#### GERMANS EXCEL IN BOOKS

#### Their Exhibit at the World's Fair Remarkably Creditable-Most interesting Ever Shown.

The exhibit of books at the St. Louis the is one of the most increasing free shown in America. Of the foreign nations participating, Germany sasily takes the lead, followed by Great Britain and France as close seconds. National characteristics come out strongly The English, under the influence of the Morris art revival, show the finest book bindings; the French have an exhibition samples of sumptuous "editions de lune. The German exhibit is more painstaking. It shows samples from all grades of publishers in art, literary and music production. The Germans in these exhibits still use wood engraving for multicolored work while waiting for photographic processes to develop themselves further. They make haste slowly The Gothic text of German books is the cause of much of the prevalent German short-sightedness. Publishers of scientific books often use the Roman text. Quite as often nowadays, in their ondeav to compromise, they work out beautiful black-letter texts which combine the Gothic art aspect and the Romanclearness-such texts as Morris would have appreciated German publishers profit greatly by their instinct of organisation, shown in such as the Leipsic Bookeraft association, which maintains a museum of printing, conducts schools for apprentices and in other ways exert a conservative influence upon the art mi its capital.

# OLD CAME OF TIT FOR TAT Wourist Gave Bad Money to Conductor Who Wouldn't Stop to Let a Woman Off.

The conductor was talking to the motorman, both looking ahead, as the carbowled merrity on. A woman standing in the rear seats motioned in vain for a stop, relates the New York Press.

"Hey," shouted a man in golf clothes and a tourist's cap, "this lady wants to get off." Another twist of the lever and the car ran with greater speed. "Oh, dear, dear!" exclaimed the woman. This remark was not especially addressed to the man in the tourist's cap, or he thought it was. Jumping from his seat he krabbed the leather cord nearest him and yanked it viciously five times. "Who did that?" asked the conductor, savagely. "I did," yelled the man. "I'll teach you to run past streets without paying attention to your pasmengers." "And I'll teach you to ring up fares without paying me," retorted the conductor "That bit of exercise will cost you 25 cents." "Take it," scornfully remarked the man in the tourist's cap handing over a coin. The conducfor gave him a quarter in change and did not discover until he cashed it at the end of the run that he had been taking

# TOO FOND OF OPERATIONS Burgeons of the World Criticised by a New Zealand Brother Because of Love of Art.

A New Zealand surgeon has started a discussion of modern operative methods , in surgery which has awakened great wrath in the bosoms of specialists. They resent bitterly, this surgeon's suggestion, offered with true fraternal couresy, that operations, such as that for appendicitis, are often performed just to be a-doing. For instance attention is called to the removal of the appendix every time when an abdominal operation makes it easily accessible. To this a London specialist makes the tart reply that abdominal operations "may be likened to the art of burglary. The risk is in entering the house. That safely achieved the wise burglar is not satisfled with two appoins, but takes all the family plate" This similitude has been caught up again by the opposition and carried on into the subject of fees. It is strongly intimated that the surgical ideal is a hollow shell with all the organs removed by operation and the pockets inside out.

# MANY USES FOR JAP FANS. Their Motion Indicates Thoughts and They Take Places of Several Kitchen Necessities.

There are many curious uses for fans in Japan. The umpire at wrestling and fencing matches uses a heavy one, shaped like a huge butterfly, the handle being the body, and rendered imposing by heavy cords of silk. The various motions of the fan constitute a language which the wrestlers fully understand and appreciate. One notable variety of fan is made of waterproof paper, which can be dipped in water and creates great coolness by evaporation, without wetting the clothes. The flat fan, made of rough paper, is often used as a grain winrow, to blow the charcoal fires, and as a dust pan. The Japanese gentleman of the old school, who rever wears a hat, uses his fan to shield his eves from the sun. His heat, bare from this discord, hardly needs a shade and, when it does, he spreads an unionella, and with his fan he directs his serve ants and saves talking

### Lunch Causes Departure.

Many a near little custom has been developed by the provertial propension of the Japanese. One of the best is the manner in which a hostess gets rid of an unwelcome guest. She does not him that the time is up for his stay or that she is going visiting seem, but sets to work preparing a dainty luncheon, which she packs in a little box ties up with a ribbon and paper and hands to the guest some morning. It isn't an insult, either it's just a hint, and one that is always taken.

### FIND FANCIES IN SUICIDE.

#### Indiana Woman Sends Check for Burial — Another Wants Hair Fluffed—Man Plays Dirge,

Whether or not there is an increasing determination on the part of the people to live right, there seems to be an increasing determination to die in the goost becoming manner, says the Washlagton Star Men and women, not partirular as to the way they live, become particular as to the way they shall die. Many aufoides with unusual features are reported in the press every day 'At Montreal, ind., a woman before committing suicide sent to the undertaker a check for her burial expenses. It was not honored by the bank at which the woman had a deposit because it was not received by the undertaker till after the woman's death, the bank holding that then the deposit belonged not to the woman who killed herself, but to her helps. In New Philadelphia, O., a. girl closed her life by drinking carbolic acid. She left a note bidding her friends good-by, and asking that she be buried in white satin and "with her hair fluffed." The poor girl was mindful of her appearance to the last. She wanted to look her best in her flual exit. A man in Vienna recently played a dirge on the piano and then shot himself He did the best he could to furnish the music for his own funeral. Per caps the character of the music might have prompted the rash deed, but even in this event it would have been more fitting had he been shot by some one else.

# CIRLS ARE QUICK KISSERS. Princeton, Illinois, Damsels Have Become Adepts in Art of Speedy

Osculation.

Princeton, the capital of Bureau county. Ill., has an odd distinction. Its girls can bestow a kiss quicker than any other set of pretty young creatures in the state. It is related in the Chicago Tribune that the quick kissers belonged to the old town, but when the railroad built its main line a mile away, a new town was built up nearer the depot, and there were more swift osculators than ever. The other evening a pretty Princeton girl boarded a west bound train. Several girl friends accompanied her to the depot, but she was followed into the car by a young man. He shoved her suit case under a seat and then looked into her sace. Then she placed a hand on each of his arms and before any passenger knew what she was about she had kissed him. The young man blushed and fled, but the sweet kisser wasn't abashed at all. She knocked on the window pane to the girls outside. "Did you see that?" she called aloud, so that everyone in the car could hear her They nodded that they had "Pretty quick movement, wasn't it?" she called out again, and the bevy of sweet things out on the platform signaled to her that it was up to the Princeton standard.

# WOULD REFORM PRIZE RING Abbreviated Apparel of Fistic Artists Grates on Nerves of Some

Vanity One Beason.

Dress reform has struck the 'prize ring with a vengeance. It first began' in England and bids fair to find encouragement here. The costume of a pugifist heretofore has never been the source of much concern as long as the fighter was capable of putting up a good bout. In former days boxers wore knee trunks and steeviess shirts. Then ordinary tights were used, and finally the shirt was discarded altogether. It was Joffed as superfluous. However, many pugilists are vain. and more than anything else like to display their manly forms to an admiring crowd. With the shirt discarded the fighter may fold his arms, throw out his chest and pose. But he takes more pains now to show his legs than his torso. Consequently trunks and tights have shown a shrinkage If ring apparel is too decollete, suggests the New York Sun, the fact may be laid to the door of the fight promoters. Wrestlers are more decorously dressed when they go on the mat. Their legs are not bare. There is no reason why a fighter's under pinnings should not be covered.

## RUBBER SHOES YEARS PAST Shoe Clerk Tells of Days When This

Class of Footwear Was in Vogue.

Andrew Jackson Banta, for 57 years a shoe clerk in a store in Rochester, N.Y., in commenting the other day on rubber prices, recalled the interesting fact, in the Shoe Retailer, that when he first began life as a shoe clerk the rubbers worn were of pure gum, and the soles were a half Inch thick.

"I can remember that they looked just like blocks of wood," said Mr. Banta "They came stuffed with hay or seagrass. This we had to pull out and insert a last instead. After being placed on the last we would varnish them and place them on the shelves for sale. One day a man came into the store and put his feet upon the fender of the stove. The fire was hot, and after a while he began to smell something burning. Taking his feet from the stove he found that the rubber had melted and that about a quart of pure gum had formed a pool under the stove. Just think of all the rubber one quart of pure gum would sup-

England's Only Bhinoceros.

A ferocious rhinoceros, which has been at Manchester institution for 28 years, has just died at Belle Vue, and now the rhinoceros at the London zoo is the only one in England.

My nowadays."

#### NATIONS THAT LEND MONEY TRAIN VERSUS LIGHTNING.

## France, England and Belgitsun Have Immense Sums Outstanding—Authorities Differ as to Britais.

A German authority estimates he forgn Investments of Belgium Tumntry. having 6,000,000 inhabitant, and about one-quarter as large an are as Ohio, at no less than \$1.500,000.000. portion to the numerical Frength of the Beigians and their natural resources these figures make the \$6,000 pm1,000, or thereahouts, which represents French capital look amall, and they compare well with the larkest current estimates of Great Britain's investments beyond the narrow limits of the British isles. Authorities differ widely concerning the amount of British money put into other countries, some being as low as \$6 000.-6d0 000 not counting British possessions. like India, and British colonies. To include those favorite fields for British enterprise might double the figures given. But it is not many years since the London stock exchange calculated the probable total of the foreign investments of the British people at more than \$17,000,-000,000. It does not seem possible that any very great decrease can have taken place since 1896. Germany is believed to have about half as much money invested abroad as France, or twice as much as Belgium, but German wealth and German enterprise are alike fast gaining ground, and these proportions will soon be radically changed. Russia is the great debtor nation of Europe, and in that country billions of dollars of French. Beigium and German money has found employment, at greater or less risk, and with widely varying returns.

### INDIANA WATERS MAGNETIC

Springs in the Hoosier State Are Said to Cause Deviation of the Compass.

A reputable scientific publication is sponsor for the statement that there exists in at least three places in the state of Indiana springs or wells whose waters possess marked magnetism and areable to impart it to steel objects dipped therein. This property has been reported of other springs in various parts of the world, but such tales have been received by scientific men with caution. In this case the magnetism seems to arise from the fact that considerable quantities of carbonate of iron are dissolved in the water. When it stands for some time this decomposes.into carbonic acid gas, which escapes, and magnetic iron oxide, which falls to the bottom of the containing vessel as a powder. When the decomposition bas ceased the water is no longer magnetic. These springs are said to cause perceptible deviation of a compass needle, and a knife blade immersed for five minutes in one of the springs is magnetized sufficiently to sustain needles by its point, retaining this property for 30 hours. The water corrodes locomotive boilers, but when allowed to stand still this the carbonate has all decomposed can be used with impunity.

# DOZEN MESSAGES AT ONCE Remarkable New Multiplex Regulated by Use of Tuning Fork — High School Professor Its Inventor.

The invention of new methads for sending a number of messages simultaneously over the same wire continues, and one of the most revent of these is due to Prof. Mercadier, of the French high school for post and telegraph. In this method an alternating current is employed whose frequency depends upon a tuning fork having a certain definite number of vibrations. The current of such an interrupted circuit can be broken by an ordinary key, and signals transmitted over the line wire by an induction transmitter. On the line at the distant station are a number of so-called monotelephones, which respond to current of one frequency, and are tuned to the forks in the circuits at the sending station. Thus each particular circuit has its own telephone, which is connected by tubes with the ears of the receiving operator, and responds to the signals made at the sending station. In all 12 transmission circuits are provided, so that 24 messages may be sent over the line simultaneously.

# BIG PROFIT OF LOAN SHARK Budolph Spreckels, Sugar King, Tells of Big Sum Asked For in One Case.

"Talking about Rudolph Spreckies the other day," a San Francisco man said, "he told me many interesting things about finance. He cited a number of examples of the incredible profit in usury. The practice of usury, however, he heartily condemned. He told of a young man who had answered a usurer's advertisement to lend money without any other security than the borrower's salary. The young man arranged the details for a loan of \$500. It took a week or more to settle these details, and then the young man called for his money.

the usurer said, politely. You want 500. Here it is. We charge you five per cent a month, and you want the money for a year. Thus there is just this \$200.

"If I wanted it for two years," said the young man, "there'd be something coming to you, wouldn't there?" "He needed the loan, but he was man

enough, nevertheless, to spurn these

United States Postal Facts.
We have 75,100 postoffices and 500,000 miles of postal routes, with a yearly travel over them amounting to 500,000,-

000 miles. The service costs over \$150.-

000,000 a year. The recipts now almost

equal the expenditures, and have

doubled in the last ten years.

### TRAIN VERSUS LIGHTNING

#### Flyer Beat at Every Stroke and Arrived at Its Destination Ahead of Time.

Returning from Chicago a few nights ago, a Kansas City Stor monwas on a fast frain when it ran through a big storm. It was going so fast that it was always at the next mile post. "The train slid into the storm," he says, "and was passing out the opposite side when a zig-zag streak of lightning on the outer edge took a shy at the engine just for luck and to put a competitor out of husiness, probably. It was a miscalculation and hit the ground more than 200 feet to the rear, tearing up sand and gravel like a mad buil in a dry river bed. Before the train could vank its full length from under the lightning again tried its luck, this time mad and spiteful, and in a hurry. But the engineer had caught on and in a joking sort of way jerked the throttle open a little wider. The train was fairly flying this time, screaming and hissing, bellowing and blowing in deflance of wind, thunder, rain and lightning, Again she missed, though only by 50 feet or less this time. The passengers were getting scared a little, though they realized no ordinary lightning could drop down on the roof while the engineer was awake. But as the trafa tore from under the big cloud another streak tried its cunning. More agile and quicker than the rest, it caught in the coupling link on the rear of the hindmost car. There was red heat in a moment, sizzing, shricks, and it sounded like cuss words all frightfully mixed up, and when the train pulled into the next station some jagged, dispirited, disjointed lightning dropped to the ground. The train went on seven minutes ahead of schedule on a six-minute run."

### JAPS INVENT POSTAL IDEA.

#### Mikado's Soldiers Are Furnished with Already-Printed Cards Telling of Welfare.

The Japanese government has found a novel and excellent use for postal cards, says the Christian Endeavor World. Realizing that, for various reasons, the soldiers on campaign may not have leisure or opportunity to write home to his family, the military authorities have supplied to each army a sufficient number of post cards, ready printed, to which the soldler has only to affix his name-or, more exactly, his seal, each Japanese soldier carrying one with him, as part of his outfit. On all the cards the same message is printed: "This is to let you know that I am alive and well. I cannot give you my address, not knowing where I shall be to-morrow; but your letters will reach me some time or other if you reply to the place the card. Greetings to my family and friends." This is an idea which might well be copied by other nations. At once practical and humane, it would cost little, and would save many thousands of people from unnecessary anxiety and pain.

### STYLE VS. TELEGRAPH.

## Fashionable Toilet of African Belles Consists of Wire Worn in Place of Girdie.

Fashions in women's dress-have played havor with the plans of a telegraph company, in east Africa, and with its lines as well, says one of the commissioners in his report. The dusky belies have found that nothing more enhances their charms than a few yards of telegraph wire wound about their waists as a girdle. In spite of the slight inconvenience of sleeping in it, it has become almost as necessary to them as a necklade or a boa to an English girl. So serious were the depredations made on the jungle telegraph lines by these seekers after fashionable toflets that the company had at last to hold the chiefs of the various tribes responsible. Then the young women made a change in style.

## Many Danes Change Names. The Danish government has found it teressary to grant greater privileges to

necessary to grant greater privileges to the heads of families in changing their names if they feel so disposed. This seems, on the face of it, a very unnecessary piece of legislation, but it is not to the Danes. It appears that the entire population is divided into three great clans, the Hansens, the Petersens and the Soerensens. Besides any one of these the familiar Smiths and Joneses of our country would be a ridiculous minority. An an example of what the Danish postman has to contend against it may be noted that in one town of 25,-000 inhabitants there are only some 20. surnames to go around, each of which is therefore the name borne by more than 1.200 people.

### Dutch Hate Laziness.

The Hollanders are not foud of lazy people, and they have a very good way of curing persons who can, but won't, work. If a pauper who is able to work refuses to to so, they put him in a cistern, to which a pump is attached, and turn on a stream of water. The stream flows into the cistern just slow enough to enable the lazy person, by lively pumping to keep the water from getting up over his head.

### Death Rates in States.

The only states which had a registration of deaths sufficiently complete to make the death rates worth calculating in 1900 were Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey. New York and Rhode laland, which, with the District of Columbia, form the group referred to in the census report as the "registration"

### TEMPTATION TO INVENTOR

#### Artificial Diamonds Are Occupying the Attention of Many French Investigators.

The reward of the inventor who can produce artificial diamonds is so tempting that the Moisson experiments with the electric furnace, which were inaugurated some eight or ten years ago, have been continued until the present day. They are now being carried on in the laboratory of the Sorbonne, in Paris, with ever-increasing aucress. The first diamonds made by the electric furnace were of microscopic size and few in number. In fact, they were so minute and uncommon that it took a great deal of repeated experimenting to secure enough specimens to demonstrate beyond a doubt that the brilliant crystals were actually diamonds. As the work continued, various modifications were worked out, as the experience of the investigators became greater, until now success seems imminent. The crystals are positively known to partake of all the characteristics of the diamond in crystalline structure, hardness and chemical composition, as demonstrated by combustion experiments. The largest crystal yet obtained is only onehalf a millimeter in length, and, while this is only a spark, it indicates that the process is capable of yielding diamonds of good quality, and that some day in the not distant future the laboratory process of Mother Nature, as exemplified in The Rand, may be dpplicated in man's laboratory and in a commercial way.

# OLDEST HOTEL IN EUROPE. Goethe, Schiller and Bismarck, as Well as Boyalty, Its Guests—Give a Testimonial.

The Goldenes Kreuz (Golden-Cross)

at Regensburg (Ratisbon), in Bavaria, is the oldest hotel in Europe. King. Ferdinand I halted at it on his way to his coronation in 1531, and no other hotel in Europe possesses records of such great antiquity as the Golden Cross at Ratisbon does or can boast of having had so many royal visitors as have enjoyed its hospitality. The existing visitors' books, which date from 1819, contain the names of more than 500 imperial, royal and princely personages. The room is shown where, in 1865, the late Prince Bismarck, at that time Prussian minister, slept when he came with his sovereign to hold the conference which was the last attempt to prevent war between Austria and Prussia. The negotiations were held in the "small hall" of the hotel, under the presidency of King. William of Prussia. The host is equally proud of the autographs of Schiller and other men of letters which he possesses. The author of "William Tell" wrote the words, "Undeine Heimath ist es" ("It is indeed a home"), in memory of his stay there and no landlord could wish for a belter advertisement.

### LOS ANGELES PLANS FOREST

#### Three Thousand Acres of Brush in California City to Be Made Into Woods.

Los Angeles, Cal., has 3,000 acres of brush land called Griffith park, which it intends to convert into a commercial forest. This will be the first instance of a city in the United States creating a forest. The practice is quite common in Europe, where the forest parks have not only contributed to the pleasure of the people, but have been more, than self-supporting through their timber output Under its cooperative offer the bureau of forestry had last summer at Los Angeles four of its experts making a comprehensive planting plan for the ferest. This planwas completed at the end of September. The idea is to convert a waste piece of land into a productive forest, which will not only pay for its creation and care through the sale of mature timber, but will prove a constant source of pleasure and recreation for the citizens of Los Angeles Lt is an entirely practical plan, and Los Angeles deserves credit for its progressive spirit. Other cities could very profitably follow this excellent exam-

### TENT POLE HIS WEAK POINT

#### Circus Manager Helpless When Canvas Supports Are Attached for Non-Payment of Bills.

The circus manager was talking over the experiences of his less prosperous days when attachments on the show were frequent, relates the New York Sun.

"The man who wants to get damages against or collect a bill from a circus should pass by the animals, which seem of such value to the show. and get his eye on the tent poles," he said. "If he attaches a mighty lion or a hig elephant the manager will not make a hig allowance in order to regain possession. But just attach the tent poles and the manager will helplessly throw up his hand. They are the most indispensable part of a circus outfit, fitted up as they are with trapeze attachments, gearing and other things. The circus simply cannot get along without its poles, and a circus manager will settle at once rather than have an attachment put on them."

### Bogus War Trophies.

The people of Crewe, England, are indignant at the war office because of some guns which were recently bought by the town and set up in a park as war trophies. It has been found that the guns have never been outside of England.

# FIXING HIGH NOON AT SEA Wireless Telegraphy Expected Soon to Overcome Difficulty of Many

Years' Standing.

The most promentious in proveneur in mayikation since the invention of the chronometer, more than 140 years ago, has just been foreshadowed in a modest paragraph in the report of the chief of the bureau of equipment of the United States navy. "It is believed," says Chief Manney, "that the development of wireless telegraphy will enable (time) signals to be distributed over water as well as over land, and that before long every ship at sea, in addition to every land station, will receive daily moon signals from the standard observatory clock." What does that mean? Nothing less than the cimination of the last element of uncertainty from the problem of finding the position of a ship at sea. Hitherto the one weak point in navigation has been the difficulty of carrying standard time on a voyage. Observatious for local time as well as for latitude have been exact, but the comparison of local standard time for obtaining the longitude has involved a certain amount of guesswork. The best chronometer is not quite infallible, and some allowance. which may not be precisely right, has always to be made for errors. But with time signals from a national observatory every day at noon the mariner will know his way over any part of the wide ocean as accurately as if he were threading a buoyed channel. The chronometer will join the cross-staff and the astrolabe on the junk heap of discarded makeshifts. And of course a ship that can communicate with the shore for one purpose is equally in touch with the world for any other communication it needs to make.

### ILLNESS RULED BY INCHES.

#### London Physician Declares That One's Stature Has a Great Effect Upon Health.

Among the most interesting of the papers read at a recent meeting of the British association at Cambridge was that of Dr. Shrubsall on the physical characters of hospital patients. Sufferers from tonsilitis, rheumatism and heart disease he said are of a ligher stature and sufferers from tuberdayosis pervous and malignant diseases of a lower stature than healthy individuals It appears that blonde sufferers from pulmonary suberculosis respond to treatment better than brunettes, while in diseason of the heart the positions are reversed. It is believed that in successive . generations of city life stature shows a progressive diminution and that there in an increase in brunette traits with each generation passing from rural to urban life. With increasing length of residence there is an increase of morbidity among the different classes of Some causes which tend to damage the quality of the race were reviewed in an interestific manner by H Balfour in the anthropological section Sir John Gorst spoke against the prevalence of early marriages, particularly among the poorer classes. He declared that the race was being propagated in undue proportion by the poorest and Lerbiest.

# VALUE OF THE NORTH STAR Only One in the Firmament Whose Position Never Changes—Pacts

About Others.

The pole star is really the most important of the stars in the say; it marks the mostly at all times; it alone is fixed in the Leavens; all the other stars seem to swing around it ones in 14 hours. But the pole star of Penarts is not a very bright one and it would be hard to identify but for the help of the so-called pointers in the "Big Dipper" or "Great Bear The outer rim of the dipper points nearly to Polaris, at a distance equal to three times the space that soparates the two stars of the dipper's outer side. Various Indians call the pole star the "home star" and "the star that never moves," and the dipper they call the "broken back." The Great Bear is also to be remembered as the pointersfor another reason. It is the hour hand of the woodman's clock: It goes once around the north star in about 24 hours. the reverse way of the hands of a watch: that is, it goes the same way as the sun and for the same reason—that it is the earth that is going and leaving them be-

### PREACHER IS TOO CORDIAL

## Unintentionally Ignorant Immigrant. Girl Plays Joke on Him Before Congregation.

A shock was received by a Duluth mastor after the services the other evening. He makes a point to welcome any strangers cordially and that evening. after the completion of the service, he hurried down the aisle to station himhelf at the door. A Swedish gir: was one of the strangers in the congregation. She is employed as a domestic in one of the fashionable East end homes, and the minister, noting that she was a stranger, stretched out his hand. He we comed her to the church and expressed the hope that she would be a regular attendant. Finally he said that if she would be at home some evening during the week he would call. "T'ank you," she murmured bashfully, "but ay have a fella." Three of the members of the congregation heard the conversation and in spite of the fact that their pastor swore them to secrecy one of them "leaked."

Women Blacksmiths Outnumber Men.
In the district about Cridley, England,
so women work as blacksmiths to every
man following the trade. For many
generations this work has been almost
entirely in femisine hands.

## L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS