#### AMERICAN TRAMPS IN MEXICO

Authorities Are Puzzled Over the Problem of Abating the Hobe Buleauce,

Since Mexico, Cuba, Porte Rico, ele. have come to be known as winiter pleasure grounds by the Ametiman tramp, the local authorities have heen puzzled as to how to deal with this idle and objectionable gentry, wholly uscless and possibly more mernicious than the idle and globestructing section of high society, says the Mexican Herald. The tramp, un-The the wealthy and curious idler who takes all countries for his own. mapends no money; he is prope to beg, and to steal on occasions is common emough with him.

In this warm-hearted Mexico people usually give him something to est and a shelter for the night; the vagabondo Americano is still, in many parts of the republic, something of a movelty; he has the attractiveness of the foreign and unaccustomed. And then, too, the dominant faith tends to unreflecting charity, and the poor man or woman here rarely finds stony hearts and menacing flats.

But the tramp evil is not a new ome, even here or in Cuba. In the laws of the Indies, as far back as 1535, not half a generation after the -conquest of Mexico, the king of main published a decree dealing with certain dangerous, idle and peregrimating persons, who, having neither efficio ni beneficio, trade nor calling. traveled in Cubs, New Spain, etc., smolesting the king's loyal subjects sand imposing on the Indians. As these idlers and wanderers would do me work (infallible indication of the findividual of the genus tramp) the Ring remarked that their example was demoralizing and that it gave to the Indian race the example of living without labor, which was highly permicious.

So by royal ordinance it was directed that the viceroys and other servants and representatives of the liding should take measures to compel the Spanish tramps to work. But the tramp makes it an article of faith to perform no useful labor, so Whe king's will was set at naught. Balf a century later, or in 1585, anwther royal decree provided that tramps should be sent back to Spain irons.

This was Spain's experience with togenps in the early years of the oceupstion of the Americas. In it is a mint for present-day rulers, who might take severer methods than have yet been thought of. Some of war contemporaries would suggest The whipping post.

#### Suicides in the summer.

creace the Mania for Self-Destruction. CAF

Observers of the phenomena atstending the suicidal mania have noted that the tendency loward self-destrucmore pronounced in warm than in cold weather. Statistics collected from a wide area show that the tendency is mot confined to any particular locality or class of people, but afflicts the human race generally, says the Chicago Chronicle.

"Figures bearing upon the suicidal Mendency in this country demonstrate the painful fact that suicide has inereased during the last 25 years and goes on continually increasing in almost all civilized countries," said a prominent authority on nervous discases. "Of course the tendency to sui--cide has been increased by the influence of civilization, but another factor in this increase is the geometrical regrowth of population and all the engrossing factors of local life. The greater part of this particular tendency is due to race, religion and culture, but there are other influences, nauch as climate, the seasons and at-'mospheric changes which operate on what are called voluntary actions.

"At the season of the year when the can is in aphelion the average proportion of suicides reaches its maximum. During this period in June and throughout the summer the physical and moral conditions are so influenced by the variations and conditions in the temperature and humidity that suicides are then greater than at any -other time of the year. The records of the coroner's office in this city for the Sast four years compared with those of the preceding four years show that as the weather conditions have become more oppressive suicides have correspondingly been more frequent. Two years ago, when Philadelphia experienced one of the most excessive and lengthened torrid waves for years, ammicides incressed 15 per cent. and death in many cases was most violent. During the heated months, when ritality is greatly reduced, many suicides soccur from suggestion. This was seen in the records of 1899, when four perwons used for the first time an unknown drug with which a young drug student, ended his life."

North Carolina's Odd Prison. A new invention is a prison on wheels. It is the sort of jail used in North Carolina for confining convicts who are employed doing work throughout the state. In this way they can be conveyed anywhere safe-By and may stay in a spot far from -mivilization as long as may be re-Madired without danger of their escaping. The prison is two stories high. It is divided into a number of cells, the floor of each being a bed and accommodating two of the prisoners. Into this cage they all go at night, and it is securely locked up, thus rendering is Suppossible that any one of them schoold get away. When work is to be done, they are let out, of course, but when traveling are safely shut in-Louis Republic.

The same of

#### TAMING A LION.

A Tunk That Calls for Something More Than Courage—The Trainer Lses a Chair, But Not to Sit On.

The wild-beast tamer as generally piotured is a mysterious person who stalks about sternly in high boots and possesses a remarkable power of the eye that makes lions and tigers quail at his look and shrink away. He rules by fear, and the crack of his whip is supposed to bring memories of torturing points and red-hot irons, says Cleveland Moffitt, in St. Nicholas.

Such is the story-book lion-tamer, and I may as well say at once that outside of story-books he has small exitsence. There is scarcely any truth in this theory of hate for hate and conquest by fear. It is no more fear that makes a lion walk on a ball than it is fear that makes a horse pull a wagon. It is habit. The lion is perfeetly willing to walk on the ball, and he has reached that mind, not by cruel treatment, but by force of his trainer's patience and kindness and superior intelligence.

Of course, a wild-beast tamer should have a quick eye and delicate sense of hearing, so that he may be warned of a sudden spring at him or a rush from behind; and it is important that he be a sober man, for alcohol breaks the nerve or gives a false courage worse than folly; but the quality on which he must chiefly rely and which alone can make him a great tamernot a second-rate bungler-is a genuine fondness for his animals. This does not mean that the animals will necessarily be fond of the tamer; some will be fond of him, some will be indifferent to him, some will fear and hate him. Nor will the trainer's fondness protect him from fang and claw. We shall see that there is danger always, accident often, but without the fondness there would be greater danger and more frequent accident. A fondness for lions and tigers gives sympathy for them, sympathy gives understanding of them, and understanding gives mastery of them, or as much mastery as is possible. What but this fondness would keep a tamer constantly with his animals, not only in the public show (the easiest part), but in the dens, in the treacherous runway, in the strange night hours, in the early morning romp, when no one is looking, when there is no reason for being with them except the amer's own joy in tt?

I do not purpose now to present in detail the methods of taming wild beasts, rather what happens after they are tamed; but I may say that a lion-tamer always begins by spending weeks or months in gaining . new animal's confidence.

Day after day he will stand for a long time outside the cage, merely looking at the lion, talking to him, impressing upon the beast a general familiarity with his voice and person. And each time, as he goes away, he is careful to toss a piece of meat as a pleasant memento of his visit.

Later he ventures inside the bars, earrying some simple weapon-a whip, a rod, perhaps a broom, which is more formidable than might be supposed, through the jab of its sharp bristles. One tamer used a common chair with much success against unbroken lions. If the creature came at him, there were the four legs in his face; and soon the chair came to represent boundless power to that ignorant lion. He feared it and hated it, as was seen on one occasion when the tamer left it in the cage and the lion promptly tore it into splinters.

Days may pass before the lion will let his tamer do more than merely stay inside the cage at a distance. Very well; the tamer stays there. He waits hour after hour, week after week, until a time comes when the lion will let him move nearer, will permit the touch of his hand, will come forward for a piece of meat, and at fast treat him like a friend, so that finally he may sit there quite at ease, and even read his newspaper, as one man did.

Lastly begins the practice of tricks: the lion must spring to a pedestal and be fed; he must jump from one pedestal to another and be fed, mustkeep a certain pose and be fed. A bit of meat is always the final argument, and the tamer wins (if he wins at all, for sometimes he fails) by patience and kindness.

"There is no use getting angry with a lion," said a well-known tamer to me, "and there is no use in carrying a revolver. If you shoot a lion or injure him with any weapon, it is your loss, for you must buy another lion, and the chances are that he will kill you anyway, if he starts to do it. The thing is to keep him from starting."

Pope's Opinion of Woman's Clothes.

The pope has recently manifested a preference in regard to ladies' apparel over and above the strict regulation in regard to ladies who are received by the holy father at the vatican. A niece of the pope was about to be married, and her distinguished relative took so great an interest in her trousseau as to stipulate that the young lady should only have white, blue or black gowns, adding that these were the three colors most becoming to young girls, "Gray and brown," remarked his holiness, hare only suitable for old women, and I do not like any other colors." Posgibly the pope prescribed white beeause it is the symbol of purity, blue because it is the color dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and black because it is the time-honored hue of dressfor outdoor wear for Spain and Italy,

-Pall Mall Gazette. Wheels and Spokes,

A philosopher says it is an easy matter to tell what kind of wheels a man has in his head by the spokes that come from his mouth. Chicago Daily

## MONKEY INTELLECT.

Respects in Which They Show Resemblance to Man.

Their Method of Learning Is Superior to That of Any Others of the Brute Creation - Interesting Facts.

A series of careful experiments with monkeys has recently been conducted by Prof. Edward L. Thorndike to ascertain the power and process by which these animals sequire knowledge. He has reached the conclusion, says a scientific paper, that there is no warrant for the popular idea that monkeys and other animals learn from human example and by the processes followed by man. But, the experimenter says, the fact that monkeys do not possess the human types of ideas must not be taken as evidence that they are no nearer relatives to us mentally than are the other lower animals. On the contrary, they occupy an intermediate position in every main psychological feature between mammals in general and the human species.

The essentials in an inventory of an animal's mental capacities are its sense powers, the kinds of movements it can make and their delicacy, complexity and number, its instincts or the sum of those tendencies to feel and act which it has apart from experience or learning and its method of learning or of modifying its behavior to suit the multitudinous circumstances of life. In each of these respects the monkeys show kinship with man.

In their motor equipment monkeys possess first of all the muscular coordinations necessary to sustain an upright position and consequently the use of the forelimbs. The movements of these forelimbs are more in number and suited to more complex and varied tasks than are those of lower animals. The attractiveness of the monkey cage in a zoological garden is largely due to the similarity of the monkeys' movements and our own. The monkey not only has a body like a man's, but he also uses it like a man.

Our native tendencies are so metamorphosed by the education of a civlized environment that in adult age they seldom appear in recognizable form. But if we take human beings at from six months to three years of age or later we find plenty of traits that appear in the monkeys. In fact, the human instinct which is perhaps of prime importance in human mentality, the instinct, which perhaps is the real cause of many of our most boasted powers, has its clear prototype and homologue in the monkey. I refer to the instinctive enjoyment of physical and mental activity in general, to the tendencies to act and feel as much as possible, regardless of any ulterior practical considerations, which we sometimes call destructiveness or constructiveness and

Even the casual observer, if he has any psychological insight, will be struck by the general, aimless, intrinsically valuable (to the animal's feelings) physical activities of a monkey compared with the specialfzed, definitely aroused, utilitarian activities of a dog or cat. Watch the latter and he does but few things, does them in response to obvious sense presentations, does them with practical consequences of food, sex indulgence, preparation for adult battles, etc. If nothing that appeals to his special organization comes up he does nothing. Watch a monkey and you cannot enumerate the things he does, cannot discover the stimuli to which he reacts, cannot conceive the raison d'etre of his pursuits. Everything appeals to him. He likes to be active for the sake of activity. The observer who has proper opportunities and takes proper pains will find this intrinsic interest to hold true of mental activity as well.

Finally, in their method of learning, although monkeys do not reach the human stage of a rich life of ideas, yet they carry the animal method of learning, by the selection of impulses and associations of them with the different sense impressions,. to a point beyond that reached by any other of the lower animals. In this, too, they resemble man, for he differs from the lower animals not only in the possession of a new sort of intelligence, but also in the tremendous extensions of that sort which he has in common with them. A fish learns slowly a few simple habits. Man learns quickly an infinitude of habits that may be highly complex. Dogs and cats learn more than the fish, while monkeys learn more than they. In the number of things he learns, the complex habits he can form, the variety of lines along which he can learn them and in their permanence when once formed the monkey justifies his inclusion with man in a separate mental genus.

An Enterprising Jap.

A Yokohama correspondent sends the following tradesman's card as showing how the modern Jap assimilates American methods: "Jewelrymaker. A finest in town. Whisky-boy. No. 17 Ajoicho Itchome. Show this card to jinrikshaman. Our shop is best and obliging worker that has everybody known and having articles genuine Japanese Crystals and all kinds of Curios. Gold or silver plate in electroplate or plain mending. Carving in Laid, work own name or monograms or any design according to orders we can work how much difficult Job with lowest prices insure, pleace try, once try. Don't forget name Whisky!"-Chicago Chronicle.

#### MUD IS FOREVER BOILING.

Murky Springs of Yellowstone Park That Spout Hot Fluid Without Censing.

Among the wonders of the Yellowstone national park none excites more interest than what are known as "the paint pota," or boiling mud springs. into one of these caldrons two women tourista recently fell and were seriously scalded. There are several groups of these springs in the parks, one of the largest of which occupies a space 300 yards in length by 25 in width, in what is known as the valley of Alum creek, near the Crater hills. A second group, where it is believed the tourists were scalded, is near the wall of the grand canyon of the Yellowstone, four miles below Yellowstone lake and six miles from the Crater hills. This group occupies a space three acres in extent, and it is said the springs present a magnificent sight when in the course of eruption, says the Chicago Chronicle.

The principal spring is called the Blue Mud Pot and is 35 feet in diameter. It is near the large sulphur spring, and when in a tranquil state looks like a lake of blue mud. The contents of the spring are more like muddy water than thick mud, although at times the mud has a constatency of mortar. In some portions of the spring various degrees of consistency are found, ranging from the muddy water state to a thickness of common mortar.

There are no particular times of eruptions from these springs, and although they are in groups or are very close together, not more than two feet separating some of them, there seems to be no connection between them, and they are of different colors. Various shades of brown, red, pink, blue, latender and gray are to be found, and when all of them are spouting together the kaleidoscopic coloring makes a beautiful picture. The streams thrown from the craters of the springs sometimes mount as high as 40 feet, and in falling form an edge around the turbid lake that causes the resemblance to paint pots, from which the springs take their names. In the valley of the Alum creek, where the Blue Mud pot is found, tourists observe puffs of mud rising from the surface for over 300 yards.

The second group of springs presents every possible variation of color. There are, perhaps, hundreds of the smaller springs, all of them having the raised edges, which are covered with the vari-colored mud. This mud has a temperature of over 180 degrees, and seems to be boiling at all times. The springs at this point greatly resemble caldrons of paint, and are pink,

blue, lavender and pure white in color. In these smaller springs there is generally a circular pit about ten feet deep, completely covered on the outside with the colored mud. This mud. when dried and burned, whether with fire or by the sun, makes the finest quality of plaster. Geologists claim that after being properly worked up it would make better mortar or plaster than anything now used for the purpose. When the white mud is burned it takes a form very much like that of finished meerschaum, and is quite as pliable and lasting. The mud contains a great deal of sulphur and tastes strongly of alum. The springs show no signs of diminishing in power or size.

## GIVE MACHINERY NO REST.

The Main Reason Why It Does Not Last as Long in America as in England.

A practical railroad man recently returned from England relates that he finds a great difference in the treatment of locomotives there and here, says a trade journal. "It is singular, to say the least," he says, "that the English railway managers have just discovered that American locomotives consume more coal, use more oil and require more repairs than those of their home make. If this is a fact it could have been demonstrated in a trial lasting a month. Over here we wouldn't accept an English locomotive as a gift. It would be regarded as an antiquated monstrosity. I fear the British are beginning to feel a trifle sore over America's commercial invasion of all the markets of the world. and the Midland railway people are

trying to knock us on our locomotives." Continuing, the official said: "The chairman of the Midland made one impressive statement, namely: 'We tend our engines carefully, rest them, clean them and do everything to make them last.' In this country we rest nothing, not even ourselves. Bishop Cumberland's familiar saving: 'It is' better to wear out than rust out, has taken hold of us, body, soul and breeches. The Englishman rests his hats, shoes, trousers, coats, horses, carriages and whatever else he may own, animate or inanimate. A few advanced Americans have recently adopted the practice of 'treeing' their shoes for a rest, and the result is longer wear without losing shape. Some of our locomotives are never allowed to coof from one year's end to another. Little wonder they do not live to be classed among the antiques."

Good Remedy for It. "Just remember," said the man who makes everyone suffer when he is uncomfortable, "that irritability is now said to be a disease."

"And also remember," returned the man addressed as he reached for a club, "that some diseases require heroic treatment."

Thus it happened that the value of the mind cure was demonstrated and the disease did not develop .-- Chicago

Method in the Friendship. An old bachelor says the friendship of two women is always a plot against a third .- Chicago Daily News.

# CHINESE TELEPHONE

Mongelian Merchants of San Francisco Have a System.

For Use Among That Race Only and Extremely Popular Among the Business Mon-Great Fents of Memorr.

What is said to be the only Chinese telephone system in the world is in operation in the city of San Francisco. There are altogether about 18,000 Chiaese citizens, of whom 1,500 are merchants. Of this number 270 are subscribers to the telephone.

These Chinese merchants were prompt to understand the saving of time and great convenience in the use of the instrument. Though looked upon, for a time, with some superstitious dread, familiarity has accustomed the people to its use and it has now become an indispensable concomitant of the regular office equipment. The central office heretofore has been too small to allow any increase of the aubscribers, but the company has recently acquired a property and is fitting it up so as to accommodate any number. It is expected that with greater facilities twice as many instruments as are now in use will be installed, says the Scientifia

The system in Chinatown is entirely independent and is for the Chinese only. To communicate with outside aubscribers a separate charge is made. A while merchant using the Chinatown system must also pay extra-The Chinese subscribers can and do use the long distance wires upon payment of the customary charges.

Altogether there are seven Chinamen employed in the office, a chief operator and three assistants, besides three messenger boys who are on duty day and night, the office being never closed. In respect to facility the Chinese telephone operators are quite equal to the whites. It is said that the voice of the China-

man is superior to all others in the distinctness with which it can be transmitted by wires. In calling subscribers the operator, instead of using numbers to designate each one, as customaryamong the whites, is compelled to call the names of the individual or firm that is wented, a feet of memory of which only a Chinese operator is capable; and not only, it is said, is he equal to this, but also carries in his mind the probable haunt of the man required should he be unable to ring him up at his regular place of business.

The operators of the Chinatown system are in no relation to the metropolitan office. They are hired and paid by the Chinaman who controls it. The main company install the instruments and keep the wires in repair, allowing their Chinese agent a certain amount for each subscriber, the agent collectthe fills and securing new subscribers.

The San Francisco experiment has proved a successful one financially and is extremely popular among a people even as loath to accept new ideas as Chinamen are; and it is believed that one result of the local experiment will be the early introduction of the telephone throughout the whole Chinese empire as soon as conditions of peace are assured.

## CHINESE SET THE PACE.

Proof That They Used the Greenbuck as Currency Seven Hundred Years Ago.

A financial journal that has been delving into the mysteries of past ages and the histories of other nations quite recently printed a facsimile of a Chinese treasury note of the year 1367, probably the oldest piece of paper money in existence. This note was found last January along with other valuables in a bronze statue of Buddha which stood in a temple within the inclosure of the summer palace of the dowager empress of China. Italian soldiers engaged in looting broke a hole in the base of the figure and the paper money tumbled out along with gold, silver and brass coins, lentils, rice, rolls of prayers, etc. The note was issued, according to the printing on it, "by the board of revenue of Emperor Hung Wu in the year 1367" and its value in stated to be "250 taels" (about \$167). It professed to be "redeemable in ail-

rer bullion." Besides being the oldest known piece of paper money this treasury note makes it clear that Gutenberg was not the first user of movable type. The note was clearly printed with movable type at a date over 100 years. before Gutenberg began to experiment. The German printer was born in 1410, long after the use of movable type in China. It is asserted, in fact, that the Chinese employed movable type as early as the eleventh century. The British museum has a Corean book of 1337. Paper money in Chinadates back to 140 B. C. or earlier. According to Klaproth the earlier bills were made of white stag skin and were a foot square.

Green Corn Soup.

Take six well-filled cars of tender green corn. Run a sharp knife down the rows and split each grain; then with the back of a knife press out the pulp, leaving the hulls on the cob. Scrape from the large to the small end of the cob. Cover the cobs with cold water and boil for half an hour. Strain off the water; there should be at least a pint. Let the water come to a boil again; add the corn pulp and cook until the raw taste has disappeared. Rub through a coarse colander, add seasoning and one pint of hotrich milk. Thicken with a little cornstarch and serve.--Ladies' World, New

#### MAN WHO WANTS AN ISLAND.

Advertisement Thought to Have Been Suggested by Reports About the Isle of Monte Cristo,

AND STREET, ST

His want forms the introduction to an advertisement issued on behalf of a client by a firm in Munich. The notice proceeds thus: "Would buy an island, situated either in the Atlantic or Pacific ocean, or the Mediterranean. Conditions: Healthy, climate not too warm, luxuriant vegetation. Send offers, with price and full particulars, to G. A., 1871, care of G. L. Daube & Co.'s Agency, Munich," says the London Spectator. Recent descriptions of the conver-

sion of the Island of Monte Cristo-

into a rural and marine paradise by an Italian princess may have suggested the desire to set out; but the advertiser's wish to own an island is one which will enlist general sympathy. There are, indeed, very few minds to which some such idea has not occurred. Some, no doubt, entertain it from an egotiatical desire to be monarchs of all they survey, and to own a place in which they can be a law to themselves, if not to other people. But apart from this aspect of the fancy for islands one which might perhaps be gratified by paying the sultan £200,000 in cash for the right to be hospodar or hereditary prince of some lalet in the Aegean, with a picturesque population of current-growers and sponge fishers-there is much to be said for an island domain as a residence. Fancy and imagination do not err in investing these sea-girt seres with exceptional charm.

The last individual who was presented with an island in his own right was a Turk who won what may be termed the international wrestling contest at Constantinople. The sultan was so delighted that it was won. by a true believer that he gave him one of the islets in the Sea of Marmore to have and to hold forever. Why no rich Englishman has yet tried to secure one of the exquisite islands off the coast of Old Iona it is difficult to say. They could probably be bought far more cheaply than those off the coast of Norway, for which there has recently been considerable competition. Those round the English and Scotch shores occasignally come into the market, and

ecidom go long without a purchaser. The owner of Holy island died quiterecently, but Holy island was a family property. The Farne islands are also in private hands, and the owner has succeeded in preserving and restoring the old and interesting bird fauna. One of the smallest of the Channel islands was recently offered for sale. The Calf of Man, mainly devoted to sea fowl and rabbits, was also offered to purchasers. Those on the West Irish coast seem too unproductive to invite habitation, much less ownership. The warm air and Atlantic rains render them unfit for vigorous Anglo-Saxon

Perhaps the best example of an island estate is on the Danish shore. The whole island is the property of a single wealthy Dane, who cultivates its clard, sports in its woods, and fishes. around its shores much as his ancestors did five centuries ago. On it he feeds great flocks of sheep and keeps a pedigree herd of cattle. The steamers call by signal when desired to do socio take on board the produce of his

flocks and herds. His own boats go forth loaded with grain or cheese, or with the game shot in his woods. The whole island is a great game preserve. se well as an agricultural property. for the woods are extensive and full of wild roedeer and pheasants. Hitteren, off the southwest coast of Norway, has an indigenous race of red deer, and many of the Loffoden islands offer some of the best rype shooting in Norway. There is considerable continental. competition when one of these is offered for sale. Germany has few pleasant seaside towns, and little attractive. coast line, in spite of the emperor's belief that his people can now enjoy the "sunshine" by the sea. The result is that Germany has converted the Islandof Sylt, acquired with Holstein, into a marine playground, whence the more ambitious cast longing eyes toward the possession of the more beautiful and wild islets of Scandinavie.

A Portune Waiting.

A fortune awaits the man who will invent a good substitute for leather. Nobody has yet succeeded in approaching it, unless it be an inventor who has just patented a fabric which he proposes to use, in particular, as a material for the inner soles of shoes and boots, though it may be employed for other purposes. It strongly resembles what is known as "split" sole leather, but is much cheaper and claims to be superior, being waterproof, as well as stronger. The manufacturer of this imitation leather uses the fine sole leather dust given off by the buffing rolls used upon sole leather. Hitherto this dust has been a waste product, but the new invention combines it with gum and employs it in this shape to form a coating on one or both sides of canvas or other similar fabric. As it dries, a sprinkling of dry leather dust is added, and the fabric thus treated is passed between rollers, so as to cause the leather dust to be firmly imbedded in the fabric and combined with it. The result is a material that looks much like leather and is very durable.—Saturday Evening Post.

Nothing to Envy.

Tess-Have you seen jour brother's fiancer? Jess-No. but I fancy she's very homely.

"My brother says all her girl friends speak of her in the highest terms."-Philadelphia Press.

# L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS