

ARE TOURING AMERICA.

Party of German Farmers Holds Inspection of Agricultural Interests of United States.

To make an extensive examination of the various industries of this country, which are in any way allied with agricultural pursuits...

The party went first to inspect a model dairy farm, conducted by a corporation in New Jersey. It was the intention to proceed thence to Washington, then go to West Virginia and on to Kentucky, where stock farms and the blooded horses of the blue grass region will be inspected...

Just before their departure from Berlin some was presented to each member of the party a list of things to do and to leave undone while in America. One was to bring their own cigars, and another was to refrain from shooting buffalo from car windows.

SUFFER FROM OVERSTUDY.

Woman at Mothers' Congress Declares Infantile Mind is Being Cramped.

Mrs. James L. Hughes, of Toronto, in addressing the National Congress of Mothers the other afternoon at Detroit on "The Influence of the Kindergarten on Children and Home," condemned the practice of overstudy in educational institutions. "We are too greedy," she said, "to pour our knowledge into the minds of the young without realizing that the practice is injurious to the body. One-tenth of the facts crowded into the pupil's mind at school eventually slips over and is lost in later years. Let us not force the child to strive so strenuously for medals and honors."

THE NEW SERVICE RIFLE.

A Unique and Powerful Weapon Constructed Wholly by the Ordnance Department.

The army board, which has been for months past considering the merits of the new service rifle or musket has finally declared in favor of a weapon with a barrel only 24 inches in length, using a .30 ball. The new gun is a remarkable weapon, according to the ordnance officers, for while it is four inches shorter than the Krug and only two inches longer than the carbine, it is more powerful than either, with a higher initial velocity and flatter trajectory. It can easily penetrate 24 one-inch pine planks. It is a pound lighter than the service rifle, which is a consideration in the tropics. A new feature is a complete encasement of the barrel in wood to prevent burning the hands of the marksmen when the gun is rapidly discharged. The weapon was evolved by United States army officers and is not patented. It is asserted to be the most powerful musket in the world.

SUICIDES LIKE OSTRICH.

English Farmer's Wife Swallows Nails, Pins, Needles and Other Hardware to End Her Life.

A coroner's inquest at Shrewsbury, England, has revealed a remarkable case of suicide. Mrs. Roberts, the widow of a small farmer, died in the Shrewsbury infirmary. A post mortem examination revealed the fact that the deceased had swallowed 13 darning needles, 2 ordinary needles, 12 pins, 5 safety pins, a hat pin, a boot protector, a button hook, 2 screw nails, 12 wire nails, 8 short nails, 3 tacks, a piece of the stem of a clay pipe, 2 bits of colored chalk, a Manx coin, an English farthing, 20 fragments of glass, and other articles 122 in all. The husband said his wife had told him a week ago she had swallowed the nails and hairpins. When he had asked why, she answered, crying: "You are always so good to me I feel I cannot do enough for you, so I would prefer to die."

One of the Smith Family.

A man named Warren B. Smith, who lived at White Plains, N. Y., and who died about a month ago, left an estate worth \$2,000,000. One can be worth a good many millions nowadays, says the Chicago Record-Herald, without looming above the other Smiths.

Find Gold in Maine.

The discovery of gold in Maine, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, should teach us once more that the east was only partly explored by the people of that section who have been in such a great hurry to come west.

THE HORRORS OF WAR

Red Cross Conference at Geneva to Seek to Lessen Them.

Important Steps Contemplated When the Delegates from the Different Nations Have Come Together in September.

The delegation which will represent the United States at the forthcoming international Red Cross conference to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, in September has been completed with the appointment of Commander Nathan Sargent, of the United States navy. The other members of the delegation are Francis B. Loomis, assistant secretary of state, and Gen. George B. Davis, judge advocate general of the army. The conference is to be held for the purpose of revising and extending the Geneva treaty of 1864, under which the various Red Cross societies are recognized.

The delegates from the United States are men of wide experience in international affairs. Gen. Davis is an authority on military law and the author of a text-book on international law. Francis B. Loomis, the assistant secretary of state, was minister to Venezuela during a trying and important period and during a wide and active consular service has given careful attention to international questions. Commander Sargent is Admiral Devey's aid and for ten years was naval attaché of the United States in Italy and Austria during the formative period of the new navy. He is an accomplished linguist.

Many important topics will be considered by the international conference in Geneva next September, chiefly looking to the amelioration of the suffering and horrors of war. All the principal nations will take part in the conference.

Many important amendments to the treaty are to be considered. It is proposed to provide for a careful examination of bodies on the field prior to their burial or incineration, as it is a well-known fact that hasty burials after a battle sometimes consign living men to the grave. It is also proposed to enact that every officer or soldier shall bear on his person a mark rendering it easily possible to establish his identity.

The suggestion was made that field hospitals and other temporary establishments of that sort following troops on the field of battle to receive the sick and wounded shall be considered neutral under all circumstances, and that if they fall into the hands of the enemy it shall be the latter's duty to return them to the army from which they were taken when they are no longer required for the care of the sick. The adoption of this provision would mark an important and humane advance.

It is also proposed to discuss the question whether there is substantial reason for retaining as the sole distinctive sign a red cross on a white field or whether it would be proper to allow exceptions in the case of non-Christian countries, such as Turkey, which has substituted a red crescent for the red cross.

FINDS DIAMOND IN SALVE.

Bookkeeper in Stock Yards at Chicago Discovers \$150 Gem in Twenty-Five Cent Box of Ungent.

The sum of 25 cents invested in a box of salve bought William Crimes, a bookkeeper at the Union stockyards, Chicago, a net profit of \$149.75, and as a result other stockyards employes are spending their spare change for the same brand of salve. Crimes purchased a box of salve from a druggist near the yards last week. After using a part of the salve he discovered some substance in it which on investigation proved to look like a diamond. He supposed it to be a spurious stone, put in to advertise the goods. On the following day, however, he took it to a jeweler and was told that it was a diamond worth perhaps \$150. Crimes is employed by Walter Bros. in the Exchange building. It is supposed the stone was lost by some one who is employed in the factory where the salve is made.

PARASITE AFFECTS MINERS.

Twenty Thousand Men in Germany Disabled by Disease Which Baffles the Doctors.

The coal mining industry in Westphalia, Germany, is being seriously hampered by sickness among the miners arising from an intestinal parasite which recently has spread so rapidly that the sickness has become almost universal. Twenty thousand men are affected, and some of the pits have 90 per cent. of their workers disabled. The disease hitherto has baffled the doctors and all remedies have failed. The temporary barracks and isolation hospitals are being erected to prevent the spread of the disease and enable a scientific investigation of the parasite, which is a sort of worm.

An Original Poe Manuscript.

The original manuscript of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Bells" has been sold at auction at Philadelphia for \$2,100. It was part of the Harold Petros library. The manuscript is a little scorched. It consists of slips of blue paper pasted together, and originally formed a strip eight inches wide and 37 1/2 feet long. It has been divided into three more or less equal parts. It lacks the last fourteen lines of the completed poem, but it is believed that they never formed a part of this sheet.

CHURCHMEN AS PAWNBROKERS

Plan in New York City to Have Chain of the Shops Under Wholesale Supervision.

A bill before the New York city council proposes to allow several prominent churchmen to go into the pawn brokerage business in New York city for the benefit of the poor. The firm will be called the Interest Personal Property Loan company, and the incorporators are Thomas M. Muley, Edwin M. Cragin, Rev. Dr. David James Burrell, pastor of the Marble Collegiate Reformed church; Rev. Alexander H. Doyle, of the Paulist Fathers, and Robert B. Miller.

It is provided in the measure that the company is not to charge more than six per cent. per annum on its loans, and shall not pay more than six per cent. per annum on its stock, which is placed at \$10,000 and divided into 2,000 shares of \$50 each. It is provided also that the city and county officials shall be obliged to file any chattel mortgages, bills of sale, and liens on personal property free of charge, and also furnish all abstracts of title.

STRENGTHENS CLAIM.

Communication of Russian Official to British King in 1825 is Brought to Light.

The strongest point in the American case in the Alaskan boundary dispute, which was recently delivered to the British ambassador, is the communication of the Russian ambassador to the British king when he delivered the exchange of ratifications of the Russo-English treaty in 1825.

It is a part of the record of the American case that the ambassador was instructed by the Russian government to inform the king that the interpretation which the Russians placed upon the treaty was that the clause relating to the marine leagues meant that the distance from the sea should not be less than ten marine leagues from the sea.

It is shown by a report of the ambassador that he delivered this instruction to the king and that the contention of Russia at that time was not disputed until ten years ago.

CRIME IN ARMY REDUCED.

There Are Few Offenses Among German Troops Since Service Was Shortened.

Late statistics show that the reduction of criminality in the German army, which began in 1893 with the introduction of two years' service, has become permanent. The military offenses show only about one half the number recorded prior to 1893. When the troops which took part in the Chinese expedition returned to Germany many soldiers were sentenced for acts committed while in China and therefore the prisons were filled up to the old standard. But after these sentences were served out the number of soldiers in prison again dropped to the figures which were reached prior to the trouble in China. It was a fact, fully established by statistics, that under the three-year service most of the offenses occurred in the third year, when the men were weary of the service.

MILLIONS FOR YALE SENIOR.

Will of His Uncle Makes Gifford Cochrane the Wealthiest Undergraduate.

Yale men will receive the bulk of a \$32,000,000 estate left by the will of Warren B. Smith, the Yonkers carpet manufacturer, to his sister, Mrs. W. F. Cochrane. Gifford A. Cochrane, the youngest son of Mrs. Cochrane, is a senior. His uncle's will makes him the wealthiest undergraduate in the university. Few Yale alumni are richer. His two brothers, who will receive part of the Cochrane millions, are Alexander Smith Cochrane, '96, and William F. Cochrane, '98. On the day after his graduation Alexander Cochrane went into his father's factory at the bottom of the ladder, and has learned the business throughout. Mrs. W. F. Cochrane is one of the most liberal donors to the Yale Y. M. C. A.

DUKE BUYS MCCORMICK HOUSE.

United States Ambassador to St. Petersburg is Compelled to Change Residence.

The beautiful residence of the American ambassador on the English quay, at St. Petersburg, for which Robert S. McCormick has a two-year lease, has just been purchased by the Grand Duke Andrew. It is rumored that he is going to take unto himself a wife soon and will want the new house for his own residence, so Mr. McCormick is now seeking another suitable dwelling. It is expected that Mrs. McCormick will signalize her return from Vienna and Rome by one of the big dances for which she became so famous in St. Petersburg society.

How to Fight the Phylloxera.

A bulletin outlining a successful method of combating the phylloxera, the dread grapevine destroyer of California, has just been issued by the University of California agricultural department. The bulletin is the work of Prof. Edmund H. Dwight, instructor in viticulture and the formative industries in the university.

RUSHING TUNNELS.

Yerkes Says Londoners Are Growing to Like American Energy.

The Railway Promoter Declares That Work on Underground Railways Has Been a Source of Gratification to Them.

Charles T. Yerkes, who is managing director of the company which is building the London underground railways has arrived in this country. He comes to attend to some of his interests in California, and expects to be in this country about three weeks. Speaking of the work on the London subways, Mr. Yerkes said:

"The people of London are getting used to having their streets tunneled under, and therefore are not kicking as much as they did at the beginning. They now appreciate the magnitude of the work we have undertaken and the great benefit they will derive from a speedy completion of the work. They are saying to us, therefore, in substance, 'God speed and more power to you.' And yet we are not digging up London to anything like the extent New York has been dug up in the building of the subway."

"I don't say this by way of criticizing New York methods of construction. Far from it. But owing to the nature of the London subway we are able to push our way forward, while you have to dig it out or blast it out. If we had to meet similar conditions in London I don't believe the people would ever stop kicking."

"I think the British people are a bit surprised at the way work has been pushed. No public work, or private work, for that matter, in England ever has been pushed as this work has been pushed, and I think the people there are not yet over the surprise that so much could be accomplished in comparatively so short a time."

"But that which interests the British public most, I think, and that which interests our company most, is the great power station on the bank of the Thames which will supply all the power we will use on the entire system. The building covers four acres, and when completed will furnish ten 7,500 horse power engines, which will furnish power to generate all our electricity, and when the machinery is all set up which will be by July of next year, we shall have room enough in the building to increase our power capacity by at least 50 per cent."

"One of the properties we acquired was an old steam road that ran from Ely to Harrow. This road we have equipped with what we know in this country as the third rail system. We have three rails, but we have also what has not yet been introduced in this country—namely, a fourth rail. This we use to conduct the surplus and waste power back to the power house. I would not like to estimate the amount we save by the use of the fourth rail, but it is an amount that is worth while saving, I assure you. On this road we are schooling our motormen for future service."

GERMANS LEAD WORLD.

Admiral Melville Declares That He Finds the Best Battleships in the Kaiser's Navy.

"The rise of Germany as a naval and maritime power during the last 30 years has surprised the world; I believe that her battleships, for their tonnage, are the best afloat," said Rear Admiral George W. Melville, chief of the engineering bureau of the United States navy, in a paper read by him before the Engineers' club of Philadelphia city.

Admiral Melville's subject was "The Military Importance of Naval Engineering Experiments." He referred to the scope and purpose of the engineering laboratory that is to be established at Annapolis.

"The success of Germany," he continued, "can only be accounted for by recognizing the fact that study, reflection and research must have been expended in the preparation of the plans in the building up and the organization of the shipyards and in laying out and carrying on the work of construction."

GIVES HIS WIFE A PRESENT.

Emperor William Bestows a Unique Bracelet Upon the Empress of Which She is Very Proud.

Emperor William has presented to his wife a singular bracelet, which the empress vows she will wear to her dying day. It consists of seven disks of solid California gold of the purest quality, each disk being about the size of a silver 25-cent piece, but three times as thick. The disks bear enameled portraits of the imperial children, each disk being inclosed in thickly set diamonds. Hanging from the bracelet is a heart of solid gold, weighing about two ounces, on which is a portrait of the emperor.

Elevator Etiquette.

A regularly constituted eastern authority says hats may be taken off in an elevator when a lady enters, if the elevator pertains to a hotel or an apartment house, but should not be taken off if it is an adjunct of an office building or a public institution. An unsophisticated public, says the Chicago Tribune, will be grateful for the information. It is horrible to commit a blunder in a case of this kind.

An Economical Minister.

There is a minister in Middletown, N. Y., who claims that he lives comfortably on \$12 a month. We would like to know, says the Chicago Record-Herald where he buys his coal and meat.

HADLEY'S MOOSE STORY.

President of Yale College Has One That is Suited to Special Occasions.

It is well known that President Hadley, of Yale, had considerable difficulty in successfully delivering the many speeches that his position required immediately after his inauguration. Graduates were very anxious to meet him and he was entertained by nearly every alumni association in the country. He was naturally eager to show that he reciprocated their hearty welcome and was glad to meet them as they were curious to know what the new president was like. Realizing the importance of cementing the support of the graduate body, he concluded that he could best lessen his natural embarrassment by a story appropriate to his feelings, says the Philadelphia Ledger.

He therefore told the following at several alumni functions:

"An ingenious character well known to summer visitors in the Adirondacks, ensnared an unusually large moose. The animal's size was so phenomenal that the trapper thought the curious would be willing to pay out money to view so extraordinary a creature. Consequently, he sold his find to an enterprising showman in a large town. The moose was placed in a tent, and an admission of 25 cents was charged. As the trade increased, a 50-cent rate for families was introduced."

"One day a burly backwoodsman asked for a 50-cent ticket."

"What d'ye want it for?" was the query.

"The family," was the proud answer.

"The showman looked out to see a row of about a dozen children backed up by the stalwart housewife. Alternating his gaze, between the numerous family and the 50 cents before him, he remarked:

"Take back your money and go in. The moose will be as glad to see you and yours as you are to see the moose."

Needless to say, the graduates fully appreciated President Hadley's reciprocal feeling.

AUTOMOBILE MALADY.

New Kind of Mental Disturbance That Has Been Developed Among Chauffeurs.

Automobiles are responsible for a new disease. Medical men have diagnosed it and it is pronounced "auto-jazz." It is compared to the craze for motor and, like the drunkard who reaches a certain point and cannot restrain his appetite, so the chauffeur when he attains a certain speed finds his brain bent only upon going faster and faster without regard to consequences, says the Chicago Chronicle.

The disease was discovered in Paris and has its uses, for it explains the wild eyes and the excited brain of the modern chauffeur and reveals the secret of the fiendish glee with which he pursues and runs down the hapless man or woman who stumbles in his path.

But those afflicted with an autojazz are not all residents of Paris. They may be found in Chicago, according to the observations of several physicians who are attending to meetings of the Illinois Medical society.

"The new disease may be compared to drunkenness," said Dr. H. C. Campbell, a specialist of Jacksonville, Ill. "The speed with which the machines are sent over the roads creates a mental disturbance. The excitement is intense, sometimes like that of a drunken man. Everybody realizes that after a certain stage has been passed an appetite craves for more liquor. So it is with the automobile. The brain is centered upon acquiring a higher speed all of the time. The brain cannot be satisfied. Its craving is even worse than liquor."

"The action of the brain is not healthy. There must be one grand finale. That comes when the chauffeur runs over somebody. For a moment the brain is sobered. It has been satisfied and there is no more trouble until the next spell of intoxication comes on."

Most Deadly Disease.

Pneumonia (lung fever) having become of late years the most deadly disease at all ages, general intelligence in regard to its cause and what may be done to avoid it is desirable. The disease depends upon a specific vegetable organism, which, being at all times present in thickly populated districts, grows rapidly in the air passages of the individual if his vitality is suddenly depressed. In these particulars the bacillus of pneumonia resembles that of consumption, but its multiplication is much more rapid and the poisoning from its excretions much more acute. The danger of pneumonia may be lessened by keeping the air passages clear of mucus, by avoiding chill and fatigue, by good ventilation and absence from crowded and overheated rooms.—Medical Journal.

Cutlasses Out of Fashion.

Cutlasses are to be allowed no longer in the French navy. In ordering those in the service to be sent ashore, the minister of marine explains that naval commanders had advised him that there is no need now for these weapons, which formerly were used chiefly for boarding purposes.—N. Y. Sun.

Presence of Naval Guns.

A naval gun when fired sustains a pressure of 15 to 17 tons to the square inch. It has previously stood a charge giving a force of 20 tons to the square inch at the proving grounds.—Chicago Chronicle.

BOLD NEGRO PROJECT

Proposed to Effect Conquest of Hayti and Establish Government.

William Pickens, Yale's Brilliant Negro Orator, Asked to Become the Head of the New Movement—Details of the Scheme.

William Pickens, the negro who won the junior exhibition prize at Yale, has been asked to become the head of a new Afro-American republic to be established in Hayti, says a New York World dispatch from New Haven, Conn. In his oration, which won the prize, Pickens discussed Hayti's freedom and declared against it.

The scheme is to effect a conquest of the island of Hayti by American negroes and set up a government of African character. The junta of the movement is at Sturgis, Ky., and the correspondent of the society is N. L. Musgrove. He asks that Mr. Pickens act as secretary and board member in this section and says that the Yale man would eventually be chosen as president of the society. It is also suggested that he take the lecture platform and raise funds for the organization.

Mr. Pickens when seen said that he had the matter under consideration and would seek advice before enlisting his services in the movement. In discussing the plan he said:

"Institutions and novelties in the methods of government are proposed after Hayti has been overcome. While the government would be republican in its political formation it would be administered as a gigantic corporation, of which all members of the society would be stockholders. All land titles and franchises are to be vested in the state. All dangerous and incorrigible criminals will be provided and set adrift on the sea to seek other shores."

"Agriculture, manufacturing and all other profitable industries are to be encouraged."

"Public schools are to be established and liberty is to be widespread, but the rights of each individual are to be bounded by the equal rights of every other."

HALTS LINER FOR WOMAN.

Wireless Dispatch Successfully Used to Aid Actor's Wife to Board Ship.

With a few flashes from the new Marconi wireless station on the end of the American line per the other day the big steamer Minnetonka was halted in the bay and a woman who was in hysterics made happy.

Mrs. Robert Graham, wife of the comedian in the Florida opera, had engaged passage on the Atlantic transport ship, but was late in reaching the pier. The vessel cast off its lines at one o'clock a. m. Mrs. Graham's trunk was aboard, and just as the ship was gliding out of its dock a cab, furiously driven, rolled down to the pier. In the vehicle were Mrs. Graham and her husband.

As Mrs. Graham alighted from the cab she had the bitter disappointment of seeing the Minnetonka heading for sea. Manager Franklin, seeing her distress, placed her on a tug, which he sent in pursuit of the ship, and then halted the ocean vessel by a wireless message. Mrs. Graham was put aboard opposite Liberty Island.

ARISTOCRACY POOR PAY.

Over Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars Due Estate of Dead English Betting Commissioner.

R. H. Fry, the biggest betting commissioner on the English turf, who executed commissions for royalty and all the great English racing swells, died recently. His income for years has been over \$250,000, but to the surprise of everyone, his estate is sworn at only \$150,000. Even that money had to go to satisfy creditors, and his widow and two daughters, who had lived in fine style in a fine house on Streatham Hill, are now obliged to do with three rooms in a small lodging in the neighborhood of their former splendor.

The cruelty of their situation is intensified by the fact that if they could recover the money due Mr. Fry, they would be in affluence, as more than \$700,000 is owing him by men bearing some of the greatest names in the English aristocracy.

Mrs. Fry has no legal remedy, these liabilities being gambling debts, though they represent money actually paid over by Fry to bookmakers on behalf of these titled defrauders.

Canadian Soldiers Join Our Army.

Two young Canadian soldiers have discarded the British uniform at Syracuse, N. Y., to make application to wear the Yankee blue. Their names are McIntyre and Rose, and both have seen long service in the British army. One of them wears the Victoria cross, won in the Boer war. They came from Kingston, Ont., where they had been stationed with company B, Kingston battery. At the clothing store where the change of costume took place the soldiers took off their red caps, saluted, kissed the caps, and said solemnly: "Good-by, 'old cap, forever."

Strange Youth of Fortune.

A New York young man, Alexander Smith Cochrane, who inherited \$14,000,000 from his uncle, is going to study sociology and try to benefit mankind, which moves the Chicago Record-Herald to say: "How Mr. Harry Lehr and Reggie Vanderbilt must pity a boy like that."