

POPULAR IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY



Mrs. P. J. McCumber, wife of United States Senator McCumber of North Dakota, is one of the most prominent women in society at the national capital. She entertains a great deal and invitations to her residence are highly prized.

LETTERS GO ASTRAY

Registered Mail Addressed Chicago Found in Small Kentucky Town.

Important Communications Containing Orders and Checks and Drafts, Missing Several Months, Located in Southern Village.

Chicago.—Have you missed any important letters of late that were sent by registered mail?

Maybe they are waiting for you down in Chicago, Kentucky, an ambitious little village that aspires, apparently, to become a metropolis.

Perhaps you never heard of Chicago, Ky. Well, there are some people in Chicago, Ky., who never heard of Chicago, Ill., they say. One of them, it seems, is Postmaster Philip C. Smith.

The mutual discovery of the existence of the other place on the map came about when 22 pieces of registered mail that were intended for the Illinois metropolis disappeared, and when a corps of industrious sleuths were placed on their track they showed up in the Kentucky namesake of the larger city.

Some of them had been there since December of last year and others had journeyed there as recently as July 21. None of them had been opened, however, and the fault was attributed by postoffice inspectors to the ignorance of the Kentucky postmaster.

However, Postmaster Smith was put under advice, according to an Associated Press dispatch, and the long-standing mystery of the missing letters was cleared up. Incidentally the same Chicago merchants reported an increase of business, and some Kentucky customers shortly will receive goods that they had ordered and paid for.

All of the letters had been mailed from Kentucky points, and as some of the railway mail clerks in that part of the country are aware that Chicago, Ill., has an aspiring rival, it is assumed that the letters were put off there by mistake.

"So far as we know there was no monetary loss," said Inspector Stuart of the Chicago office. "The complaints were put in the hands of a tracing clerk a short time ago and the missing 22 letters showed up in Chicago, Ky. They were returned and on examination found to contain the checks or drafts that were originally in them. It clearly was a case of a postmaster who didn't know his business, but hereafter we will know that there is such a place as Chicago, Ky., and will know where to look for delayed mail from that section of the country."

Mustache Hotbed of Disease.

Paris.—The Parisian's affection for his mustache and beard probably will not be effected, but savants here have just made an effective demonstration against the hair-adorned lip as a hotbed of disease. A Parisienne allowed herself to be kissed by a clean-shaven and then by a bearded man. After each salute her mouth was stroked with a sterilized brush. The microbes thus collected were deposited in a test tube and allowed to incubate four days. It was shown that the clean-shaven man had deposited a small quantity of harmless particles. His rival's kiss had colonized the lady's lips with the bacilla of tuberculosis, diphtheria, pneumonia and numerous other unpleasant microbes.

Rich Can't Escape Army.

Madrid.—On account of the unfavorable criticism aroused by the system of exempting rich men from the military service upon the payment of \$200, King Alfonso has issued a decree abolishing a money indemnity in lieu of service.

DREAM DISRUPTS BLACK HAND

Woman's Vision of Robbery Leads to Arrest of Gang, Who Receive Long Sentences.

New Haven, Conn.—The "Black Hand" gang which has terrorized New Haven's 35,000 Italians for five years, and within two years has commenced to terrorize the other citizens, was crippled for many years to come when Judge Williams sentenced Vincenzo Sabbatana, leader of the gang, to 28 years in state prison and gave other members long sentences.

The "Black Hand" gang has operated in Connecticut for five years, with headquarters here. Sabbatana, under the name of Giuseppe Rosi, was a member of the New York gang after coming to America from Italy, where he had been convicted of murder and had escaped. In New York he was given a five-year sentence in Sing Sing, and after getting out in the spring of 1907 he came to New Haven to direct things. With him came a handsome woman, Annie Taddeo, who stood by him to the end.

It was in the story of a dream that the authorities got track of Sabbatana's own personal gang. Thefts in the outskirts of the city, and particularly in a cobbler's shop, led to a search for stolen property on a farm in the town of Orange, near here, where Detective James P. Ward of the New Haven bureau, found a woman on the veranda, Etto Corralu.

The woman told Ward of a dream the night before which had kept her in a condition of fright all day, and she wanted him to take her away. In her dream she saw Frank Guido, who often visited the house, go with four other men to the home of the hermit near by, drink wine with him and then murder him, after binding and torturing him into telling them where his valuables were hidden.

Soon after she awakened, Guido came to the house with some goods. She told him of the dream, and he admitted he had been to Wallingford, a suburb of New Haven, with Sabbatana, Jack Libero, a barber of New Haven, Natale Pascale, a cousin of a city official, and Giuseppe Masaro, and there had gone to the home of the hermit, Popoli, and that all the dream details were true, with the exception that they did not murder the hermit, but left him bound on the floor. This proved true, and the old man was released.

Spotlight on Prisoners. Washington.—A system of identifying prisoners which he finds more convenient for his purposes than the Hertzell system has been devised by Judge Kimball of the local police court. Whenever there is any doubt in his mind as to the identity of a prisoner, who stands before him the mere turning of a switch on his desk throws a flood of light on the face of the accused.

Judge Kimball, who has been in the police courts for 19 years, admits that one of his qualifications is a memory for faces.

Often defendants will deny that they ever faced him before. Then he turns on the light and recalls whether the prisoner has stood previously at his bar.

Observes Golden Rule.

Washington.—Refusing to be taken to the hospital, although perhaps fatally hurt, before the promise was made to him that the person who injured him would not be arrested, Rev. William P. Jacobs, an Episcopal clergyman, 60 years old, of Clinton, S. C., put the golden rule which he has preached for many years into practice. The minister, in Washington on a sight-seeing trip, was run over on Pennsylvania avenue the other night by a two-seated surrey.

"I do not wish the driver prosecuted," he said, "as I know it was not his fault."

Despite the promise of the police the driver was arrested.

CITY RUNS A PUBLIC BAKERY

Budgetist to Have First Cane of Producing 10,000 Pounds of Bread Daily.

The city of Budapest in order to furnish good bread to the public at a cheap price has decided to establish a municipal bakery capable of producing 10,000 pounds of bread daily.

This will be a public enterprise and is meant by competition to compel the general production of bread equally good and equally cheap—prices being based upon the actual price of wheat and flour—as that furnished by the municipality.

This bakery will be a model one. Modern machinery will be used and all immediate contact by the workmen with the bread will be avoided. Besides this the burgomaster says, the bakery by the wholesale purchase of flour and other articles of production will tend to reduce the price.

The expense of building this municipal bakery will be \$125,000, not including the value of the site. The rooms for preparing the dough, the baking rooms and the bread magazines are all spacious and well lighted.

Near by are two groups of buildings, one containing the engine house, the electrical plant and places for storing and preparing potatoes, the Hungarian public being fond of bread made of wheat mixed with potatoes, and the other consisting of stables and coach houses.

The bread will be sold partly in special shops belonging to the municipality and partly by private provision merchants at a price fixed by the municipality.

HUMAN BODY AS TELEPHONE

German Scientist Sees Great Possibilities in Experiments He Has Been Conducting.

The human telephone is, at once the newest and the oldest form of telephony. Some years ago it was shown that it was possible to charge the human body with tremendously high alternating currents of electricity. And it is well known that the body has been used as an electric battery for many experiments.

It is now suggested by one Dr. Dieder of Stettin that by charging the body with these rapidly alternating impulses the drum of the ear can be made to respond to their action and vibrate so as to hear the current. The ear would then become a kind of telephone disk and would be aware of changes in the intensity of the current. It is necessary simply to press against the ear the outer metallic coating of a Leyden jar whose inner coating is connected with one pole of an induction coil and to grasp the opposite pole with one hand.

Rieder thinks it is not impossible to perfect this arrangement so that it will transmit speech telephonically. It is thought that deaf people might be sensitive to the device. As Dr. Rieder finds that there is a feeling of oppression in the ear for several hours after such experiments, the auditive organs must be acted upon in quite a different way from that of an ordinary telephone.

The Winnebago and His Beans.

Congressman J. P. Latta of Nebraska demands that the Winnebago Indians of his state be given back the privilege of chewing mesal beans which the government ruthlessly deprived them of some years ago.

The mesal bean grows down on the Mexican border, and the Indian experts say that its narcotic quality makes it as dangerous to the noble red men as whisky, chloral, morphine or any other drug.

The noble red men, however, indignantly deny the allegation, and declare that it is a part of the Winnebago religion to chew those beans and thus hold direct communication with the Great Spirit.

Congressman Latta, occupying a middle ground upon the question, argues that it is not so bad, and that the Winnebago Indians were just as well behaved when they had the habit as they are now, when a paternal government forbids it.

Let the Child Sleep.

It is a bad thing for an adult to lose sleep, but it is worse for a child. To cut short the time the immature brain needs for rest and repair is to stunt the growth irreparably. Therefore, says Sir James Crichton Brown, the English physician, parents should set their faces firmly against home studying. When books are taken home the studying is, as a rule, done at night, and the brain work at night is almost sure to poison the child's sleep, robbing it of the repairing power sleep ought to have. The present increase in nervous and mental diseases noted by recent observers is largely due," says Sir James, "to insufficient sleep. It would be wiser to let the children learn less if thereby a better brain power is insured for the future."

His Faith in Elephants.

Years ago there appeared an amusing picture in a certain journal. It represented two small boys standing before a circus poster of an enormous elephant whirling about on the tip of his tail upon the base of a tiny, upturned wine glass. One of the boys, a little "doubting Thomas," asks breathlessly of the other: "Do you believe that?" His companion replies with simple, solid conviction: "I don't believe there ain't nothink that an elephant can't do."—Mrs. Wilson Woodrow, in American Magazine.

BILLIARD PLAYING WON BRIDE

Unusual Stakes on Games Played in Italian Club in City of Philadelphia.

Men have often played billiards, but not for love. It has taken William Caruso, a pro person young barber of the Colonnade hotel, to demonstrate the fact that Cupid takes in the corners of the green table with a smile and an arrow for the victor of the game of chance.

Four years ago Caruso met, in the Mazzia Garibaldi club, John Cirino the best billiard player in the club. Caruso, undaunted by the other's reputation, challenged him to a billiard duel, with the privilege, if he won, of asking in marriage the hand of a certain lissom beauty, Filomena Cirino, the then champion's sister. All was arranged, the match came off, Caruso won, and Cirino introduced the victor to his sister.

Every week the billiard matches would be the talk of the club when it became known what were the stakes. And every week Caruso beat his opponent, fortified by the thought of the smiles that awaited him after the battle.

Convinced at last that the young barber was a worthy man in every respect, Cirino gave his consent to the nuptials.—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

TWO IDEAS ABOUT BUSINESS

One Without Imagination, and the Other with it and the Difference Therein.

It must be remembered always that it is not the price of an article which is important, but the reason for the price.

The bankrupt stock, the fire sale, the manufacturer's remnants, the annual clearance, the removal sale, the dissolution-of-partnership sale—what are these, and many more, but arguments for the price? And note this one point—that without the argument the price is powerless. Reduce your fur-lined overcoats from \$100 to \$50, and liberal discount attracts little attention. Why? Because there is no reasonable explanation for the reduction. Why should you present overcoats to the public? But announce that, owing to an expiration of your lease, and the imperative command that you vacate your present store within two weeks, you will reduce the price of your fur-lined overcoats from \$100 to \$50, and you may sell easily all you have to offer. Instinctively, the public sees the whole picture—the proprietor's anxiety, the inevitable removal, the lessening days, the final sacrifice, and the store full of eager buyers quick to seize such an opportunity. This is only half the reduction previously considered, but one is business without imagination, and the other is business with imagination. Monthly.

Borglum's Group of North America.

Gutzon Borglum's group of North America, for the bureau of the American republics at Washington, has been cast in plaster, and promises to be a grand artistic monument. The figure of the youth representing "Progress" is particularly strong, and we imagine there is a certain hidden meaning in the expression of the nervous figure that will give rise to some discussion when the group is placed. Mr. Borglum, who started for a vacation in the Gunnison country of Colorado, will return in August and the marble group will be cut in the rough at Washington. Then it will be placed in position at the building of the American republics, and the sculptor will finish it in situ. There will be no leaving of work to mechanics. The group will represent the full expression of a man full of original ideas, who takes his art intensely seriously.

Try the Hunger Cure.

A German woman who has suffered for years with neuralgia and headache believes she has been cured by fasting. "Food is the root of all evil," she declares, "not money. Eating and unhappiness are closely interwoven." Hunger cures for certain cases of nervous and internal disorders are already being regarded favorably by some medical authorities. Dreams, says one expert, are the result of a condition of the stomach, and thousands of people are plagued with disagreeable dreams, which exhaust and destroy nerve centers. Fasting seems a rational cure for such disorders, and there is reason to suppose that it will in future form a very material part of the treatment of patients by nerve specialists.

Corn Growing in Trestop.

Oconee has one of the seven wonders of the world. It is a stalk of corn said to be about fifty feet high, growing in the top of a tree. This is not made up, and we can cite you to the person who told us. It is supposed the seed of this corn was carried up in the tree by some bird, and that it took root and grew. The tree is about forty-five feet high and the stalk of the corn is about four or five feet high. The tree is on a place near Seneca.—Farm and Factory.

An Unhappy Recollection.

Mrs. Kragg—I see they have just celebrated the centenary of Mendelssohn. Mr. Kragg—I've always felt a prejudice against that fellow. Mrs. Kragg—Why? Mr. Kragg—Every time I hear his confounded wedding march I think of our wedding!

TWO IDEAS AND THE DOCTOR

Man of Medicine, After Doctor's Examination, Concludes to Let His Gleanings Pass.

The physician was called in a domestic case, and he found the patients had been quarreling about a high chair. The doctor who was examining him several times cautioned him to control his patients, but subjects involved in the quarrels, and this warning had little effect. Finally the judge lost patience and told him to make an effort to shorten his answers and to quit talking when he got through.

This had some effect temporarily, but a few minutes later the physician began a long and rambling answer which had only a vague and remote bearing upon what had been asked him.

"Look here," said the now irate judge, "you are wasting the time of the court, the attorneys, the witnesses and everybody else here, and delaying the trial of the case. Now, if you don't confine yourself to plain answers hereafter I shall send you to jail for contempt of court!"

That had its effect, and the testimony of the witness was concluded in a reasonable time after that.

The next day the judge and the physician met upon the street. They are acquaintances, and stopped and shook hands.

"Say, Judge," inquired the doctor, "would it be contempt of court, now that you are no longer on the bench, to say that you acted like a damned fool at the trial yesterday and would you send me to jail?"

"Oh, no," replied his honor, easily. "I'd go to jail; you'd go to the hospital."

CLEVER WORK OF DETECTIVES

Parisian Peace Guardians Employ Effective Disguise in Effort to Make Arrest.

Two ragged-looking street singers appeared in front of a cafe in one of the popular quarters of Paris. One of them sang a pathetic street ballad, and the other accompanied him on the guitar. Coppers fell here and there from the windows, and some middletons listened with pleasure to the music. Suddenly the singer broke off his song, the accompanist dropped his guitar, and both seized by the collar a man who was coming out of the cafe, snatched an envelope with 700 francs and a lot of slips of paper out of his hand, and told him that he was their prisoner. The two musicians were simply two clever detectives sent by M. Hamard to secure the arrest of a clandestine bookmaker, who was taking bets on the races, an occupation forbidden by the law. The bookmaker struggled hard to get loose from their grip, and he, in turn, threatened to have the men arrested as highway robbers. The amusing thing is that a policeman who had observed the scene rushed to his assistance, and although the detectives showed their papers, he had his doubts, and marched them off to the police station, together with their prisoner. Here things were at last cleared up, and the detectives were complimented for their clever stratagem.

Von Buelow as a Toy.

Among the thousands of ingenious toys with which the German market is flooded at Christmas time there is one hardy annual, the Stehaufmaennchen, or tumbler, a little figure with leaden base, which, stand it how you will, invariably regains its original position. A year or so ago a toy merchant, who must have possessed a keen political flair, conceived the genial idea of imparting to the little tumbler the lineaments of Prince Buelow. The toy sold by the hundred thousand and the inventor must have made his fortune. Public attention immediately caught the subtle allusion to the chancellor's astounding success in bobbing up serenely out of the lightest corners, and the sobriquet of Stehaufmaennchen stuck.

Favors Fades in School.

A woman teacher says that there is more time for the so-called "fads" in the schools than there used to be, and they make for culture and higher ideals in the education of the child. The everlasting drill in arithmetic that used to be necessary to make boys good accountants is no longer required, adding machines doing all such laborious work for the merchant. The time for drilling is now given over to training in language. Drawing and manual work, it has been found, make boys neater and more careful in other work. The study of color in the public schools, although it may have not developed a single painter, has nevertheless improved the public taste in dress, in furnishings and in civic adornment.

Shuffleboard at the Resort.

Gunter—Isn't it monotonous at these summer hotels? Gayer—Not at all. You should see our exciting games of shuffleboard. Gunter—Shuffleboard? Why, they play that on ships. Gayer—I know, and they play it at our summer hotel. If you don't shuffle pretty lively you don't get any board at all.

Rather Mixed.

"That acrobat's stunt is a good one, isn't it?" "Yes; he always gets a hand on his feet."

GRAND NEW WORLD NATIONS

Various Department of the Two Americas, Re-invaded in the Present Day.

China has an industrial awakening which is marvelous. The work on the new steel plant south of Mexico is progressing so rapidly that it will be ready for operation in October, 1910. It will cost \$2,000,000 in United States gold and will have a daily output of 200 tons.

The consular reports sent to the government at Washington are filled with instructive comments and facts and figures about the activities of different nations. Japan's alertness is well known. Besides improving her rivers and harbors she is organizing a new steamship line to various South American ports.

But of all the intrepid hustlers Canada is the silent, yet most conspicuous. When one tries to imagine the great empire which will one day take the place of the modest lady of the snows, all Old World grandees seem to pale. When one further lets his imagination roam from Hudson bay to the Straits of Magellan and takes in the coming wonders of New World nations, he is staggered by the vision of Canadian, United States, Mexican, Central America, Brazilian, Argentine and Chinese developments. Europe, Asia and Australia vanish like the mists of a dream or remain venerable shrines from which the worshipping have departed.

THE PIG AND THE POLITICIAN

Philadelphia Man Tells Remarkable Story of Queer Attachment Formed.

Joseph M. Donahue, a downtown resident who is known in political circles, is a traveling salesman for a firm interested in church fixtures. He tells a good one on himself that happened up at Shenandoah a few days ago.

"As I came into town," said Donahue, "I noticed in the distance a large black and white pig. It seemed to be watching me continually for a half mile before I got into the station."

"When the train stopped the pig was opposite the station looking up in my face. I alighted and started through the town, the pig following me every step."

"I went into a drug store to buy a soda. The pig stayed outside, and when I came into town to continue my journey the pig was ready and followed me as soon as the church door and waited the arrival of the sexton. When he came I walked in the open door and the pig made an attempt to go, too, but was soon chased by the gruff orders and a kick from the janitor."

"When I came out I noticed the pig wending its way toward the station, a quarter of a mile ahead of me, seemingly downhearted because it had not been able to follow me to the church."—Philadelphia Times.

Roulet de Lisle's House.

The house inhabited by Roulet de Lisle, at Choisy-le-Roi, has been sold, says the Paris correspondent in the London Telegraph. It is a small building with two stories and the room occupied by the revolutionary poet, author of the "Marseillaise," is on the second floor. It is said to have been preserved all these years exactly as it was at the time of his death in 1794.

"Hamlet" in Japan.

Japanese actors in a theater in Kobe, Japan, recently presented "Hamlet." The result was described as "a wonderful mixture of the beautiful and the grotesque." Ophelia appeared sometimes in graceful kimono and sometimes in western evening costume. The king at one time wore the picturesque costume of a Japanese nobleman and at others a silk hat and a swallow-tail coat. The climax was reached in Hamlet himself, who in the earlier scenes wore the uniform of a student of the imperial university, but in the third act made his appearance on a bicycle, clad in a bright blue cycling suit and striped stockings and at the finish was seen in conventional evening dress, with a flower in his buttonhole.

To be Rich, in Itself, is no crime.

It is the means of his getting rich that determines whether the rich man is or is not a malefactor. It is, however, as Justice Brewer does not neglect to point out, the obvious duty of him who accumulates enormous capital—representing well-nigh incalculable power for good or evil—to use some portion of his amassed riches for the benefit of the community at large. He says:

The more our wealthy men come into the habit of helping educational and charitable institutions and organizations the more they will disabuse the minds of the less fortunate of their prejudices."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Learned in the Law.

Examiner—What is an alibi? Candidate for the Bar—An alibi is committing a crime in one place when you are in another place. If you can be in two other places, the alibi is all the stronger in law.—Puck.