

PUTS BAN ON WOMEN.

POPE BARS FEMALE VOICES FROM CHURCH CHOIRS.

Operatic Music Included and Only Stately Gregorian Chant Will Be Allowed to Accompany Ceremonies.

The edict has gone forth, and before the Lent comes around the women's choirs and soloists will, like the figured or operatic music which has hitherto so much favored in Catholic churches, become but a memory.

The entire Catholic world will be affected by the order of Pope Pius X. abolishing operatic music and banishing female voices from church choirs, only the stately Gregorian chant will be allowed to accompany the ceremonies of the church.

Many Chicago priests have already begun to train choirs, so that when the archbishop enjoins it the change will go into effect at once.

Bishop McDonald, of the Brooklyn diocese, is the first prelate in the United States to issue an order to his clergy to carry out the edict of the pope to the letter. This was done at a conference of his priests just closed, who were enjoined to begin immediately to make the required changes in the church music.

Archbishop Quigley recently said: "I will not take any action regarding the decree until I consult the priests of the diocese."

The holy father did not intend that his order should go into immediate effect. He issued a second decree allowing the archbishops and bishops ample time to permit the pastors of churches to prepare for the change, so as not to be inconvenienced by the order. Some churches in Chicago already have choirs in training in the Gregorian music and others are beginning to organize choirs for boys and men.

The pope's recent edict, entitled "Motu Proprio," after specifying that only Gregorian music will be allowed, says the singers in church are to take the place of an ecclesiastical choir, a liturgical office, and as women are incapable of exercising such an office, they cannot be admitted to form a part of the choir.

"Whenever," says Pope Pius, "it is necessary to employ the acute voices of sopranos or contraltos, these parts must be taken by boys, according to the most ancient usage of the church."

The piano, drum, cymbals and bells as musical accompaniments come under the ban also. The pope concludes this notable order by requiring bishops and archbishops to institute in their dioceses a special commission, composed of persons competent in sacred music, whose duty it will be to see that the music rendered in the churches conforms to the requirements of the order.

ACT AS HUMAN TEST TUBES

Students of University of Michigan Swallow Poison in the Interest of Science.

The experiments of students, who voluntarily take small quantities of a deadly poison, have commenced in the homeopathic department of the University of Michigan, and 15 members of the Alpha Sigma society are getting their daily "doses." The object of the experiment is to note the effect on the human system of a poison concerning which little is known, and the tests will cover two months at least. The nature of the poison is a secret with Dr. A. E. Ibershoff, who is conducting the experiments. All the students take the same drug.

"Absolutely no reports will be made as to the progress of the experiments, but later we will detail what we shall learn," said Dr. Ibershoff.

From a New York source, however, it is intimated that the drug, which is referred to as a cyanide of caradyl, which is 10,000 times more powerful and deadly than prussic acid. Three grains of it thrown into a theater would kill the whole audience. It is a white powder.

DEATHS RECALL ROMANCES

Passing Away of Caroline, Marchioness of Queensberry, and Earl of Strathmore Noted with Interest.

A recent week was notable for the deaths of two members of the nobility who were interesting both in British history and romance. They were Caroline, marchioness of Queensberry, and the earl of Strathmore. The marchioness made a romantic marriage, which was one of the sensations of the day. She lived in a period when Gretina Green was the goal of loving couples with unsympathetic parents and guardians.

It was in 1840 that the late marchioness eloped with Viscount Drumlanrig, afterwards the seventh earl of Queensberry, riding horseback to Gretina Green, where they were married in the old-fashioned way by the blacksmith of the village. Some years afterwards the marchioness followed his master's example and ran off to Gretina.

Doesn't Want Woman Suffrage. A St. Louis judge says American girls who come to grief by marrying titled foreigners deserve no sympathy. The Chicago Record-Herald remarks that he probably doesn't expect to be running for office when the women get a chance to vote.

Device Against Robbers. Repeated robbing of Paris letterboxes is responsible for a new device connecting the flap with an electric bell, which rings when the flap is raised, and keeps on ringing until it is lowered again.

PEANUTS FOLLOW COTTON

Prices Higher at Present Than in Many Years—Peanuts from Japan.

Peanuts are higher in price than they have been in many years. Just what has caused it is uncertain.

"The boom in cotton did it," declared one of New York's largest wholesale dealers the other day. "The tremendous figures at which many of the southerners sold their cotton last fall and this winter made peanut growers and dealers ambitious to get rich quick, too. Many dealers bought for a rise. And although the price is 'way up now, thousands are confidently holding on for still higher figures."

In ordinary years hundreds of thousands of bushels of Virginia grown Spanish peanuts are exported to southern France, chiefly to Marseilles. There the oil is pressed out of them and is shipped back to America in large quantities under French labels as pure olive oil. This season comparatively few American peanuts have been exported, and the Marseilles pressers have had to rely chiefly on the African peanut, which is by no means so desirable as the Virginia product.

An interesting bit of news in connection with the present situation is the announcement by one of the large dealers that he has recently placed an order for 1,000 bags, or about 3,500 bushels, of Japanese peanuts. These nuts are now supposed to be on their way to America. Peanut growing has in late years become quite an important industry in some parts of Japan, and the Japanese nut is declared by experts to compare very favorably with the American product, both in size and flavor.

FOLDING BED DANGEROUS.

Judicial Recognition of Its Perils from an Appellate Court in New York.

The dangerous character of the common household folding bed has at last received judicial recognition.

The incidents that led up to the ruling began with the purchase by an unsuspecting Brooklynite of a folding bed, guaranteed sound and kind.

So confident was the furniture man of its tractability that he agreed to put it up in a safe condition. Right there was where the seller laid the foundations for trouble.

The bed worked all right for a month—didn't even balk. Then one morning the wife attempted to remove a sheet from it while it was standing open, and the headboard promptly came over and broke her jaw.

Wife and husband both sued the furniture seller, the former for her injuries and the latter for the loss of his wife's services. The supreme court in Kings county dismissed the complaint because the plaintiff failed to show some reason why the bed collapsed.

The appellate division, speaking perhaps from a wider experience with folding beds, has now decided differently. The inference from its decision is that no man can be expected to understand the ways of a folding bed.

At least, the judges have unanimously decided that the case should have gone to the jury and that a new trial must be had.

WAITS YEARS FOR SMOKE.

Odd Manner in Which a Pennsylvania Justice of the Peace Celebrated His Election.

Before a gathering of friends John H. Rock, Sr., the recently elected justice of the peace at Latrobe, Pa., smoked a cigar that had been kept by him for more than 20 years.

In 1884 Mr. Rock was a candidate for justice of the peace, running against the late Henry Oursler. While passing the store of the late Thomas Longergan, he was balled by the latter and called into the store.

"Here, John," said Mr. Longergan, "if a good cigar and I want you to smoke it when you are elected squire."

Mr. Rock took the cigar home and laid it away in a bureau drawer. Election came around, and he was defeated by Mr. Oursler. The cigar was allowed to remain in the drawer for 20 years intervening, or until the recent election, when Mr. Rock again ran for justice and was elected.

REMARKABLE OPERATION.

Surgeons Amputate Part of Body with Crushed Limb and Patient Recovers.

A remarkable antiseptic surgical operation has been achieved at the Port Jervis (N. Y.) hospital in the recovery of Frank Fetters, who lost his right leg and portion of his body.

Fetters is 20 years of age, and his home is in Covington, Ky. In October last he fell from a freight train in the eastern division yard of the Erie railroad, and his leg was crushed close to the body. The hospital surgeons realized that they had an unusual case on hand, but amputated the leg so that the thigh bone was disarticulated at the hip, and much of the surrounding tissue removed.

The patient rallied from the shock and recovered. Recently he was discharged from the hospital, and, having no place to go, was removed to Orange arm, at Goshen. He is able to get about with the aid of crutches.

Where Privates Are Scarce. Four generals were lost by the insurgents down in San Domingo the other day, remarks the Chicago Record-Herald. That, however, didn't cripple the insurgents half as much as they would have been crippled if they had lost a private or two.

CONGRESS HAS PITY.

ALLOWS CLAIM OF SPINSTER WHO WAS ROBBED BY RATS.

Money Was Carefully Hidden Under Carpet Where the Rodents Made a Cozy Nest of the Bills.

Miss Mary Killeulen, spinster of St. Louis, owned \$2,000 in treasury and national bank notes, which she carefully hid beneath the carpet in her bedroom. While she religiously looked under the bed each night to see that no burglar had hidden there, days and weeks and months went by without her looking after the money, as she thought it safe and secure.

Now it seems that her home was infested with rats and mice and one day when she went to procure a five-dollar note from her hoard she was horrified to find that they had discovered the hiding place of her money and had made a nice cozy little nest of it.

The bills were chewed up into fine bits, and some of the particles had been carried away. It was well nigh impossible to find a whole note. Miss Killeulen wept, and then some one told her that the United States treasury would redeem the pieces and issue her good crisp new bills in lieu thereof. She sent them to Washington, but the treasury experts could place out notes to the value of only \$800, and this sum was allowed her.

Her friends and neighbors all knew, however, that she had \$2,000 under the carpet, and so she took her troubles to her congressman, Representative Hamilton. He introduced in the house a measure to reimburse her in the sum of \$1,200.

The house committee on claims took up the measure and after examining all the evidence and viewing the scraps of bills which the treasury would not redeem decided that she was entitled to new notes in the sum of \$1,200 and accordingly it has just authorized a favorable report upon the bill.

LIFTS SELF FROM EARTH.

Young Wisconsin Inventor Uses Electricity and Overcomes Power of Gravity.

An electrical invention by Otto Sieberus, a young business man of Spring Valley, Wis., is said to overcome gravity. By the aid of electricity Mr. Sieberus has succeeded and is enabled to rise from the earth and to raise other objects.

It has been known for centuries that two electrically charged bodies attract or repel each other, according as they are charged with the same or opposite kinds of electricity. It has been more than suspected that gravitation is merely the pull of the earth's electricity. But until now no one has succeeded in so charging a body with electricity that the gravitation would be overcome and the body be free to rise from the earth.

Mr. Sieberus has made a new form of electrical machine and charged his body one day as an experiment, when he noticed that his body was almost without weight. He at once followed this line of experiment and succeeded in getting the electrical charge strong enough to overcome gravitation.

The difficulty remaining is caused by the quick dissipation of the charge; this Mr. Sieberus is seeking to overcome by means of a silk garment. He has taken a caveat at Washington and expects to perfect and patent his invention in time to show it at the world's fair at St. Louis.

GOOD STEAMERS SCARCE.

One Result of the Japan War Likely to Be Noticed on Atlantic Coast.

As far as Japan and Russia are away from Maine and the Atlantic coast, the war now going on between them will affect this part of the country in no small degree, and cause a scarcity of good steamers all along the coast, says the Lewiston (Me.) Journal. Calvin Austin, of Boston, the vice president and general manager of the Eastern Steamship company, says:

"For some time negotiations have been under way between the Eastern Steamship company and a Pacific concern for the purchase of the steamer St. Croix, of the international division of our service, but these have not yet come to any conclusion. Now the demands for boats on the Pacific have become more urgent than ever because of the war between Japan and Russia.

"Every boat that can possibly be bought by these nations will be snapped up for transports. No large steamers will be left for freight and passengers carrying on the Pacific, and the heads of steamship companies there will then have to come to the Atlantic to get steamers here. To supply the demand for boats on the Pacific coast the different companies on this side of the United States may be called upon to supply the demand."

Tea Making Simplified. A demand is springing up among the natives of Ceylon for a new preparation of tea. It is soluble, and there seems to be a question whether its popularity is due to its being more economical or to the ease with which soluble tea is turned into a beverage, as it can be made with warm water only.

German Government Expenses.

The North German Gazette estimates the expenditures of the German empire for 1904 to be \$615,000,000, an increase of \$10,900,000 over last year. A deficit of \$80,000,000 is estimated for this year.

INTRODUCE COTTON TREE.

Grown in Mexico and Is Said to Be Immune Against the Boll Weevil.

The federal department of agriculture has instructed the United States consular agent at Guadalajara, Mexico, to make a thorough investigation of the cotton tree which flourishes in that vicinity, and report fully to Washington. It is evidently the object of the department to introduce the tree into this country, if possible.

The cotton tree is said to be a native of the state of Jalisco, which is one of the smaller divisions on the Pacific side of the neighboring republic. According to Senor Hilario Cuevas, on whose hacienda near Lagos it is being scientifically cultivated, the plant begins bearing when five years old, and continues to be productive for half a century or more. In some instances a single tree has been known to produce as much as 50 pounds of cotton in one season, the fiber being very similar to that of the cotton plant, and adaptable to the same use. It is immune against the boll weevil and all other insect pests, and under proper conditions the growing of it may be immensely profitable.

If the report on the tree warrants such action, the department of agriculture will no doubt take prompt steps toward growing it in the cotton belt of this country. It is hardly likely that the cotton plant we all know so well will be supplanted, but as a part of the campaign against the boll weevil everything should be done which seems to tend toward immunity from that pernicious insect. It may be that the cotton tree will solve the problem. Stranger things have happened.

NEW GEOGRAPHICAL CLOCK.

Invented by a Chicagoan and Indicates Time of Every Part of the World.

An interesting clock was recently completed by Charles D. Davis, of Chicago. Geographical clocks or clocks which indicate the time in every part of the world, are by no means new, but Mr. Davis' invention is said to possess many novel features.

The dial is totally unlike that of the ordinary time recorder. In that it contains 360 marks where the minute marks are usually placed, these marks representing the 360 degrees on the earth's surface. On the outer circle of the dial, where the 12 hour representations are usually placed, are 24 figures representing the full day. The minutes are denoted by marks on the outer circle, but two dots are required for five minutes, because there are twice as many characters on the face as on the ordinary clock.

The dial is divided in the center from the six mark to the opposite six mark. The 12 hours of the day are distinguished by light spaces and the remaining 12 hours by dark spaces. The hour hand is stationary at the point which is made the central time, while the minute hand revolves as on the ordinary clock.

To determine the time it is only necessary to locate the city or country on the red dial and read the time in relation to it as on an ordinary clock.

YOUTH WHO ABHORS MEAT

This Ohio Boy Has Never Tasted Flesh in His Life and Is Well and Strong.

Hubert Bretz, the 16-year-old son of William H. Bretz, a well-to-do merchant of Celina, O., has never eaten meat in any shape or tasted soup or anything else containing meat.

The boy is a vegetarian in the strictest sense, and his diet has been chiefly potatoes. These he eats three times a day. While he sometimes indulges in fruit, he has no particular love for it. No one has ever taught him to abhor meat. His dislike has been intuitive since boyhood. As a child, his parents say, he would shudder at the sight of a piece of meat, and when he grew older he refused to eat it. Despite his vegetarian diet, he has never been ill a day in his life and his father declares that he was never afflicted with the ordinary diseases of childhood, such as whooping-cough, measles and scarlet fever. This is in the face of the fact that his meat-eating sister, five years his junior, has had all the complaints and has never been isolated from her. He is of above the average strength for boys of his age.

Sent to Prison in a Hurry. A new record for the trial of a jury case was made in Judge Taylor's division of the criminal court in St. Louis, when Otis Percely, charged with stealing \$12 from Rufus Phillips, was tried in 21 minutes and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary after the jury had been out 20 minutes. Phillips told his story in four minutes. The cross-examination required four minutes. Percely testified six minutes. Neither attorney argued the case and Judge Taylor took one minute to charge the jury.

One of the Horrors. The terrors of the war in the far east have not yet been all enumerated, says the Washington Star. It is affecting our current vocabulary, even as the Boer war injected many new words into the language of the day. The latest importation is now displayed to describe the choking of the harbor of New York by ice. "Brooklyn Vladivostoked," is supposed to be the very finish of linguistic style.

Some Believed Him. A burglar captured in Chicago claimed to be a New York detective. There is naturally quite a difference of opinion, remarks the Chicago Daily News, as to whether he was telling the truth or not.

PLAN TO END WAR.

AMERICAN SUGGESTS INTERCESSION BY UNITED STATES.

Consul at St. Petersburg Explains His Proposition—Says Czar Would Gladly Accept Our Good Offices.

There may come soon to the United States an opportunity for bringing to an end the war between Russia and Japan. That opportunity, if duly taken advantage of by the American executive, will result in removing all danger of misunderstanding between Washington and St. Petersburg, and in cementing the friendly relations which are traditional of the two countries. By one stroke the United States can do Russia a good turn and can benefit herself and the world at large.

This is the opinion of a hardheaded, practical man of business with exceptional advantages of forming a seasoned judgment. He is W. E. Smith, the consul general of the United States in St. Petersburg, who is at present in London. Mr. Smith says that Russia was surprised into war. Three weeks before the rupture of diplomatic relations a contract had been entered into for the electric lighting of Port Arthur. Russia could not now help going on with the fighting, but once she gained a victory on land her prestige would admit of her listening to pourparlers for peace. "Then," said Mr. Smith, "let the United States step in and proffer her good offices. Washington can do what no other government could attempt. It would not be a mistake, far from it, if the president were to send a special ambassador to St. Petersburg. He would be persona gratissima at the Russian court. The czar would meet him more than half way." Mr. Smith deplored the suspicions of Russia which appeared to be prevalent among a portion of the American press.

Some Americans seemed unable to understand the Muscovite diplomacy, just as the Russians were puzzled by the American straight-from-the-shoulder methods. Allowances ought to be made on both sides for the differences in national temperament. "It is in the interest of the United States," he continued, "to remain on the best of terms with Russia. As it is I think there is a deal of exaggeration in the reports sent to English papers of American sympathy for the Japanese. I do not question the existence of such sympathy, but I do believe the English correspondents magnify it in order to minimize the fact that among Americans there are many good friends of Russia."

Speaking of conditions in Russia, Mr. Smith said he had just heard in letters from St. Petersburg that the current expenses over and above the military estimate in the budget amounted to \$1,750,000 daily. He did not think Russia would need to have recourse to a foreign loan, but an internal loan probably would be necessary, but this would be easily raised, for there was a tremendous amount of money in the country. Moscow alone could furnish a good many millions.

ODD MARRIAGE RECORD.

Matrimonial Ventures of an Indiana Woman—Has Had Seven Husbands and They 21 Wives.

Miss Sophia Denton, of New Albany, Ind. (she still claims her maiden name), a belle of Jackson county in the early '50s, has a marriage record that is unsurpassed. She has been married seven times, and her seven husbands have been married on an average of three times each.

The record has been brought to light by New Albany attorneys, who are prosecuting a pension claim for the woman. She is now 73 years old, and is for the seventh time a widow. Her home is in Jackson county, near Brownstown, and her entire life has been spent in Scott and Jackson counties. The attorneys decline to give her present name.

One of the peculiar features of the remarkable marriage record is that each time the woman has been married under her maiden name, Sophia Denton. It is known that at least three of her husbands have died.

She has drawn pensions at different times as the widow of two of her husbands, and her application for a third pension has brought about the present investigation.

NEW ADVERTISING SCHEME.

A Pennsylvania Minister Startles a Town, But Attracts a Crowd to Basketball Game.

Perched on the seat of an undertaker's dead wagon, which was belted with glaring streamers announcing a basketball game the other night before a Philadelphia team and a local five, Rev. Julius F. Seebach, pastor of St. John's English Lutheran church of Mahanoy City, Pa., attracted considerable attention as he guided the high-spirited horses through the city streets.

As a result of this novel method of advertising indoor athletics a record-breaking audience turned out to witness the contest. The manager of the basketball team is a member of St. John's church, and worked hard for the success of a bazaar recently held in aid of the church fund.

A Certain Cure.

The Chicago Daily News remarks that the eastern man who has not slept for 15 years should join the New York detective force and get relief.

A CURIOUS EXPERIMENT.

Washington Man Trying to Raise Emus in an Incubator—Result Eagerly Awaited.

A curious experiment is being tried in Washington, D. C., the result of which is awaited eagerly by persons interested in natural history. Several of the bon emus and brown pelicans at the national zoo have laid a number of eggs recently, which Keeper Blackburn was careful to preserve and send to a bird dealer, who has placed them in an incubator and is now awaiting results. In the magnificent aviary of Sir Walter Rothschild, at Tring, England, large broods of young emus are hatched and raised every year. Although the adult bird is very somber colored, the young are quite attractive, being of a light reddish cream color with very distinct dark stripes running from head to tail, a marking which they lose as they grow older. Although Sir Walter has found little difficulty in raising ostriches, emus, rheas, and tinamous in England, strange to say, the cassowaries in his aviaries and parks rarely lay eggs, and he has not succeeded thus far in raising any of them.

If the incubation of the egg above mentioned prove successful the zoo will have some further additions to the young born there during the past season. The young tapir born early last spring is now almost full grown, and has lost every trace of its youthful stripes; the baby monkey, born about January 1, is in fine condition and growing at a famous rate, and the two nyctalgawans are now as large as their mother, and beginning to take on the black color of the adult male.

EX-SECRETARIES OF WAR.

They Held a Reunion When Secretary Taft Visited the Senate Recently.

There was a reunion of ex-secretaries of war the other day in a corner of the senate chamber. Secretary Taft, entering with his black derby hat swinging in one hand and still clad in his heavy overcoat as he took a seat on the large red sofa, was the occasion thereof.

Senator Lodge escorted the war secretary on his friendly visit to the chamber. Soon Senator Elkins, of West Virginia, approaching, extended a glad hand to the former governor of the Philippines. Senator Elkins held the war portfolio from December, 1891, to the close of the Harrison administration. The West Virginian is mighty of stature, but Judge Taft plainly outmeasured him. Then Senator Proctor, of Vermont, who has been doubtful that Judge Taft weighs 340 pounds, as reported, came near to a greeting. He was Mr. Elkins' immediate predecessor as head of the war department. The Vermont is tall and rather heavy set, but Judge Taft, by standing on tiptoe, could look over his head. "He is much broader than I am, too," mused Mr. Proctor, convinced that the reports of Judge Taft's avoirdupois had not been exaggerated.

A little later Senator Alger, secretary of war during much of President McKinley's administration, joined the distinguished party.

MICROBE AS CANCER CURE

French Scientist Claims He Has Found Remedial Germ for the Disease.

Dr. Loven has just communicated to the Academie des Sciences of Paris, a monograph on the subject of cancer, treating of the use of a microbe as a toxin, the name known as micrococcus neo-formans, the presence of which was remarked some years ago in neoplastic tumors of rapid development. Twenty-one cases, it is claimed, were cured by means of the injection and 47 cases are under observation.

At a meeting of the Academie des Sciences Prof. Berthelot communicated the results of fresh experiments with radium by Dr. Pihalski at the museum. After 54 hours' exposure to the action of a tube of radium the venom of a viper in solution was so affected that a guinea pig might be inoculated with a strong dose of the poison without the slightest danger. The longer the poison is exposed to the action of radium the weaker it becomes.

WOMAN ACCEPTS A CALL.

Daughter of German Officer to Fill English Pulpit After Completing Studies at Oxford.

In this era of what males would call feminine invasions of their particular spheres, it is not surprising to learn that at length the woman minister of the Gospel should follow the female doctor. The town of Leicester is to make the first experiment. In June Miss Gertrude Von Petzold, who has taken the degree of master of arts, will complete three years' study for the ministry at Mansfield college, Oxford. The Leicester Unitarian church has given a unanimous call to her, she has accepted, and will become pastor of the congregation. She was born 28 years ago in Thom, Prussia. She is the daughter of a German officer.

Determined to enter upon theological studies, she went first to St. Andrew's university, Scotland, then to Oxford. Those who have heard her preach speak highly of her powers.

Marconi's Niche of Fame.

Marconi has now reached the pinnacle of fame, says the New York Tribune. He is going to have his picture on one of the new Italian postage stamps. He will have a strange sensation every time he looks on a king, or a sensation which few men have had, for kings, of course, don't have to use stamps, or, at least, don't have to do their own licking.