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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1913.

The boy with a sled is still hoping.

Let the thermometer keep hands off zero.

If Turkey is in need of funds it might realize upon its rugs.

Who is filling the place left vacant in Europe by the emigrant?

In far too many instances familiarity with vice fails to breed contempt.

Tax the millionaire's income and the millionaire will tax the laborer's wage.

If Turkey were only Japan, so to speak, it might be suspected of trying to commit hari-kari in its present course.

"Aunt Delia" has put a quietus on the superior apple-pie story. After a while there will be no more traditions left to cherish.

China wants a good-sized air fleet with French officers. The new republic is strictly up to date with all the modern improvements.

Wall Street is to be reformed and its bulls and bears may become so tamed that they will allow common people to take money from their hands.

The wave of strenuous femininity is apparently spreading in all directions. Two women over seventy were among those gathered in by the police last month.

A mysterious man is paying the fines of the defiant suffragettes arrested in London. Further than this, the "world's male chivalry," so harshly berated, cannot go.

To keep from snoring a specialist declares the best method is to keep one's mouth closed. Incidentally, the same method will keep one from many other afflictions.

In the parcels asking votes for women which the suffragettes are sending to Premier Asquith, and which burst into flame on being opened, the appeal is literally made in burning words.

Massachusetts has refused to prohibit women legally from smoking. Now and then the proceedings of freak reform legislators are enlivened by brilliant flashes of common sense.

If President-elect Wilson can infuse into the lives of the people the Jeffersonian simplicity which he so admires, tenderloin steak can be on every table and a silk stocking on every foot.

If the theory recently advanced that agitating for the ballot renews a woman's youth and beauty is accepted, it will not be long before the last vestige of feminine opposition to it is swept away.

The suffragettes of the country are to open a national bank. Now the men of the nation will be given a chance to see the workings of feminine finance, and perhaps gain a few lessons thereby.

A Chicago magistrate makes auto speeders take the pledge. The idea of putting offenders on their honor is new only in this particular respect, but if temptation proves too strong pledges and pedestrians will have to take their chances.

The experiment of appointing women street inspectors without pay is to be tried in Philadelphia. The women may prove a success in other ways, but they will probably demonstrate past discussion that they know clean streets when they see them.

Yonkers was originally destined for the home of Diogenes, but lost that honor by not being on the scene at the time. It is doing what it can to redeem its lost opportunities by producing twelve men who refused a fee for condemning property on the ground that the fee was too large for the amount of work involved.

It is now announced that the great American eagle is really a hen, selected for the proud position of national bird because the female of the species is much handsomer than the male. Even those of the stronger sex who fight for the eagle as their own will not deny this gallant assertion, whether applied to eagles or humans. And as beauty rules all nature, this concession should satisfy the militant ones.

Glittering generalities have served a worthy purpose in this age of crusade and condemnation. Political orators have mauled and caterwauled the "interests," "trusts," malefactors of great wealth, etc., without fear of law or libel since they gave no identity to the monsters they picture. It has remained for President Taft to particularize, to establish an identity and fix a personal responsibility before the law, and right well has it been done.

A MODEST HONORARIUM.

A trifling fee, indeed, for such a magnate was the check for $3,500,000 that was received by J. Pierpont Morgan for his services in promoting the Harvester Trust. Such a modest honorarium should not awaken the envy of anyone, for it takes many such unearned increments to make up the colossal fortune that the appetite of a money baron calls for.

Incidentally, the trust which is under the patronage of the impeccable Perkins, according to the report of the Bureau of Corporations, is made up of five concerns that came under one control, being followed by other corporations that were dumped into the harvester combine.

From fifty to ninety per cent. of the harvesters, binders cordage and the like that enter into the list of matters brought under the aggregation, are controlled by this massive monopoly and by the process of making contracts with retailers, the work of centering profits to the exclusion of competition has been carried to the point of nicety.

For all this the Morgan stipend may be regarded as a very conservative recognition of the value of a name, for it is not to be supposed that the gray matter of Mr. Morgan himself was used on this little transaction that could be so well worked out by subordinates in the grade of magnate officers.

A GEOGRAPHICAL CABINET.

And now the wiscacres having settled to their satisfaction that the paramount Nebraskan will sit in the seat of discretion as secretary of state, they are turning the geography upside down and are cutting the map of the United States into puzzle sections to see how the ambitions of this, that or the other putative candidate fits in with a geographically formed cabinet. Thus McComb has been relegated to the post of collector of the port of New York so as to make way for William McAdoo as a member of the privy council of the president. Beyond this the guess mongers have not advanced very far.

This guessing contest as to who will sit at the cabinet board with the new president will go on for some time yet, as the incoming head of the nation seems to be in no hurry to set at rest all doubts and disputation. But those who are proceeding upon the assumption that President Roosevelt was the only man with grit to break precedent and destroy the geographical unities in selecting members of his cabinet have another guess coming their way. Mr. Wilson will make the geographical consideration of less consequence if it proves inconvenient to handle than any of his predecessors. He regards the cabinet appointments as in no sense sectional, in no sense as being a sop to any state or section of the country. He is seeking to select men who will fit into his personality with tongue and groove neatness, and that is the end of it.

OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM.

Congressman Jefferson M. Levy, of the Fourteenth New York district, represents the popular sentiment of the whole American people in the joint resolution which he has introduced, proposing that The Star-spangled Banner anthem shall, by formal enactment, be declared the national hymn. It is the popularly accepted national anthem and will always continue to be so, whether the national Congress formally adopts it as such or not. The banner song is the national anthem, and it will stay just as it is, no matter how many song-mongering tinkers may undertake to remodel it.

The New York Tribune, commenting upon the Levy resolution, says of Key's stirring ode: "This song has several desirable qualities. One is that of age, in which it outranks most others—its centennary will be celebrated next year." The Tribune has overlooked, however, the main reason why popular sentiment has already adopted The Star-spangled Banner as the national air, why it is now and will always be the patriotic anthem. It is this: The Star-spangled Banner thrills in its music and in its fervid sentiment. It was born in a burst of white-hot patriotism and it rings throughout with white-hot partiotism. Not one of the other sluggish, common-place rhymes proffered as substitutes and set to droning music begins to compare with it.

The Levy resolution ought to pass. The Star-spangled Banner ought to be formally adopted as the national anthem. But it really matters little whether the song be formally adopted or not. Whenever Americans hear it, wherever they be, they rise and swing their hats in the air. It has got the patriotic thrill in it. It has already been adopted by the people.

MADERO'S STRAITS.

Madero is rapidly becoming eliminated as a factor for the pacification of Mexico, yet in the passing of the strength and resources of the president there is absolutely no other source for this country to turn to for the quieting of the internal disorders. Four thousand rebels have operated within twenty-five miles of the capital, the lights and water of the City of Mexico have been twice impaired and the outlook for any successful coping of the federals with the rebels is far from encouraging.

In the meanwhile outrages beyond the comprehension of those not on the scene are daily taking place and this country has been reluctantly made to feel that the time is approaching when it cannot remain aloof and yet discharge its serious obligations. Whether or not the situation can remain without intervention until the entrance of the new administration is problematical, but unless there shall be a decided turn for the better in the country vitiated and rotten with corruption and civil outbreaks, Mr. Wilson will have laid upon him the duty of bringing to bear American arms within Mexican lines.

Ambassador Wilson has no light to throw upon the subjects, as he regards the state of Mexico as passing from bad to worse. The prospects of a cabinet crisis and perhaps even a fresh outbreak of civil war, following the frank statement by Manuel Calero that he has spent six months as ambassador in Washington lying to people of the United States about the condition of Mexico, tends to greatly exaggerate the difficulties already in the way of getting order out of chaos. The United States is looked to by the nations of the world to fulfil certain international obligations for the preservation of humane conditions and the establishment of law and justice in the republic below the line.

THE CHESAPEAKE FORT.

Not less than two millions of dollars will be expended by the government in the erection of a fort at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay that will stand guard over the national capital and will make the key city of the South, at the head of the Chesapeake, impervious to assault from the water. The tentative plan for the creation of an artificial island between the Capes, so as to sentinel the approaches to the great water indenture, was abandoned with the development of gun range, so that from the vicinity of Cape Henry the mouth of the Bay may be swept by a relentless fire. The supplementing of the work of the guns by that of bombs planted in the path of invading ships of war will make the actual defense value all that could be asked.

A very simple measure was adopted by both houses of Congress to secure for the entrance of the great Bay the most formidable fortifications to be found anywhere along the Atlantic Coast. The item simply provided for the appropriation of $800,000 for the procurement or reclamation of land or right for sites and location, procurement and construction of fortifications for coast defenses. By the passage of this provision Congress is now committed to a project that will cost at least $2,000,000. The outlay will prove to be one of the most advantageous that the country has ever made in the work of safeguarding the vast interests that will be conserved through making it impossible for a foreign fleet to use the Chesapeake Bay as a base and to land troops for a march of fire and pillage upon the capital.

Fort Monroe has outlived its adequacy for the protection needed, and such forts as those of Carroll and Howard have no value. So that the centering of the fortifications of the great water indenture at the critical point is regarded as an inevitable matter of defense that the government had to provide.

Gen. Leonard Wood has expressed himself that this will be the most important of Atlantic fortifications. It will cover the deep-water entrances to the Bay, which in time of war will be converted into one of the most important of naval rendezvous for the use of the ships of the nation. The commercial interests centering in the Bay that demand protection are of the utmost importance. There will be no repetition of the plight of Baltimore in the War of 1812, when the legislature strained its resources to the limit to secure the defense of Baltimore and of the capital. The state's work of heroic sacrifice brought forth from President Madison the encomium that Maryland had been more forward in furnishing quotas of men and appropriations of moneys for the prosecution of the war than any other state of the Union. The bombardment of Fort McHenry and the writing of The Star-spangled Banner were incidents of glory that more than repaid the city and state for its sacrifices, while the defeat of the British at North Point, thereby turning the tide of war favorably to the states, is a part of the imperishable history of the times.

All of this is of the past. The future glory of Maryland will rest in the fact that it will have at the mouth of the Chesapeake a fort that will do more for the security of the national capital than any number of men and amount of munitions. The plan is so broadly national and so constructively serviceable as to arrest the attention of the world. The making of this strategic point impregnable will be part of the general plan of the government to have located at selected points on both coasts and in the far dependencies fortifications that will challenge successful assault.

Pearl Harbor and the massive and mysterious fortifications of Corregidor, in the Philippines, are leading examples of the kind of fortification work the government is bent upon doing. The fortifications of the Panama Canal will constitute a defense of the first order. This country needs the spacious and admirably placed Magdalena Bay, in order that it may properly care for its responsibilities to the countries to the south and to make the more assured its control of the trade routes that center in the Panama Canal.

The leading place that the Chesapeake defenses will hold in the world scheme of this country is highly gratifying and should stimulate the interest and patriotism of all Americans. The country needs such defenses, but it likewise needs ships, and, if it is to recover its status as second in naval ranking, it must count upon the intelligent demand of the people to secure this end.

JOKING WITH MAILED FIST.

Strassburg has been lifted to the heights of exuberance at the prospect of a visit by the Kaiser and has dropped to the lowest depth of mortification at being hoaxed by a discharged paymaster. In the meanwhile the individual who has achieved world notoriety for the moment for having dispatched to the military authorities at Strassburg the command of the Emperor to be in readiness for his visit will feel that the mailed hand is a poor thing to joke with. Just what will be the penalty visited upon him remains to be seen. But the experience of the famous Captain Kopenick, as he styled himself, the opera bouffe captain who commandeered a platoon of soldiers and took possession of the government of one of the Prussian towns, should warn his imitator that such sport has severe penalties for the offender.

In this case the lese majesty was of the most annoying nature, as in the name of the Emperor the town put on its gala guard, its garrison marched the streets and the officials, civil and military, including a son of the Emperor Wilhelm, waited in expectancy of the arrival of the head of the nation, who was oblivious to all this preparation in his behalf.

Tom Hood, the English poet, used to be up to such pranks. He had practically all the shopkeepers and professional men and civil and military dignitaries of London clustered about the home of a poor widow in an obscure street to satisfy his thirst for novelties. Then he had to leave town and stay away until the prank had blown over. This kind of practical joking has its funny side, but the amount of inconvenience and trouble, to say nothing of indignity, that it carries does not make the game worth the candle. The world laughed at the droll character Kopenick, who set the example for the present imitator in this field of diversion, but the funny edge of such jokes is worn off by repetition.

SOUTH BALTIMORE.

The plans of the city administration for the development of South Baltimore grow more impressive as they assume definite shape. The opening of the wide traffic street paralleling the south side of the inner branch of the harbor is now in progress, and, though it requires some gift of imagination to grasp the full significance of this betterment at the present stage of the work, a little study of the indicated plan makes it plain that the new street will, in veritable fact, fulfil a long-felt want.

The extension of Hanover street to the Spring Garden waterfront as a broad, smoothly paved and ornamentally developed way and the building of a new connecting street in the Spring Garden area to be known as Spring Garden street constitutes another impressive improvement for South Baltimore. But this is not all of the contemplated plan. It is proposed to build a municipal pier south of Cromwell street, to which the proposed Spring Garden street will constitute an approach. The improved Hanover street will supply a traffic way from the pierage system in the Spring Garden area and from the Brooklyn bridge to the central part of the city.

The Western Maryland Railroad has already expended over $1,000,000 in developing its terminals at Port Covington and, according to indications, will more than double his outlay in the near future. The development of the proposed streets leading to the Spring Garden area will bring the terminals of the railroad into easier communication with the business center. There is a great day just ahead for South Baltimore.

NOTES AND NOTIONS

BY JOSH WINK.

THEN AND NOW.

Nine years ago the city writhed
To flaming wreck a prey,
The fierce fire reaching to its heart,
While helplessly it lay;
And vainly did its gallant men
Make stand against the foe,
Which drove them ever from their post,
To see their city go.

And when flames burned their fury out,
Naught was there left to tell
Of what had been men's busy haunts,
But walls that sagged and fell,
And piles of brick, and rubbish heaps,
And treasures buried down
In smouldering pits, while gasping watched
The sorely stricken town.

But risen from that pit of fire,
Behold a city new;
And all forgot, that time of woe,
Its memories but few,
For in the place of what it wrecked,
More buoyant than of yore,
Behold our city beautiful,
The Greater Baltimore.

THE USUAL ACCOMPANIMENT.

"This fresh air movement is merely tentative."

"Well, of course, tents will have to go with it."

ELLIPTICAL LANGUAGE.

"I see where the firm of Hook & Took are about going up."

"Yes, they are fast going under."

LITERAL.

"Do you like my execution on the piano?"

"I must say I would have to describe is as an execution for killing time."

A PETTED DARLING.

"My wife treats me like a dog."

"Humph! I wish my wife would treat me like hers!"

ITS FAULT.

"What do you think of that labor theory?"

"It won't work."

THEIR SIMILARITY.

"A politician and a street monkey are much alike in one particular."

"What is that?"

"Both have to have an organ to support them."

THE REASON.

"Pa, why are torrents raging?"

"I suppose they are like people, and are raging because somebody is trying to cross them."

AN ACROBATIC PAIR.

"The bride who married the military hero went up the aisle, the account says, on her father's arm."

"The bridegroom was quite as acrobatic. He went up over a lot of other people's heads."

AN IMPOSSIBILITY.

"I do not see how you can make Maudie's bloomers with thoroughness."

"Why not?"

"Because by the very nature of the garment, you could not give it undivided attention." JOSH WINK.

IMPRESSED THEM.

One of those stop, look and listen political orators was holding forth in a local hall. His theme was The Danger That Confronts Us, and the handbills announced that his revelations would "strike terror to the soul of every patriot." A young couple stopped in front of the hall, read the announcement, found out that no admission fee was charged and timidly entered.

The spellbinder talked loud and fast. He recited strings of figures, used words six feet long and glibly chattered about unearned increment, economic determinism and things like that. Finally the rural stranger leaned over and whispered to his companion:

"Mary, are you a-payin' attention to this here lecture?"

"As good as I kin," she answered meekly.

"Are you skeered?"

"I am skeered as much as I kin understand."—New York Press.

HIS FAULTY MEMORY.

The lady of the house had a worried look on her face as she came down to breakfast.

"Bridget," she said to the maid, "Mr. Bodkin hasn't been home all night. I am somewhat alarmed—I do hope that nothing is wrong."

"Why, bless your heart, th' mister's all right!" reassured the maid. "He's down on th' front dure mat, right now, mum. He says he's been there a long time, but he can't remember whether he's goin' out or comin' in. Whin he's made up his moind I'll let ye know."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

HIS HUMAN SIDE.

The Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph relates that the other day a visitor surprised a professor who was saying to his baby:

"O-ny, no-ny, 'e musey tick his footsy tootsie——"

Just then he caught sight of the visitor, blushed and murmured:

"No, no; you must not expose your pedal extremities by extending them beyond the protective covering of the blankets or you will lay your system open to attacks of catarrhal affection."

LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY

A Peerage That Dates From the Knights Templar—Intemperance in Africa.

Special to The American.

John Gordon Sandilands, who is due in New York today on board the Cunard liner Mauretania, en route to Western Canada, where he has extensive landed interests, enjoys the title of Master of Torphichen as the eldest surviving son and heir of Lord Torphichen, whose name, however, must be pronounced as if written "Torfiken," with the accent on the first syllable. The eldest sons of all Scotch barons and viscounts are known by the title of master, as those who have read Robert Louis Stevenson's novel The Master of Ballantree will recollect. The Master of Torphichen is unmarried, is in the neighborhood of 30, and is heir not only to his father's peerage, but also to his estates, including Calder House and the lands of Calder, near Edinburgh, which have been in the possession of the family since early in the fourteenth century.

Lord Torphichen's peerage is the only one which owes its existence to the Knights Templar. Sir James Sandilands was at the time of the Reformation Master of the Scotch Langue, or branch of the Knights Hospitallers of the Temple, sometimes known as the Knights of St. John. As such he enjoyed a place in Parliament, not only among the prelates, for he was bound by vows of celibacy, but also among the great barons in right of the lay barony of Tohphichen, which was comprised in the property of the order.

Sir James was led by his father's close intimacy with John Knox, the reformer, to become a convert to the doctrines of the Reformed Church, and resigning his ecclesiastical office and possession to the crown in 1564, received thereupon from Mary Queen of Scots a grant confirming to him, his heirs and assigns the lands and the baronies belonging to the order in Scotland. He continued to bear no longer as prior of the Order of St. John, but in his own right, the title of Lord Torphichen. Unmindful of the vow of celibacy which he had been compelled to give on joining the order, he married Janet Murray, of Polmaise. But dying without issue, his title of Lord Torphichen passed to his brother's son, James. Since then the barony of Torphichen has descended in the male line direct, the present peer being the twelfth since the reign of Queen Mary.

Of course, the history of the Sandilands family, of which Lord Torphichen is the chief, goes much farther back than the Reformation. For the first lord, in order to have been prior of the Order of St. John, in the days of Mary, Queen of Scots, must have been able to show at least eight generations of exclusively noble ancestry, both on the father's and mother's side, genealogical qualifications of this kind being then, as today, indispensable to full knighthood of the order.

In facts, the Lairds of Sandilands, in Douglasdale, were already in possession of Sandiland in the thirteenth century, and obtained the lands of Calder, near Edinburgh, which are still owned by the present Lord Torpchichen, early in the fourteenth century. One of the Lairds of Sandilands and Calder, John by name, married Princess Joan of Scotland, daughter of King Robert II. The present Lord Torphichen divorced his wife, a daughter of Lieutenant General Charles E. Gordon, upward of 20 years ago, and his eldest son, James, succumbed to fever about five years ago while acting as assistant commissioner and administrator of Nyassaland, in Africa.

For the first time in the history of consular life a prince of the blood—scion of one of the oldest reigning houses of Europe—has been appointed to the office, not of consul general, but of mere consul. The prince in question is Duke Adolf Frederick of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, uncle of the present sovereign of that Grand Duchy, brother of the late Grand Duke, as well as of the Prince Consort of the Netherlands, of the Regent of Brunswick and of the widowed Grand Duchess Vladimir of Russia. His favorite niece is the young Crown Princess of Germany, and he himself is a colonel of cavalry, and one of the most successful and brilliant of African explorers on the list of those entitled to niches of fame in connection with the Dark Continent. He has crossed and recrossed the latter, discovering new races, new fauna, new territories, mountain ranges and lakes.

His African experiences led the Duke to investigate certain phases of mismanagement in the administration of Emperor William's African possessions, shortcomings that are largely responsible for the failure of these dependencies to prove a source of wealth and prosperity to Germany. He keenly interested the Kaiser in his ideas, and when William suggested that he (the Duke) should put his doctrines into operations as colonial governor the Duke at once fell in with the proposal. Accordingly, the Duke was gazetted governor of Togoland, and imperial commissioner of Germany's dependencies on the west coat of Africa, and is now hard at work arranging for the development on a large scale of the latent wealth, which he knows to exist in the huge territories subject to his rule. He is determined that these shall be from henceforth a source of revenue instead of heavy expense to the German Empire.

One of his pet theories, and one which, with the hearty approval of the Kaiser, he is endeavoring to apply, is the restriction of the liquor traffic. He is eloquent in the assertion that there is nothing more disastrous in tropical life of today than the alcoholic habit. He insists that the black and white races there suffer almost equally from intemperance, and shows official figures to prove that 80 per cent. of the deaths of whites in Africa are not due to climate, perilous as it may be, but to drink.

He describes drink as being the besetting weakness of those white men in the Dark Continent who are condemned to a solitary existence, as it is of those who form part of communities where friendly gatherings are invariably made the subject of liquid rejoicing. He fully admits the all-devastating curse that alcohol is to the natives, and favors far more rigid enforcement of the existing international laws against the importation into Africa of liquor for native consumption. But he is equally positive as to the appalling amount of harm which the white man in Africa suffers from drink, more especially in the German colonies.

The Duke, in addition to his governorship and imperial commissionership, has now been appointed consul of the German Empire to the Gold Coast and other English, as well as to French colonies, in Western Africa, so as to enable him to deal directly with the authorities of these foreign dependencies, instead of having to deal through third parties, or having to refer the matters at issue to Berlin. He has received his exequators from King George, and from the French government and thus accredited as German consul to British and French African governors, has a locus standi in his dealings with them which he would not otherwise possess.

Duke Adolf Frederick is probably the most popular Prince of his house. He is devoted to sport of every kind, has broken his collarbone in steeplechases, his arms and ribs in motoring accidents, has ridden on horseback all the way from Berlin to Constantinople, where Sultan Abdul Hamid bestowed upon him the Ottoman life-saving medal for having, during the course of a private audience, jumped up to prevent a light wooden screen from falling on the head of his Ottoman Majesty.

He is one of the most enthusiastic four-in-hand whips in Germany, and public interest in him is heightened by the touch of romance in his life, since he is known to be secretly married, and very happily so, to a woman of bourgeois birth, but of much refinement and education, as well as of irreproachable antecedents. She is extremely attractive, and has borne him a couple of children, to whom he is as devoted as he is to her. Her name does not figure in the Almanach de Gotha, or in any of the standard works of reference. For, while the union is legal in the eyes of the church, it is not strictly speaking valid in the eyes of the law of the land, owing to the statutes governing marriages of members of the reigning house.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

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Has a Big Future.

Mr. Hilles is to go to New York when the administration changes. If he does as well as other presidents' secretaries have done, he will have a career well worth the watching.—Boston Advertiser.

Wilson and Officeseekers.

Mr. Woodrow Wilson's idea is to scare the officeseekers before they have a chance to frighten him.—Toledo Blade.

MEN AND WOMEN

Mrs. Thelia M. de Beer, of Pretoria, aged 78, recently became a widow for the tenth time.

Mr. Bristow, of Kansas, isn't the Senate's thin man any longer; that distinction has passed to Mr. Thomas, of Colorado. The big fellow of the Senate at present is Hoke Smith, of Georgia—a 300-pounder, or thereabouts.

Sir John Gordon Sprigg, a native of Ipswich, England, died in Cape Town, South Africa, at the age of 82 years. He settled in Cape Colony in 1858 and was its premier four times, being first elected a member of the Colonial Parliament in 1869.

Miss Annette Sullivan, of Sedalia, Mo., was awarded a prize as the only girl among the 340 at the University of Illinois who has a perfect foot. Miss Sullivan's foot is not quite 10 inches long and a little less than 2 inches across at the instep.

Union Township, Pa., has always been looked upon as a part of Adams county, which was too poor in fertility to grow little else but building stone. But Emory Hostetter threshed 965 bushels of wheat from a 24-acre farm, an average of 40 5-24 bushels to the acre.

Because he has been "such a friend to the old soldier, the best friend they ever had in the White House," a Nebraska veteran, 82 years old, has sent to President Taft a quilt composed of 5,982 pieces of silk, made by the veteran himself. C. H. Reid is the donor, and he worked years on this quilt.

Ralph Gendor, a student at Lebanon Valley College, Pennsylvania, is paying his way and has started a bank account by setting up a barber chair, which he has placed in his room and is running in competition with the town barbers. Prices in his room are just one-half those charged in town, and one shop has already been forced to close.

Benjamin Beasely Hardin, of Washington, Ga., carries with him everywhere he goes a heavy walking cane, in which are embedded $20 gold-pieces and gold coins of smaller denominations. Four diamonds adorn the handle. In all, the ornaments are valued at more than $4,000. He also wears an ornamented belt made of leather and ivory, worth about $1,000, and a watch fob worth $300.

Why Look for Trouble?

It may become necessary to send out tracers to discover what has become of Robert Marion La Follette.—Kansas City Star.

Bet They Overlooked.

Funny the moving pictures have never caught the tintinabulation of J. Ham Lewis' pink 'uns.—Omaha Bee.

GOSSIP OF THE STAGE

Arnold Daly is playing a special engagement in Kansas City.

Hindle Wakes, the English play, which failed in New York, is to be tried again in Chicago.

John Blair will be in the company engaged to support Francis Wilson in The Spiritualist.

The Shuberts are to revive The Five Frankfurters. This is a play said to be founded on the Rothschild family.

Cyril Maude, the well-known English actor, is under engagement to the Liebler Company to visit this country.

William Farnum, who has had a successful starring tour in The Littlest Rebel, may appear in a new play in the spring.

The Son and Heir, by Gladys Unger, has recently been successfully produced in London, and will also be seen in this country.

The new talking pictures, the latest invention of Edison, are to be shown for the first time next week in New York. The invention is called the kinetophone.

Charles Klein, the dramatist, has announced that he intends to reside permanently in London, with frequent visits to this country. His plays have been successful in the English metropolis.

It is said that Jessie Bonstelle will give up her work as an actress to devote herself to play productions. It was she who was mainly responsible for the successful dramatization of Little Women.

Paul Armstrong's new play, The Love Story of the Ages, produced in Los Angeles, has for its theme the theory of reincarnation. The play begins in Egypt 500 years before the conclusion in modern New York.

Philip Bartholomas' new play, When Dreams Come True, is to be produced shortly in Cleveland. In the company are Joseph Santley, Amelia Summerville, May Vokes, Rita Stanwood, John C. Slavin and Richard Taber. The score was composed by Silvio Hein.

BETTER THAN BUTTER.

[From the New York Times.]

Curd of great cleanliness,
Blithely the moneyless
Greet thee as butter, at breakfast and tea!
Emblem of thriftiness,
Rest in my dwelling place—
O, to provide many converts to thee!
Mild is thy sway—the proud
Scarce speak thy name aloud!
Few sing they eulogies! Few own thy worth!
After communing much
Weary to thee I cling,
Thy rival, tub-butter, I give a wide berth.

How fell its fount, I've seen—
On this account I've been,
O'er the bright steamer that graces the tray,
Over the teacup's rim,
Over my spouse's whim,
Able and willing thy charms to display.
Then, as each morning comes,
Lo! in our breakfast rooms,
Sweet shall thy welcome to bread and toast be—
Emblem of thriftiness,
Rest in my dwelling place—
O, to provide many converts to thee!

GEORGE B. MOREWOOD.

P. S.—And yet, and yet,
The truth to utter,
I can't forget
You, are not butter.

G. B. M.

PUBLIC OPINION

Comment of Leading Newspapers on a Variety of Topics—Bank Deposits Guarantee.

[Philadelphia Inquirer.]

Why should the bank depositor be specially favored in this matter in preference to others whose claim is just as good as his? There is the holder of a life-insurance policy, for instance. An even better case might be made out for him. Unlike the bank depositor, he cannot withdraw his investment at a moment's notice, and, while it is not often that a life-insurance company fails, once in a while that happens. But the chief objection to the Bryan plan—the objection which should be enough to preclude its serious consideration, is that it penalizes efficiency and honesty and places a premium on incompetence and fraud. At present the well-conducted bank derives a merited profit from the reputation which it has achieved. Its business is promoted by the confidence whic hit inspires. It gets deposits upon the strength of its character. But if all deposits were equally secure it would lose this deserved advantage, and deposits would go where the most tempting bait was offered. It needs no argument to prove the extreme undesirability of this consequence.

Moreover, the proposition is that the guarantee fund be derived from assessments to be paid by all the banks under the federal jurisdiction. This means that the well-managed banks are to pay the losses of the banks whose management is bad. There is no fairness in that. It is said that the losses from bank failures are so inconsiderable that a very small assessment would serve to provide all the money needed. This goes to show the needlessness of the proposed innovation. It does not affect the vicious nature of the principle involved.

The Income Tax.

[Washington Star.]

An assured income tax at once simplifies and complicates the tariff problem. No anxiety need be felt now respecting the raising of sufficient revenue. The question is one merely of adjustment. Rates may be raised or lowered as needs and experience suggest. If at first they are fixed too low, the next Congress can remedy the matter without going into the feature of customs duties. If they are fixed too high, and too much money is collected from incomes, they can be put at the proper figure in the same way.

Here then is the chance for the low tariff men. They will be able to insist now on their full program. What if a deep cut in wool and woolens reduces the amount of revenue from that source? What if a deep cut in cotton goods produces the same result? Why longer consider the sugar tax principally from the revenue point of view? A hundred millions, or more, may be spared now from those and other sources without inconvenience so far as the liberal support of the government is concerned.

But how about protection as protection? That must be considered. If customs duties are made too low, and a competitive tariff makes competition too brisk for American dividends and the American wage scales, what will be the effect on capital and labor? Capital insists on being employed profitably, and labor insists on good wages gauged by the American standard of living.

Torture no Preventive.

[Detroit News.]

James J. Gallagher, the misguided man who tried to assassinate Mayor Gaynor, of New York, is dead of paresis in the New Jersey Hospital for the Insane. This culmination came about less than a year after he was sent to the institution, and it lends weight to the assumption that most of the assassins and would-be assassins of rulers and prominent public officials are irresponsible persons, whose lack of mental responsibility would have been proved had they been confined until their affliction would have time to make itself plainly apparent.

In early times assassins of public men, and especially of kings, were officially and judicially subjected to the most horrible tortures, unsurpassed by the most savage practices of uncivilized man. It was assumed that these cruel and unusual punishments would live forever in the memory of men and deter other would-be assassins from attempting to carry their malignant intentions into effect. But the assumption was always mistaken, for the most awful punishments had no deterrent effect.

Assassinations have persisted all through history, because mania takes that form in certain minds. As a rule the murderous maniac gives no hint of his obsession until his crime is accomplished. The lunatic assassin, like the firebug, goes about unsuspected until caught in the commission of his crime.

A Practical Proposal.

[Pittsburgh Dispatch.]

After the Titanic disaster the United States Navy Department for a time had the scout cruiser Birmingham patrol the North Atlantic steamship routes for the purpose of warning shipping of the presence of icebergs, and the suggestion was made that the maritime nations should provide for some such permanent patrol to prevent further peril. The British government has now taken up the subject with the various North Atlantic steamship companies, making the offer to bear half the expense of equipping a patrol vessel to be on constant duty and having a wireless installation of the highest power for the instant transmission to either shore of the Atlantic and to ships at sea of warnings of bergs or other dangers on the steamship lanes.

With this practical opening of the subject there should be no doubt of the eventful establishment of such a patrol, whether by the steamship companies cooperating with the Britsh government or by the co-operation of the maritime nations. It seems to be only the plainest duty to provide this protection, if not for the steamship owners, at least for the passengers of all nations who travel the Atlantic highway.

An Inspiring Opportunity.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]

What is considered by investigators the largest and finest tract of virgin white pine now left in America may be purchased by the State of Pennsylvania and held as a forest reserve. The forest covers 7,000 acres, near Cooksburg, and has belonged to the Cook family for a century. It is described as offering a good—and, of course, rare—example of private conservation. The experts say that it could be reserved and made to pay, in perpetuity, a handsome annual return. It would have a good educational value as a paying forest, as well as because its trees are interesting survivors, nearly all of the virgin white pine in the United States having been cut.

Provided there is no attempt upon the part of the owners of this tract to exploit the state by asking an unreasonable amount for the forest, the opportunity of the Pennsylvania legislature is an inspiring one. Such a tract of white pine might be, not inappropriately, acquired by the federal government as a national reserve, and if it should be acquired by the state and held under proper supervision, it would have a national, and even international interest.

Tariff as Bird Protector.

[Toledo Blade.]

The Audubon societies are urging the tariff fixers of Congress to establish a prohibitive duty on the plumage of birds. To satisfy the demand of milliners, hunters go deep into the wilderness of South America and make long voyages to strange corners of the island world of the Pacific, bringing away thousands upon upon thousands of feathers. The death or some of the birds whose plumage is most in favor means that the young birds must starve upon the nests, inasmuch as the feathers so popular with fashion grow only in the mating season. One of the advocates of this prohibitive tariff told the House Committee on Ways and Means that "unless the barbaric slaughter of game and plumage birds is stopped, practically every groton, silver pheasant, heron, bird of paradise and egret in the world will be annihilated."

The state laws, the agitation started by bird lovers, the proof that the bird slaughter represents a large economic loss, the appeals to the better feelings of women having failed, perhaps the tariff might be of benefit.

Prefers the Log Cabin.

Sometimes it looks as if something simpler than the White House would be needed to satisfy President-elect Wilson's notion of simple things.—Philadelphia Press.

High at Any Price.

Mr. Tillman says Mr. Blease is a "low fellow." Maybe, but at the price South Carolina pays him he's no bargain.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

MUCH IN LITTLE

Mount Whitney, Cal., is 14,501 feet above sea level.

One-fourth of the irrigated farms of the United States are in California.

Forest fires in 1912 caused losses in Pennsylvania aggregating over $50,000.

In three