

Popular and Profitable Peanut.

It grows in the ground, but is not a tuber; It used to be known as groundpea and goober; The old Southern negroes all knew it as pinder, And their love for the groundnut nothing could hinder.

Throughout the South and in many of the Western States the popularity of the peanut has, for the past few years, been growing with almost phenomenal rapidity. The statement was made recently in the Texas press that Johnson county now has 20,000 acres devoted to this crop. At Cleburne, the county seat, is located what is claimed to be the largest peanut mill in the world. It was originally built as a cottonseed oil mill, but is now also operated for the manufacture of peanut oil, peanut butter, salted peanuts and peanut cake and meal.

In this day of great demand for everything in the food line for both man and beast the farmers of the South and West should "sit up and take notice" of the growing value of the peanut. Not only are the nuts one of the most profitable crops that can be grown upon sandy lands, but the vines also make excellent and easily cured hay. It is said that swine will fatten on the nuts in a shorter time than upon any other feed and will do their own harvesting. All domestic animals thrive upon the hay, and the peanut cake or meal, after the oil has been extracted, has high feeding value.

The year 1911 was exceedingly dry, yet peanuts were grown profitably in Colorado at an elevation of 6,600 feet above sea level. That same year this crop matured in Texas and Oklahoma after forty-five days of drouth during the growing season. In Northern Illinois it has also been found a profitable crop in dry seasons. Farmers should begin now to arrange for a peanut crop next year. The best land on the farm need not be devoted to it. The Spanish peanut, as a rule, has proven the most profitable variety. Two cottonseed oil mills in Texas last season went into the business of crushing peanuts on a large scale and shipped out a number of tank cars of the oil. Others went into the work in an experimental way only, but enough has been done to demonstrate thoroughly that the modest little Spanish peanut is destined to soon become one of the most important food and feed crops in the South.

That man is very slow to appreciate the possibilities of development of our most common crops is shown in the history of the cotton plant. Cotton, as a fibre plant, was known to the ancients 800 years before Christ. When this continent was discovered it was found growing in Mexico and Peru as the principal crop for clothing the natives, who, by the way, had learned to manufacture cotton cloth quite well. Our ancestors began raising it in the South soon after the settlement of the first colonies; yet, it was only after centuries of long acquaintance with the plant that we discovered it had other uses than that of making fiber for our clothes.

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and years but only as a plant of secondary consideration. Georgia and Tennessee have long raised the larger varieties in a limited way, but it is only within the last few years that the little Spanish variety has received recognition at all in proportion to its importance. Heretofore Georgians have been known as "goober-grabblers" but from the present trend of progress of the peanut it appears that Texans will hereafter be entitled to that distinction. However, no one State can monopolize the Spanish peanut. It has been demonstrated that it can be profitably grown in Northern Illinois as well as in Colorado and other Western States.

Try a Small Plot.

In view of the steadily increasing price of all food products farmers should prepare at once to plant at least a few acres in Spanish peanuts. There is perhaps no single crop that will do more towards reducing the high cost of living, both on the farm and in the city, than the peanut. It is a wholesome, nutritious and economical food for man and domestic animals. Its production is simple and inexpensive, and it is, from any view point, a profitable crop.

Fine Success in Grayson County.

Seventeen years ago W. R. Jones, an enterprising farmer of Grayson county, Texas, planted two acres of Spanish peanuts as an experiment. Finding the hay an excellent feed crop for his cows and work stock and the nuts a most excellent crop for hogs, Mr. Jones has continued to plant peanuts—not a two-acre patch, but from fifteen and twenty acres each year. Gradually his neighbors have fallen into the peanut planting habit, until now it has become a well-established and important crop in the sandy land belt of Grayson county. A "peanut factory" has been established at Denison, which buys, not only the Grayson county production, but that of other sections of Texas, shipping the shelled nuts all over the country.

That peanut growing has proven profitable in the sandy sections bordering Red river is shown by the fact that in Grayson county the acreage has almost doubled annually for the last seven years. It is estimated to be twice as large this year as it was last.

For the first few years of his pea-

nut experience, Mr. Jones fed his entire crop to his livestock—the nuts to hogs and the hay to horses and cows. For the last ten years, however, he has sold the nuts. He will not sell a bale of peanut hay, for he says his cows eat it in preference even to alfalfa. He claims that a farmer makes more money on peanuts at 60 cents a bushel than on cotton at 10 cents a pound. He thinks, though, that 75 cents a bushel ought to be the minimum price for peanuts and that no farmer should sell them for less. He estimates that the farmer can realize more clear money from them as hog feed than to sell the nuts for less than 75 cents a bushel.

On the Jones farm the peanut is the principal crop. He plans to plant twenty-five acres next year and let his hogs harvest the crop.

Another Grayson county man, Andy Burch, has for the last seven years planted from twelve to fifteen acres in peanuts, but has never gathered the nuts nor put up a bale of hay. His plan is to divide the land into sections, separated by hog-proof wire fencing, turn the cows and horses into one section at a time to eat the vines and the hogs to root for the nuts. He says that his peanut laud is the most profitable of his farm. He has some twenty-seven head of horses and cattle and about fifty hogs this year harvesting the crop. That number of hogs, he says, will run two months or more on twelve to fifteen acres of land and get very fat.

The flesh of the peanut-fattened hog is soft, however, and Mr. Burch plants ten acres in corn with which to "finish off" his swine and make them firm. He also plants five acres in cane and oats as summer pasturage for them. While he has not kept an accurate account of the profits from his system of stock farming, Mr. Burch estimates that his peanut crop last year was worth from \$500 to \$550 in hog production alone, not taking into account the value of the pasturage to his cattle and horses. "Notwithstanding cotton now brings a good price," he said recently, "I am not going to quit peanuts for cotton." He is satisfied with the results of his present plan and will stick to it.—Home and Farm.