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THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1913.

Don't put off until tomorrow what you can parcel post today.

◆

Enroll the Sultan among those ardent reformers fighting to abolish the turkey-trot.

◆

Nothing needs more corrective attention than the gubernatorial speed mania in pardons.

◆

Take care of the slight cold and then the grip and pneumonia will take care of themselves.

◆

January smiles the overcoats off the trustful, then stabs them in the back with an icicle.

◆

Turkey is to get another ultimatum. It is fast getting to be something of a continuous performance.

◆

Now Gotham has discovered an Arson Trust. Obviously, the first thing to do with this is to fire it.

◆

According to late developments in the investigations now so much in fashion, squealing follows the probe.

◆

Perhaps an era of Republican prosperity has taught Democrats discretion when it comes to tariff reform.

◆

It certainly is inconsiderate of the powers to keep the poor dove of peace roosting on Adrianople on one leg.

◆

If the murky weather has seemed oppressive, ponder on the fact that it has been 54 degrees below in Colorado.

◆

Berlin has a bank exclusively for women. Though feminine finance, it is to be hoped it will not also be frenzied.

◆

An aviator in Boston is to fly with the parcel post. This is quite an up-to-date way for the government to be up in the air about it.

◆

There will be no barber strike, it is said, and customers are congratulating themselves over the narrow escape they have had.

◆

A Bass is running for the Senate in New Hampshire. The voters might be excused for fearing his pledges might be somewhat fishy.

◆

Mr. William Rockefeller, it is said, will never talk again. But that is what the Money Trust investigating committee wants to find out.

◆

One sceptical of medical science might find reason for his want of faith in the fact that the more active the doctors are the busier are the undertakers.

◆

If a friend meets a limp handshake from a friend nowadays, it does not necessarily imply a cold feeling. It is more apt to mean that it "took."

◆

In a divorce suit in New York the husband complained of too much silence on the part of his wife. This shows how few men know when they are well off.

◆

The elephant trembles in mortal terror at the sight of a mouse. And the ethical doctor boldly battles with dread disease and shakes at the knees over a line of type.

◆

A considerable amount of heresy will be uncovered when the free traders seek to secure the approval of the Democratic manufacturer to taking the duty off articles which compete with his own manufactured product. They will discover that he puts prosperity before party—and well for the country will be such an obstacle to drastic revision.

◆

President Taft will order out the cavalry to protect the suffragists when they parade in Washington. Some day, perhaps, the suffragists will turn out to protect our soldiers on the march—who knows?

◆

The complaint of a Gotham woman that she suffered continually from headache in her married career leads to the suspicion that someone in the family must have been making life one gigantic jag of joy.

◆

The New York legislature will adopt an amendment in favor of woman suffrage, and the matter will then be submitted to the voters of the state. As this is what the women have been fighting for, it is regarded as a great victory for the cause. If the amendment is adopted by the voters, it will probably decide the issue in other wavering states.

◆

The ex-Governor of New York, who has been severely criticised for his pardon policy, says in defending himself that he granted one pardon not for the prisoner's own sake, but for his family. The family of a man who has disgraced and impoverished it when he is its natural protector is always to be pitied, but if the fact of an unfortunate family is always to be considered, then men with such a convenient excuse can commit crime against society with impunity.

NAVAL RESERVES.

Secretary Meyer has evolved a plan for a naval reserve that, if carried out, will go much toward increasing interest in this branch of the service. His idea is to place those ships that are to be retired from active service at the disposal of the interior towns situated upon navigable rivers, so that they could be used as centers of naval interest, and through them the right kind of training for the Navy be received by young men.

This is, in effect, the plan proposed, and the details have been worked out so as to make it wholly practicable. The method thus advanced would supply the country with young men qualified through just the right kind of training for naval service. The main features of the plan are that it would create wide interest in the service of the ships among those who by reason of being remote from coast cities think little of the opportunities afforded by naval service to aid their country and to achieve honors.

The plan would have to be approved by Congress before it could be put into effect. But some such plan will have to be relied upon by the country.

ECONOMY COMMISSION.

President Taft was the first chief executive to place the subject of national economy in the hands of a comprehensive commission with full power for investigation and recommendation. His aim was to increase efficiency and thereby to reduce cost. Congress has already had submitted to it reports for consolidation of services, the doing away with some duplicative machinery and the relegation of useless mechanism, as well as the doubling up of the work of bureaus.

Congress and the country cannot fail to scrutinize the former recommendations, together with the fresh ones made, without seeing the utility and feasibility of entering upon the pruning of federal services so as to effect wide saving and increase of efficiency.

The moneys spent in their Economy Commission work has been wisely spent and as a result thus far it may be estimated that as fruits of the expenditure of less than a third of a million of dollars the country has the way pointed out for the saving of millions of dollars annually. Surely the recommendations of the President in this regard must commend themselves to all economical legislators as they do to the country at large.

TRAIL OF SHIPPING TRUST.

And yet another investigating committee has opened up performance at the House end of the Capitol this week. The latest probe is in the endeavor to find out the pernicious activities of the so-called Shipping Trust, which, allegedly, dominates over ninety per cent. of the foreign traffic of the United States. The House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries is on the trail of the Shipping Trust.

It seems to be a matter of suspicion, more or less substantiated by definite information, that a carefully planned system of rebates affects the business of waterborne traffic when this traffic extends beyond the confines of the country. Most of our foreign trade is carried in ships that are owned in other countries, and even if there should be a rebating system that operates against American owned lines, it is doubtful whether the custom can be prevented by legislation at Washington.

A New Orleans shipowner who attempted to establish an independent line between New Orleans and Brazil testified before the investigating committee on Tuesday that his attempt had failed because his ships always came back from the Brazilian port empty. The inference which his testimony suggested was that the foreign-owned lines were giving importers rebates with which his new line could not compete. The member of a New York coffee importing firm said that his company has been receiving ten per cent. rebates from three different foreign-owned lines.

PROTECTION OF SEALS.

While the subject is one of specialized interest, the effects of the fur seal treaty entered into by this country, Russia, Japan and England have been of the widest general nature. The slaughter of the breeding females and the consequent death of the pups made one of the most pitiful and needless losses of which the world has knowledge. The wastefulness of the indiscriminate killing of the seals has been corrected by the wise terms of the treaty and the five-year limit prohibiting the killing of seals upon the Pribilof Islands.

While the convention between the powers has been in existence only about a year, its beneficent effects are seen in the increase of the herd from seventy-five thousand seals and the actual diminishing of the dead pups from ten or fifteen thousand to one thousand. There will be one hundred thousand breeding females next summer. The President points out that the killing of seals in the herd other than nonbreeding should be prevented, not for five years only, but forever.

The number of males necessary to retain for a breeding herd has been well arrived at, so that the problems of the situation have been simplified by study. In view of the good results already achieved Mr. Taft suggests to Congress consideration of the question of whether or not the prohibition of land killing is now necessary for the protection and preservation of the herd. The other powers declare that such is not the case, and assert that under the terms of the convention the prohibition should not outrun the necessity. The point at issue is whether or not the land killing of overplus males may now be resorted to. Congress will be able to pass upon the subject in the spirit of the information conveyed.

CLAIMS OF COLOMBIA.

As a result of the coming here of Gen. Rafael Reyes, the former president of Colombia, the entire transaction with respect to the sudden birth of the State of Panama and the conditions under which this country secured the canal tract are likely to be revamped. The attempt to fasten the scandal upon the financing of the acquisition of the canal strip failed, and there is not likely to be further outcroppings of this nature. But undoubtedly the famous declaration of Mr. Roosevelt that he took Panama first and allowed Congress to discuss it afterward will be revived in various connections. It is not the purpose, however, of General Reyes to create bitterness, but to sweeten the atmosphere between the two countries. It is his purpose to seek to have the good relations that formerly existed revived, and made even stronger. He declares that his intention is to have this country brought into better understanding, not only with his own country, but with the Central American and South American states generally.

Unquestionably the former president of Colombia will seek to have redress for Colombia for the acquisition by the United States of the Panama territory. But this will not be the paramount object of his visit. This is well, because the United States will be very much more agreeably disposed toward the concession of a claim that is advanced in a placatory spirit than one that is asserted with the peculiar bitterness that heretofore has characterized the attitude of Colombia with respect to this matter. It has never been the purpose of this country to defraud Colombia, and even admitting the extraordinary nature of the circumstances by which the little State of Panama was created, the fact remains that something had to be done for the carrying out of the obligations to which in good faith Colombia was pledged. It must be borne in mind that Colombia refused to ratify a treaty that had been prepared according to the views presented by that country and ratified by the United States Senate in good faith. It must be borne in mind that there was every appearance of a purpose by Colombia to hold up the United States for the ultimate dollar. Yet the Colombians declared that they could not ratify the treaty without first changing their constitution, and this would take time. Time, in fact, that the United States could not concede, with the absolute uncertainty as to when the Colombian leisurely machinery would get to work. The United States has little to justify in its action. It has, however, the field of generosity of friendship to cultivate, and certainly there might well be some form of recouping of Colombia for the Panama Railroad that was a considerable asset to the country.

Some form of compromise might well be evolved with both the countries approaching the subject in a spirit of placation. The United States has every disposition of good will toward Colombia, and in view of the neighborly relations sustained through the possession of the canal strip this country might well concede to Colombia some recognition of just deserts. The recent visit of President Taft, while without political significance, has created a fine impression in the belt of state adjacent to the Panama Canal. So that the proposed visit of Reyes has doubtless been suggested by the wise and friendly greeting given by the head of this nation to the peoples that border upon the great American enterprise.

It is to be hoped that some form of understanding may be reached so that the two countries may get upon a basis of agreeability and thus the better relations of the big republic to all the South and Central American states be strengthened. A pledge of friendship is always a safe investment. There are obvious rights upon the side of Colombia that may be asserted, even though not constituting ground for claims of the extent that the country might make. Nevertheless, they do establish a basis for recognition. The visit of Reyes could not be better timed, and while the outcome of that visit is fruitful, it will have to be from the Democratic administration. The matter of good relations between this country and its neighbors is in no sense a matter of partisan politics.

NO MORE WAR.

No more war for this generation, if the great powers of Europe can prevent, is the meaning to be read in the pressure brought to bear upon Turkey to accede to the conditions of the allies and to give up its purpose to fight out the disputed points in the trenches. Lack of money is the unanswerable argument brought to bear, and the Turks will not be able to raise the sums necessary to carry on the fighting in the hope of gaining some victory that might temper the demands of the Balkan States.

So that the end of the negotiations has practically been reached. There are many minor matters to be settled even after the major lines of the peace pact have been fixed upon. These things will consume time, but with 80,000 persons starving in Adrianople and other places under siege being turned into charnel houses, the protraction of negotiations is out of the question.

The powers will not make the mistake they did in the Berlin settlement of forcing the Turkish yoke upon unwilling shoulders; on the other hand, they appear ready to support the allies in about all they claim from the defeated Turks. The matter of chief interest is the weathering of the Balkan storms by the "peace of Europe" and the likelihood that peace will remain fixed a long time.

TAX ON SWEETNESS.

Women the country over will rise in their might and assert the inalienable right of the sex to have their toilet articles, their perfumes, relieved from further taxation. The manufacturers of the odorous extracts may fight the battle as they will, and the mighty forces of the beauty brigades will be back of them. From the lady in her boudoir, with six French maids in attendance, to the girl in the New England factory, who spends one-third of her wages weekly on perfumery, the sex will stand in solidarity against this heinous attempt to make prohibitive the use of the articles so necessary to give the right aroma of regalement to the beauty that sweetness sets off.

Preserve perfumery for the shop girl, by all means, is the cry of the manufacturers before the Ways and Means Committee, and the cry sounds through a million recesses where these girls stand or sit in attendance upon customers. But they are only part of the army of women who depend upon perfumery as one of the elixirs of existence.

Now let the ax that was lifted to drive at the root of the perfumery rights of women be turned to some other object and let not the raw materials for perfumes be made a shining mark by men with only the dollar valuation of life and things.

AFTER THE BIG STATES.

The votes-for-women organizations appear to be concentrating attention just now upon the legislatures of the two most populous states in the Union. If New York and Pennsylvania can be captured for the "Cause" the war will be practically ended. The assemblies at both Albany and Harrisburg have opened for business, and advocates of equal suffrage were, in both instances, on hand at the opening. The "hike" to Albany of an enthusiastic brigade of young suffragists assured that every member of the legislature would know in advance that the suffragist organization would be knocking at the state house doors.

Governor Sulzer is in a promising attitude toward the movement, and so also is Governor Tener, of Pennsylvania, who, in his message to the legislature read on Tuesday, recommends "that appropriate legislation be enacted to the end that the voters may be given an opportunity to decide, by the submission to them of a constitutional amendment, whether or not women shall have the right of suffrage in Pennsylvania." Just so much and no more, says the Pennsylvania governor about the matter, but what he recommends is just what the suffragist organizations are asking for.

In the Western States, where the franchise right has been conferred upon women, it has always been granted by the vote of the people. If the legislatures at Albany and Harrisburg enact laws submiting the proposition to the people, the victory will only be tentative and preliminary. It will make way for the real fight which will be by open and general popular appeal.

NOTES AND NOTIONS

BY JOSH WINK.

THE ODDITY.

The race of men is quite perverse,
And no more than in this:
Though people like to talk too much,
And love to start a quiz,
Until they make themselves a bore,
They generally balk
When there is reason, strong and good,
For folks to make them talk.

They'll chatter inconvenient times,
They'll interrupt one's work,
Their flow of words will busy men
Bring from thought with a jerk,
They'll spoil a play with all the words
Left over from the day;
They'll make the opera lovers swear
With idle things they say.

But when talk's wanted in the world,
When it needs men to speak,
When it waits on for "words that burn,"
Or knowledge it doth seek
That some would hide, then to its pleas
It finds the talkers mum;
They'll waste their speech, but when 'tis to use,
One finds them always dumb.

THE RULE.

"I think the trades ought to be represented in the presidency. The lawyers have almost a corner on the highest office in the land."

"Not so. On the contrary, all of the presidents to date are cabinet-makers."

A GOOD REASON.

"I hear Grouch received a consignment by parcel post yesterday."

"He did."

"Then I suppose, as usual, there was a growl about it."

"There certainly was. It was a bulldog."

THE OMISSION.

"When Jaggs got home early in the morning he had some difficulty in getting in, for the janitor had shut up the house."

"Yes, but he hadn't Jaggs' wife."

THEIR SOURCE.

"There is much warmth in that singer's tones."

"Then it must come from the register in her voice."

AN EXCEPTION.

"Age and youth are never the same."

"I don't know about that. A young man can still be an old friend."

A FOWL ONE.

"I hear some of your country friends are going to send you a lot of eggs by mail."

"I wonder if they are hatching a conspiracy?"

HIS LIMIT.

Bridegroom—My darling, I feel now I will be the better man.

Bride—But you can't be the best man.

WILLING TO OBLIGE.

Lawyer—We want you to be willing to waive immunity in this case.

Witness—All right; hand the old rag here. I'll wave anything to oblige you.

ITS KIND.

"Is this a tentative arrangement?"

"Nothin' like that. It's jest to try it out fer awhile."

TOO MUCH.

"I understand your star has a great deal of temperament."

"A great deal! Great Scott, man, you can't put a thermometer near her without its dancing ragtime between boiling point to zero."

JOSH WINK.

SEVERE PUNISHMENT.

One evening, several years ago, in a gold-mining camp in the Transvaal, a man, partially intoxicated and supposed to be actuated by jealousy, attempted suicide. He first took morphia, but this not proving strong enough, he tried to hang himself, but was prevented and handed over to the sheriff to be kept in safe custody for the night and to be tried before the acting gold commissioner, a shrewd and solemn Scot, the next morning.

There being no law to prevent him from comitting suicide if he thought fit, but it being considered desirable to punish him in some way, it was decided to bring a charge of drunkenness and disorderly conduct against him. To this the prisoner pleaded guilty, whereupon the acting gold commissioner, without the ghost of a smile, delivered the following extraordinary judgment:

"I shall fine ye twa punds for your drunkenness, but I'll just gie ye to understond that I ken vera weel what ye attempted to dae, and, had ye succeeded in your attempt, your poonishment would have bin vera much more severe than it is!"—London Globe.

TURNING AWAY WRATH.

Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst said at a Presbyterian banquet in New York:

"At all seasons, and at the holiday season, especially, we should avoid quarreling and try to bring about a spirit of good will.

"In short, we should imitate Father Healy, the Irish wit, to whom an official once said:

"'Healy, I've got a crow to pick with you.'

"'Make it a turkey,' said Father Healy, 'and I'll join you at 6 sharp.'"—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY

The Late Duke of Abercorn and His Successor—How Kruger Snubbed Him.

Special Dispatch to The American.

Ulster's Duke was the name by which the late Duke of Abercorn was known throughout the North of Ireland. Like his father before him, and his son and successor, the new Duke, hitherto known as the Marquis of Hamilton, will undoubtedly be described in a similar fashion. For he is just as vigorous an opponent of home rule as was his father, has fought it tooth and nail during the 12 years that he has been representing Londonderry in the House of Commons, and has now become the principal territorial magnate of all the northern and Protestant portion of the Emerald Isle.

Far taller than his father, not quite so good-looking as his grandfather—whom Lord Beaconsfield portrayed as "the Duke" in his novel Lothair—the new Duke can boast, nevertheless, of the good looks and charm of manner for which the Hamiltons have long been celebrated. And his wife, who was Lady Rosalind Bingham, daughter of Lord Lucan and sister-in-law, therefore, of the American Mrs. Cecil Bingham (formerly Mrs. Chauncey, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and a daughter of Montgomery Carr, of Louisville, Ky.), was at the time of her marriage one of the loveliest girls in society, and will undoubtedly maintain the traditions of beauty set by the former Duchesses and Marchionesses of Abercorn. The Duke has been a captain of the First Life Guards, has seen service in the Soudan and South Africa, was formerly treasurer of the Royal Household, and is a godson of the late King Edward.

As Duke of Abercorn he becomes the head of the most influential clique, or rather clan, in English society, where the Hamiltons are all powerful. In fact, the Hamilton influence was strong enough both at court and in society during the reign of Queen Victoria to entirely destroy the standing of the late Duke of Marlborough, and to relegate him to the most cruel ostracism, not alone by the great world, but even by the middle classes, despite the prestige of his name and rank, the brilliancy of his attainments and the profound respect which the bulk of the English people usually entertain for their dukes. This attitude on their part against the late Duke of Marlborough was in punishment of his behavior to his wife the Marchioness of Blandford, who, a sister of the late Duke of Abercorn, had been forced to divorce him on account of his almost incredible brutality.

The late Duke of Abercorn was not a brilliant man, nor was he of impressive appearance, despite the comeliness of his features. He was one of the principal dignitaries of the Household of King Edward from the time of the latter's marriage until his death, and at his instance accepted the presidency of Cecil Rhodes' Chartered Company of South Africa, in which he was associated with Edward VII's son-in-law, the late Duke of Fife.

The Duke of Abercorn in the early nineties visited South Africa as the president of the company. Naturally enough, he went to Pretoria to see Paul Kruger. The visit took place in the early morning, at the president's house. The Duke was astounded by the simplicity of Kruger's manners, and the want of ceremony with which he was received. Kruger's grandson, young Eloff, acted as interpreter. When he told the president in the Taal, or Boer patois, his visitor's name, the Duke interrupted him with:

"Please say that my father was the viceroy of Ireland." Eloff translated the title fairly, but Kruger took no notice beyond a grunt.

"Please explain to him," the Duke insisted again, "that the viceroy is the representative of the monarch."

Eloff did this, too, as well as the uncouth dialect would let him.

The reiteration seemed to annoy Kruger. Staring fixedly at his visitor with his small eyes, he growled, "Tell him that my father was a shepherd." Naturally the interview did not lead to friendly relations.

The late duke was one of the leaders of the Orange Society, and grand master of the Irish Freemasons, and it is probable that his son, who is both an Orangeman and a Freemason, will take as conspicuous a part in the activities of these two organizations as did his father. The late Duke was one of the survivors of one of the greatest railroad catastrophes of the nineteenth century. The Irish Mail, by which he was traveling from London to Holyhead, en route to Dublin, where his father was then "reigning" as viceroy, collided at Abergele, in Denbighshire, with a freight train laden with petroleum. The fire from the engine ignited the oil, and the entire mail train was quickly in a blaze, the majority of the passengers perishing in the bames, the late Duke, with his mother and his sister (now Marchioness of Lansdowne), being among the very few who managed to escape, thanks largely to his presence of mind.

The Duke of Abercorn, as is fitting for a leading nobleman of Ulster, is as much Scotch as Irish, and is the acknowledged chieftain of the Scottish house of Hamilton. He is also Duke of Chattellerault in France, this dukedom having been bestowed upon James Hamilton, who was regent of Scotland in 1548. This dukedom was confirmed in favor of the Abercorn Hamiltons, as the senior descendants in the male line direct from the Regent James Hamilton of Scotland, by an edict of King Louis XIV., dated from early in 1711, in the course of which the grand monarque took occasion to emphasize the fact that French dukedoms descended only in the male line direct, except where expressely otherwise ordered by patent.

Napoleon III., who, without any vestige of right bestowed the ancient and historic Dukedom of Montmorency on the effeminate Adalbert de Talleyrand-Perigord, brother of the late Duke de Talleyrand et Sagan, in the same way, and in an equally unwarranted manner conferred an netirely new dukedom of Chattellerault upon his kinsman the eleventh Duke of Hamilton who had married his, that is Napoleon's cousin, Princess Marie of Baden, although the Dukes of Hamilton are not Hamiltons, but Douglases. This Napoleonic Dukedom became extinct on the death of the late and twelfth Duke of Hamilton, but the ancient, sixteenth century French Dukedom of Chattellerault still belongs to the Abercorn Hamiltons, and has now been inherited by the new Duke of Abercorn.

Unlike most of the great British nobles of his rank, the Duke of Abercorn has but two country seats; a small one, known as Dudington House, near Portobello, in County Edinburgh, and Baron's Court, in County Tyrone. Baron's Court is a magnificent place, surrounded by a park and grounds some 5,000 acres in extent, the trees hundreds of years old, the park forming part of an estate of near 100,000 acres, embracing prosperous towns and many villages. It nestles among the heather-clad Tyrone hills, one of which is still known as the Sneezing Hill, because James II. is recorded to have had a fit of sneezing there at the time when he was fighting for his crown. The two other principal hills are known as the Bessie Bell and the Mary Gray, respectively. Bessie Bell being not the name of a woman, but a corruption of "Baase Baal" (The Rites of Baal) the summit of the hill having been in Pagan times the scene of the worship of Baal, or Moloch.

The estate includes several ruined castles, owing to the fact that the countryside was in olden times the favorite battleground of the O'Neills and the O'Donnells. They used to usually wind up their perpetual warrings by the sacking or burning of the cathedral and convent of Ardstraw. Legend has it that when St. Patrick visited it he found the good nuns not at their vigils, but asleep, and that consequently in his wrath he cursed the place, with the result that Ardstraw has never prospered since.

Baron's Court was given to the Abercorn Hamiltons by James I. in 1611, in return for the military assistance which they rendered him in holding the country, the original grantee being bound by the King to maintain a Baronial Court; hence the name of the place. The present castle was built about two centuries ago, but has been added to by every successive occupant.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

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A Man Sized Job.

Former Congressman Tawney suggests Goethals for 1916. Does he think it will take an excavator of his prestige to dig out the Democratic administration?—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Gallic Jettison.

Gold has been found in the Canal Zone. A good deal was lost there by the French 30 years ago.—Philadelphia Ledger.

MEN AND WOMEN

Mrs. Anna B. Powell, who died Monday at Darby, Penn., aged 95 years, lived in one house all her life. She died in the same room where she was born.

Rev. Albert Vogel, 96 years of age, who still conducts evangelical services in Ohio and Michigan, is thought to be the oldest active minister in this country. He preaches in both German and English.

The descendants of General James Wolfe and of the officers who served with him in the Quebec campaign, ate their annual dinner together at Westerham (England) last week. About 50 were present.

Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery, one of the first presidents of the Pennsylvania Suffrage Association and a grandmother is studying to be a farmer at the University of Wisconsin. She is a freshman, while her daughter is a sophomore.

Rev. Isaac Contant, pastor of the Holland Reformed Church at Lodi, N. J., celebrated his seventieth birthday by preaching three sermons, the evening sermon being his five thousand five hundred and third since he was ordained in Holland 39 years ago.

Miss Alice Clute, said to be the only woman boilermaker in the world, who superintends her own works, was injured the other day by the falling of some part of the building while she was on a tour of inspection. She lives and has her boiler shop at Youngstown, O.

What are believed to be the two oldest train "news butchers" in the United States run out of Sedalia, Mo., for the Van Noys News Company on the Missouri Pacific. They are J. D. Lyons, 81 years old, and William Kurtz, 64 years old, who runs on the Lexington branch.

Mrs. William A. Hall, of New York, and and her 23-year-old son, Mervin A. Hall, are on their way across the American continent, in the last lap of a 40,000-mile motor trip that has taken them through most of the countries of the world. They have visited places no civilized person had ever entered.

For the fortieth consecutive year General Charles Miller has been elected superintendent of the First Baptist Sunday school and teacher of the Miller Bible class at Franklin, Pa. General Miller is compelled to be out of town on Sunday occasionally, and it was decided to choose a permanent assistant superintendent, and D. W. Morgan was selected.

Should Use Slow Freight.

California is excited by the discovery that prunes can be shipped cheaper by parcels post than by express. But why by express?—Springfield Republican.

Deceptive Dress.

Possibly, however, the average student is smarter than he looks in a cap and gown.—Atchison Globe.

GOSSIP OF THE STAGE

A new piece is What Happened to Mary.

Marie Wainwright is in the Eastern company playing Everywoman.

Bronson Howard's play, An Enemy to the People, is shortly to have a production.

Ada Reeve, the English comedienne, is to appear in the United States next fall in a musical comedy.

Charles Meakins, who plays the role of Prince Danilo in Henry W. Savage's production of The Merry Widow, was formerly a university star athlete.

The mayor of Boston thinks it would be a good idea to tax the receipts of stage stars in that city, as he inclines to the opinion that they take too much money out of the city. It is not likely the stage stars will receive the suggestion with uproarious applause.

On the afternoon of January 11 the premiere of the big spectacular production, Joseph and His Brethren, will take place at the Century Theater in New York. This play is by Louis N. Parker, author of Disraeli, Pomander Walk, Drake and other successful plays. Two hundred people will appear in the production and the drama itself will be interpreted by an unusually strong cast.

A plan is being considered by Charles Frohman to form a stock company for Maude Adams to present none but Barrie plays. After her present engagement Miss Adams will not be seen in New York until next Christmas. The stock company will then be formed, with its nucleus taken from her present Peter Pan Company and for six months the stock company will give its performances. Each play will be acted for a certain number of weeks.

The story of The Lady from Oklahoma, the comedy by Elizabeth Jordan, tells the story of a wife of a senator from that state who has started life in humble surroundings and has married a woman of his own sphere. She does not progress with him, but in the midst of his increasing honors remains the same plain, unpolished, countrified wife he had married. In Washington the senator meets a feminine lobbyist and the wife, roused to fight, fits herself to meet her rivals on their own plane and in the end wins out.

SONG OF SONGS.

[From Book News Monthly.]

Over the roar of the cities,
Over the hush of the hills,
Is heard a song that never stops,
A voice that never stills.

Epic-loud as the sea is,
Lyric-low as the dew,
It sings and sings a soul into things
And builds the world anew.

Dauntless, deathless, stern but kind,
Bold and free and strong,
It sweeps with mastery man's mind,
And rolls the world along.

From soul to soul it wings its words,
And, lo, the darkness flies,
And all who heed that song of songs
View earth with other eyes.

New eyes, new thoughts, that shall go on
Seeing as Beauty sings,
Until the light of the farthest dawn
Shall fold its rainbow wings.

MADISON CAWEIN.

PUBLIC OPINION

Comment of Leading Newspapers on a Variety of Topics—The Stay-at-Home Vote.

[Knoxville Journal and Tribune.]

It has been estimated that as many as three millions of voters in the United States neglected to vote in the presidential election held last November. There are those who raise a hue and cry for the "rule of the people." They want a pure democracy, direct legislation by the people. The people should have the power to take the initiative in legislation in a way different from that of doing it through credited and commissioned representatives.

Such a system would call for more elections. Instead of once every two or four years they might come once a month. If three millions of voters neglect to vote in a presidential election that comes once in four years, what warrant is there for saying they would vote every six months or oftener?

There are about as many now who say we have too many elections as there are who say they should be held oftener. It is a fact that a race for office between two or more popular candidates will bring out more voters than an election for the ratification or rejection of amendments to the constitution of a state.

The people rule as truly under a representative government as they would or could under a pure democracy. Men are selected in all the walks of life to do what people cannot or will not do for themselves. Men skilled in the art of building are selected to build houses for the people. Men skilled in the science of medicine are selected to treat men and their families when sickness comes. And so on.

English Universities.

[Providence Journal.]

It is quite generally assumed that English collegiate education lags behind American. A knowledge of the exact facts about the matter is of some practical value, therefore, especially because Oxford and Cambridge are not the only centers of learning in England. Years ago a movement began to found in the principal cities institutions having a character leading to vocational efficiency; and today London, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield and Bristol all possess such centers of modern equipment. In each case the founders and heads of the movement have aimed to give the establishment a special quality of attraction in the eyes of the locality; and so the colleges and universities have been developed with the aid of the small givers.

As the expense of attendance is small, a provision sought from the first, the cities and their surrounding towns are able to offer a college education to almost anybody who wishes it. Thus the situation is apparently more favorable to students than the college system in this country. When a young man or young woman wishes an education, he or she does not have to contemplate attending an institution whose courses are designed especially for the whole length and breadth of the country. Such a curriculum offers itself, but only along with the more practical one which the life of the local community suggests.

Suffrage Here and Abroad.

[Philadelphia Press.]

A writer in the English Review declares that the militant suffragettes in Great Britain have ruined their cause. After all the flamboyant advertising and the spectacular, not to say violent, methods adopted, he pronounces the agitation the most ghastly failure of modern times.

According to this critic the movement lacks soul. There is no genuine sincerity amongst its more aristocratic advocates, who have taken to it as a social fad or new diversion, whereas amongst the middle-class workers it has produced a political school of professional agitators. These make easy money by "talking down" to their sister workers in the mills and workshops, who remain apathetic because they reap no benefit and look askance at a silk-flounce propaganda.

But the suffrage cause in this country stands on a very different footing. It is inspired by a conviction that separates it entirely from the foibles of social parasites. By way of contrast we might instance the advice given by Dr. Mary Halton during her address in the Twenty-ninth Assembly district of New York. She believes in tact, modesty, a winning appearance and gentle persuasion, and advises the girls to trust those subtle feminine arts which, since man was man, have brought about his surrender.

Counterfeiting.

[Omaha Bee.]

With all the government's extra vigilance to prevent counterfeiting of moneys, spurious silver certificates are in circulation, so skilfullp made as to elude detection of experienced handlers of money. The government has taken every available means of protecting people against loss, and yet it cannot hope for complete success. The success of the counterfeiters in this case goes to show the dangerously insidious character of this crime and the gravity attached to it by the government. It will require all possible co-operation of banks, all places of exchange and business houses, as well as individuals, to recover this flotation, especially if it has been extensive. Then apprehending those guilty of making and circulating the money is another task.

Counterfeiting is one of the old offenses with which the federal authorities have had to deal, and of late years it has been held under rather effective restraint, but evidently not perfect restraint. Moral suasion has not worked much better on counterfeiters than on other classes of criminals. The plea that their ingenuity directed in legitimate channels would bring much better results has not impressed them deeply. It still remains necessary to reach them by another appeal.

Government Makes Good.

[Boston Globe.]

Although the parcel post has been in operation only a week today, the Postmaster General has found it necessary to direct the Bureau of Printing and Engraving to double its output of parcel-post stamps, because the requisitions far exceed expectations. In other words, another government activity has proved that it is going to be a success.

The last previous government undertaking of note was the postal savings bank. This institution proved an instant success, and, although it was intended to relieve situations where no savings banks exists, the public response has been large in communities where such banks are plentiful. For instance, in this city, which is abundantly well supplied with the best savings banks, deposits have been astonishingly large and have crossed the million-dollar mark.

Here are two departments of the government, one of which has proved its utility, and another just launched which promises to fill a public want. The question raised naturally is: What next?

Thirfty American Lawyer

[Omaha Bee.]

Castro, once the terror of South America, denied admission to the United States, had turned his face in disgust back toward Europe, when, lo, a thrifty American lawyer intercepted him at sea with the cheering advice—so much down, the rest contingent—that he need not flee, at least not for the present.

"We have in this land of the free what we call the 'great American technique,' or, in legal terms, habeas corpus," suggested the lawyer. "Come, you have rights under it which you know not of."

So Castro tarried, caring nothing for the fee, so long as he might win the case. For Castro is a fighter. His detention at Ellis Island with the immigrants, he learns, is all wrong and can be thwarted; also his denial of admission, though the beneficent instrumentality of this versatile legal machine. All it takes is enough oil to keep the machine properly lubricated.

A Legal Note.

The 11 receivers and 22 attorneys for the Orient Railway seem disposed to discharge most of the railroad men in the company's employ and hire more lawyers.—Kansas City Star.

To Whom Had He Reference?

Of whom was Governor Wilson thinking when he told the Virginians that he must soon put on his war paint?—Boston Herald.

MUCH IN LITTLE

The Prince of Wales is said to be a good trick bicycle rider.

Dr. C. G. Crane, of Brooklyn, employs quinine as an anesthetic.

Columbia University reports special funds in excess of $8,356,000.

The United States annually produces lime valued at $14,000,000.

Aberdeen, Wash., is to have a pulp and paper plant to cost $1,000,000.

New England building contracts for 1912 to October 23, total $159,322,000.

Americans are buying much more champagne and gloves this year than last.

Washington street railways are installing the latest approved air brakes on all cars.

Labrador has an area of 200,000 square miles, but a population of only four thousand.

It is stated that work will now be begun installing a water supply system in Tlalpam, Mexico.

A new library has just been inaugurated in the Scientific Institute of the city of Oaxaca, Mexico.

Batavia, N. Y., is in the midst of a Sunday law observance crusade and is trying to stop all work.

Self-starting apparatus for automobiles was invented many years ago, but was not regarded as practical.

Quartz lamps are experimentally in use in the streets of Chicago and are said to put the other electric lamps in the shade.

Vice Consul General James B. Young, of Genoa, reports that the value of Italy's foreign trade during the first 10 months of 1912 was $932,756,972; imports aggregated $561,861,671, and the exports $370,895,301.

The North German Lloyd make Manila a port of call for homeward-bound mail steamers beginning the first of the year. Every other boat of this line leaving Hongkong will call there, which will practically give monthly sailings to the Philippines.

A colossal scheme for the canalization of the River Plate and the correction of the two largest rivers in the Argentine Republic—Parana and Uruguay—is described in a communication from Buenos Aires, the realization of which will bring the ports lying on the two rivers named and their trade in much closer proximity with Buenos Aires.

The total net value of Hankow's native and foreign trade through the Maritime Customs, amounting in 1911 to $77,144,195, places this port second in China, Shanghai, of course, being far in the lead, and Tientsin a close third, with $76,214,968, while Canton comes fourth, with $66,854,902. In direct foreign trade Hankow is sixth, but this classification is misleading, as will be shown later.

Port Elizabeth is the leading center of the South African ostrich feather trade. Probably the best feathers in the world are produced within this consular district. All commodities are subject to price fluctuations and ostrich feathers are not exempt, but feathers are shipped the year round from this port in marvelous quantities. Trade in them has become almost world-wide and South Africa is the principal source of supply.

Busting the Trusts.

Nor do the trusts care who makes the laws of the country just as long as they are allowed to bust themselves in their own time and way.—Minneapolis News.

No Incentive to Talk.

A scientist asserts that early man could not talk. No politics in those days.—Milwaukee News.

IN THE BEST OF HUMOR

"I do not think people should get married until they are thoroughly acquainted with each other."

"What would you do—abolish matrimony?"—Judge.

Nell—He actually told me I was dull.

Belle—I suppose you convinced him to the contrary.

Belle—Certainly. I've cut him ever since.—Philadelphia Record.

"And how is Rogers getting on? He always declared that he would leave 'footprints in the sands of time.'"

"Yes; but, unfortunately, he got stuck in the mud."—Boston Transcript.

"What did the audience do when you told them you had never paid a dollar for a vote?"

"A few cheered, but most of them seemed to lose interest."—Washington Star.

"The Duke has some vague ideas as to our history."

"So?"

"Yes; he thinks the Civil War was fought between North and South America."—Washington Herald.

"People are funny."

"How now?"

"In this Van Million divorce suit they divided $25,000,000 amicably and then scrapped about the custody of a pug dog."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"Why don't you co-eds wake up and take part in football?"

"What can we do?"

"You could organize a corps of trained nurses, render first aid, have a class yell and add a great deal to the game."—Pittsburgh Post.

Briggs—I am in love with two beautiful girls, and I am afraid if I marry one I shall wish that I married the other.

Griggs—Equally beautiful?

"Yes."

"Well, there's one consolation; they'll both get over it."—Life.

Guest—Waiter, are you sure this is oxtail soup?

Waiter—Yessuh.

Guest—But I've found a tooth in it. How do you account for that?

Waiter—Well, I don't know, suh; but I reckon dat ox must have been biting his tail."—Sphinx.

Father to lazy schoolboy home for the holidays—Late again, Tom? Now, when I was your age I once found a purse lying in the road at 7 o'clock in the morning—and all from getting up early.

Tom—Well, sir, the man who lost it got up earlier.—Stray Stories.

"The amounts given by the ladies who are interested in our candidate do not appear to correspond with their enthusiasm."

"No," replied Senator Sorghum; "I don't believe most of them could appreciate a candidate unless they could regard him as something of a bargain."—Detroit Free Press.

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