

GERMAN WOMEN WORKERS.

Move to Shorten Working Hours Meets with Vicious Protest from Employers.

The German Society for Social Reform has petitioned the federal legislature of Germany to pass an act to regulate the working time of females over 16 years of age who work in factories or industrial establishments.

"That the present maximum day of 11 hours be reduced to ten hours for such employes, and to nine hours on days preceding Sundays or holidays.

"That where the authorities permit overtime, the work shall not extend 12 hours a day, and on Saturdays not over nine hours, and should stop by 7:30 p. m.

"That the dinner pause at noon be extended to one and a half hours, the shortening of this pause to be allowed by the public authorities only after they have consulted the female employes upon the subject.

"That women be not allowed to work in factories or similar occupations until six weeks after confinement, nor during the fortnight following the six weeks, unless a physician's certificate permits it.

RHODODENDRONS WASTED.

Native Woods Are Devastated to Plant the Millionaire's Hillside.

There is one plant which everybody knows and appreciates, viz., rhododendron. Small wonder that every millionaire wants to own a hillside and cover it with rhododendrons, for they are the most gorgeous flowering hardy shrubs the world has ever known.

But alas! they perish by the carload, too. And one of the cruellest things a man can do is to drag up rhododendrons, asales or laurel from the woods, transplant them with no more care than a delicate shrub receives, put them in full sunlight and watch them sicken and die.

Mollere Under Nemesis.

Henceforth even the commemoration tablet cannot be accepted as conclusive evidence of the fact which it records. The discovery has just been made, says the London Globe, that there are two houses in Paris marked with tablets relating that "in this house Mollere was born."

Hay-Loft in Automobile Barn.

A Philadelphian who has a country house near his home city recently acquired an automobile. For its proper accommodation he built a barn near his house. When the structure was completed a party of friends invited to inspect it noticed that the barn was a two-story building.

Dwindling British Army.

By next January, says the London Mail, the Royal Field artillery in the United Kingdom, numbering 95 batteries, will be in such a condition that in case of war two batteries would have to unite to form one efficient battery for service in the field.

Sure Sign.

She—I know there's something I've forgotten to buy. He—That's what I thought. She—Why did you think so? He—Because you have some money left.—Stray Stories.

GREAT CITY FOR TWINS.

In Proportion to Its Total of Births Omaha Has a Vary Large Percentage.

Omaha has the distinction of having a larger percentage of twins born than in any other city in the west. In 1904 the births were 1,835. In this number there were 27 pairs of twins and one assortment of triplets.

"Twins are almost heredity. That is, the tendency to produce twins runs in families. Sometimes it skips a generation or two, but I have seldom known a case of twins or triplets where there had not been twins or double births on either the father's or mother's side of the family."

There is a family in Omaha in which the father and the mother were each one of twins. Although they rejoice in a family of five children, there are no twins among them, much to relief of both parents. "That's all right," said the mother. "Twins look cute when they are dressed up and out on the street in a carriage. My mother persisted in dressing my twin sister and myself exactly alike until we married and could choose our own clothes. And every time we went down town to get things we could hear people saying: 'Oh, just look at those twins. Don't they look alike?' And to crown it all, my husband proposed to my twin sister one night on the front porch in the twilight. Of course, he thought it was me; but it was embarrassing just the same."

"You are right, twins are no joke," said her husband. "I was always getting licked for what my twin brother did when we were kids. Even now it makes us lots of trouble, our resemblance. We travel over much the same territory, although he has a different line from what I carry, and people are constantly mistaking us for each other."

PIE FOR INJURED WOMAN.

A Native Massachusetts Housewife Offered It as a Substitute for Whisky.

Last fall an English woman of letters was staying as the guest of an elderly lady at a country house in western Massachusetts. While they were driving one afternoon they had the misfortune to meet the omnipresent automobile at a sharp turn of the road. The horses, being spirited, shied, dashing the carriage against a tree and throwing its occupants out into the road.

The English woman picked herself up uninjured, but was horrified to see her aged hostess lying on the ground unconscious. Running to a nearby farmhouse, she knocked for some time before she finally succeeded in bringing a sun-bonneted woman to the door.

"A lady has been hurt—thrown from a carriage. She is lying down there in the road. Can you give me some whisky for her?" cried the visitor, in breathless anxiety.

"Well, no, we don't never keep no whisky," said the native-born after some deliberation. "Would the lady like a piece of pie?"

Weather Reports Save Money.

In spite of the standing joke about the weather man, it is probable that for every dollar spent on the weather bureau \$10 are saved. At the time of the Mississippi flood of 1897 \$15,000,000 worth of live stock and other valuable property were saved as a result of warnings issued a week ahead. Signals displayed for a single hurricane have detained in port vessels valued, with the cargoes, at \$20,000,000. The West Indian stations, established in 1898, inform us of hurricanes as soon as they begin. The course of the hurricane that caused the Galveston flood was charted for a week before it struck our shores—hurricanes move slowly. Eighty-five per cent. of the forecasts now come true, and by the aid of rural free delivery 25,000,000 forecast cards were distributed last year to farmers, many of whom could not have had them five years ago.—Country Life in America.

Catchy Music the Thing.

"A catchy melody," says a promoter of musical shows, "will do more to make a musical piece go than all the incidental business and show girls in creation." To give a new turn to an old saying, the tune's the thing. The words of hardly any of the popular songs are worth memorizing. In most cases they are either stupid or vulgar. It is the same with the old-fashioned Italian opera; the libretto is wretched, but the melodies, like beauty itself, are a joy forever.—Boston Transcript.

Gold Output of the Rand.

Rand gold mines were rather slow in recovering from the Boer war, but they are now turning out more gold than ever before. The July production of a little more than \$9,000,000 was the largest on record for any one month, and the production of the last nine months is almost exactly equal to the production of the last full year before the Boer war broke out. The production is now proceeding at the rate of more than \$100,000,000 a year.—Philadelphia Record.

Decimal System in England.

John Bull bids fair to learn of France and be wise concerning the decimal system. An important step toward England's adoption of a decimal system of weights and measures was taken by the board of trade, which, in response to a request of the association of the chambers of commerce, has authorized weights of 20 pounds, 10 pounds and five pounds as aliquot parts of the cental.

DEROULEDE TO THE FORE.

No Longer Exiled, He May Become the Frenchman of the Hour—Announces Position.

Paris.—There is every indication that the notoriety loving patriot Derooulede will return from exile in the position of picturesque eminence which has several times gained for him the attention of his countrymen. He announces his position on the great question of the hour, and as he may easily become in a week the most prominent Frenchman in the country his views are worth noting. He says:

"A German recently had a strange idea to come and ask me this question: 'What would you think of a Franco-German rapprochement?' I replied: 'I think such an eventuality would be eminently desired by you. Germany possesses continental military supremacy; Great Britain possesses maritime supremacy. Whenever on leaving Great Britain, we go over to you we should be giving you, together with the support of our fleet, the markets of our colonies, the aid of our money and the help of our trade; that is to say, the maritime supremacy you covet so much. Now for my part I should just as soon that there should continue to be two preponderant nations in the world, one on land and one on sea, and I see no necessity for procuring for you a triumph that would put into your hands also two forces before which other nations would be of no account. So I am hostile to a Franco-German understanding because it is favorable to German interests.'"

TOURS THE EARTH AT 107

Aged Roumanian Jew Reaches London—Would End Days in Sacred Air of Jerusalem.

London.—A remarkable personage has arrived from Canada, Lajof Hopeljir by name. He is a Roumanian Hebrew, and has reached the patriarchal age of 107 years. He has the distinction of having lived in three centuries.

His extraordinary vitality is shown by the fact that some time ago he determined to go to Canada to see his three sons, who settled there three years ago. The eldest of the three has passed his eighty-eighth year.

The old father, who shows wonderful mental and physical vigor, was accompanied from Canada by David Groff, who, although 66, is looked upon by the centenarians as quite a young man.

Groff states that the patriarch stoof the voyage very well, enjoying his meals and taking an interest in what was passing on the liner. Every day he appeared on deck, where he lay dozing in the sun.

After a short stay in London the old man will proceed to Jaffa and thence to Jerusalem in fulfillment of the ambition he has long cherished to end his days there.

BRITAIN GAINS IN FINANCE.

Expenditures Increase from \$515,000,000 to \$750,000,000—Taxes \$155,000,000 in 1904-'05.

London.—Many striking facts in relation to the conditions of life and progress of the United Kingdom during the last 15 years are contained in the annual statistical abstract just issued. It covers the period from 1890-'1 to 1904-'5. The imperial expenditure has risen in that period from \$515,000,000 to \$750,000,000. The property and income tax which in 1890-'91 yielded \$65,250,000, had to furnish last year \$155,250,000.

The total of incomes on which this tax is paid has risen in 13 years from \$2,685,151,000 to \$3,075,000,000, and even that enormous sum is not the full extent of the income which the inhabitants of the United Kingdom received in 1904-'05 as one year's proceeds from their property and work. The total gross income for that year was estimated by the inland revenue department at \$450,200,000. The British exports have risen in value from \$1,315,000,000 in 1890 to \$1,500,700,000. Apportioned by population, however, this apparent increase works out really a reduction of a penny per capita. It is also pointed out that while 15 years ago British shipping had a gross tonnage of 11,150,000 tons, now it has risen to 16,295,000 tons.

PLUMBER STRIKES IT RICH.

Excavating for Windmill, Lucky Worker Uncovers a Potful of Gold Coins.

Salisbury, Md.—R. McKenney Price, the well-known plumber and contractor of this city, has struck it rich in Virginia. A few weeks ago Mr. Price while excavating for the foundation of a windmill, struck something hard about three feet below the surface.

Investigation disclosed an old iron pot. He hauled the pot out and found it filled with gold coins of various denominations and of various nationalities.

The money was found on the old home place of the very well-known Drummond family of the eastern shore of Virginia. The family was immensely wealthy, and when war broke out the male members who were old enough went into the confederate army. Before leaving for the war it is supposed the head of the family buried the gold for safe keeping.

Lucky Incident.

Compilers of statistics assert that 21,250,000 buffaloes were killed on the plains of Kansas between the years 1860 and 1887. It seems almost providential that they were killed off. They might have taken the state by this time.

TO RIVAL BIG PARK.

AUTHOR WANTS GREAT OUT-ING PLACE IN COLORADO.

Yellowstone Will Take a Bear Seat If Plans of Hamlin Garland Prove Successful—Calls It "National Playground."

Denver, Col.—If Hamlin Garland, the well-known author, has his way, Colorado will be the site of a national park rivaling the Yellowstone. Mr. Garland is in Colorado for a few weeks in the summer for the double purpose of securing local color for a new story and of working up the scheme for a great park which shall contain 1,000,000 or more acres, and which shall be under the direct protection of the government.

"Of all the states in the union," said Mr. Garland, "Colorado is the most wonderful—and that, by the way, is a great concession for a Wisconsin man to make. It is a state too fine to be given over to vandalism, greed, or anything else of the kind. After a visit to the state several years ago I took up with Gifford Pinchot and others of the national bureau of forestry, the plan of setting apart a large tract of mountainous country in the White River region for a national playground. The scheme met with decided favor among the authorities at Washington, but they were afraid that it would not be approved by the people of Colorado. Now I find that there is considerable sentiment here also for a movement of that kind, and when I return east I shall again begin agitating the subject.

"Of course the White river plateau does not possess geysers and the various other freaks which make the Yellowstone notable. It is, nevertheless, possessed of scenery which in many cases is far ahead of anything to be found in the Wyoming basin. I am sure that all the people of Colorado have to do is to consent to the use of a part of their domain for this purpose, and the government will take up the matter at once."

The White river plateau is one of the finest natural bits of country in the whole of Colorado. On the western slope of the divide, and as yet unsettled, it covers more than 3,000 square miles of snow-capped peaks and mountain valleys whose scenery is unequalled in the entire west.

ENGLISH PAUPERS FEWER.

Statistics Show Number Is Decreasing Monthly—Indoor Pauperism in London Increasing.

London.—Pauperism in England and Wales appears to be on the decline, for in the three months ending June 30 there was no less than a monthly decrease of roughly ten thousand cases of relief.

The figures which are contained in a report issued by the local government board, are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Indoor paupers, Outdoor paupers, Total. Rows for April, May, June.

If the paupers had borne the same proportion to estimated population at the end of June, 1905, as they did in the same period in 1875, 1885, and 1895, respectively, the numbers would have been as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Indoor pauperism, Outdoor pauperism. Rows for 1875, 1885, 1895.

Indoor pauperism continues to show a general increase, the number of this class of paupers relieved being 3.9 per cent higher at the end of June, 1905, than at the corresponding date in 1904. The rate per 1,000 of the population of indoor pauperism was higher than in any of the preceding forty years.

While there has been a general decline in pauperism in almost every other part of the country, London showed an increase of 1.5 per thousand over the rate in each of the corresponding months of the previous year.

WAITRESS WEDS RICH MAN

Romance of Hotel Table Ends in Betrothal—Bride Married Once Before.

Des Moines, Ia.—Romance, pure and undiluted, will find realization here when Paul De Fries, a wealthy ranch and mine owner of Arizona, will lead to the altar a poor hotel waitress, in the person of Fanny Freuberg.

De Fries is the owner of valuable properties, and besides draws a salary of \$12,500 a year for looking after the mining properties of other people. Happening in Des Moines a few weeks ago he chanced to stop at the Chamberlain hotel, where Miss Freuberg was employed. Miss Freuberg is a beautiful young woman, and De Fries was smitten.

Miss Freuberg is now at the home of her parents in a near-by village, making preparations for the wedding. Miss Freuberg was married once, but the marriage lottery drew a prize which she got rid of in a suit of divorce. Two little girls have been maintained in a private school from their mother's scanty wages.

CHARACTER AS AN ASSET.

It Has Much to Do with a Man's Credit and Standing in the Business World.

"Did you ever stop to think just how much character has to do with a man's credit in the business world?" asked a man of the Milwaukee Sentinel. "While it is not regarded as good business principle from a banker's standpoint to loan money out without sufficient and good property security, still it is done a great many times. A man will enter a bank's doors with the request for a loan and if he is sized up as honest and possessed of business acumen he will hardly ever fail to get credit for any reasonable amount.

"That is not so true in the east as it is out west. In the east a different atmosphere prevails, while in the west men of means will take a man's character as his principal asset. That fact has had a great deal to do with the development of the country. In Scotland, I am told, a man with a good character and known to possess business ability can secure any reasonable amount of money to start in business without giving any security other than his promissory note.

"The same principle prevails to a great extent in selling goods on the road. Some houses will not deliver an order unless the buyer is rated highly. But I have sold many an order and at the same time written my house that the buyer is all right, although his financial standing is not known. The house will often take the salesman's word for it.

"Of course, sometimes the man who risks on no security comes out at the little end of the horn. But it is the exception rather than the rule."

BRITISH MUSEUM'S BOOKS.

Reading-Room Constantly Crowded by Students Investigating Various Subjects.

In the reading-room of the British Museum the desks are crowded with students all day long, and in addition to the books of reference, some 20- in number, which fill the open shelves of the room, from 3,000 to 4,000 volumes are given out every day. Theology in a wide sense, including the Bible, Biblical literature, church history and works on the religious rites and ceremonies of all races and creeds, is easily at the head of the list, with about 300 volumes. Topography comes next, with about 20 fewer, and of these books on London amount to a quarter, books on English topography to another quarter, the other half being for the rest of the world. History and biography come next, English history being mostly in demand, and books on France and the French provinces second.

Essays, criticisms and miscellaneous literature take the fourth place, and are followed by fiction—not less than five years old—moral philosophy, poetry and the fine arts, the drama, law and philology, political economy and so on down to politics, mathematics and chemistry, which have about 40 volumes apiece, and, lastly, work on naval and military subjects, which seldom have more than three or four volumes each. It is a curious list, and throws a useful light on the sort of studies taken up by the readers in the museums.

DECLINE OF MOTOR-CYCLE.

The Machine Is Not Meeting with Practical Requirements in England.

Consul Mabin, of Nottingham, England, writes that efforts to overcome the unpopularity of the motor bicycle, because of its failure to meet every condition of road travel, have proved unsuccessful. The consul says:

"The chief promise of the motor cycle rested in the expectation that these objectionable points would eventually be eliminated. But they have not been, and the expectation that they will be is fading away. Consequently, those who have the machines are growing anxious to sell them at any procurable price, while those who have none are beyond temptation to buy at almost any figure. The result, of course, is a collapse in market prices. New motor bicycles, which a year ago sold at \$75, are now offered at \$125. Several firms, formerly engaged extensively in making motor cycles, have entirely abandoned that branch. As might be expected, the ordinary bicycle is in correspondingly high favor. The output of factories is large at present and prices are firm. These conditions are not likely to be disturbed unless the motor cycle should be so radically improved as to remedy its present serious faults."

Antique Wager.

In the Gentleman's Magazine, an old English publication, for 1750, appears the following: "On Wed. 29 (August) at seven in the morning was decided at Newmarket a remarkable wager for 1,000 guineas (5,000) laid by Theobald Taaf, Esq., against the earl of March and Lord Eglington, who were to provide a four-wheel carriage with a man in it to be drawn by four horses 19 miles an hour; it was performed in 53 minutes and 27 seconds." Each of the horses was ridden by a jockey, and only harnessed to the carriage by loose straps. Between the hind wheels sat another jockey, who guided the carriage by moving a handle like that of the modern bicycle.

Judging by Remarks.

He—Is the captain's parrot a good sailor? She—Well, he may be a good sailor, but from his conversation I think he'd be a pretty bad parrot.—Yonkers Statesman.

WOMAN AND THE ARTISTS.

Modern Culture Resulting in Over-development of the Feminine Head.

A certain artist, who, being wiser than his kind, has concealed his name, says that he can no longer get suitable models for the female figure, because all of the women of to-day have heads too large for their bodies. He lives in hope, states the New York Sun, that the increasing popularity of athletics will develop the bodies till the old-fashioned proportions admired by the sculptors of Greece shall be restored. He believes that the overdevelopment of the feminine head is due to modern culture.

He is a brave man indeed who dares to accuse the women of to-day of having by reason of their learning developed swelled heads. But his view of the entire matter is asked. The Greek woman's head was too small; that is the real state of the case. She was, as a type, ignorant, unlearned, untrained in the use of the brain. One small head could easily carry all she knew, with room to spare.

What this artist and all the rest of his kind should do is to remodel their ideas about models. Let them stop worrying about the Greeks and carve in immortal marble the genius of American womanhood. There is nothing whatsoever the matter with the women of to-day. She is most particularly and generally all right. She is the very best that ever was.

JOHN SEEKS EDUCATION.

Chinesean Offers to Teach Co-Eds to Cook Chop Suey for Tuition.

A knowledge of oriental cuisine, the art of dishing up a delectable bird's nest, or of making toothsome yocums, is not a sufficient foundation for a student who wishes to try for a high college degree, says the Chicago Inter Ocean.

At least, this is what Willie Woo, a Mongolian chop suey chef, who has a restaurant at 5502 Lake avenue, learned at the University of Chicago recently. Willie wants to become a college man, and has taken a notion that he would like to have an A. B. or Ph. B. written after his name.

He went to see one of Dr. Harper's deans, and endeavored to argue the Midway pedagogy into letting him register in the department of "household science."

The dean cross-questioned him on his preparatory school work in China, and found that the celestial had specialized in the alphabet too little and had spent too much of his time in the kitchen.

Willie offered to teach co-eds how to make chop suey for his tuition, and when the dean refused him admission he was very much disappointed.

Willie says he went to school all his life in China, and that he would have gone to college in his native land had he not taken advantage of reduced rates and come to this country.

FINE FEATHERS ON HIRE.

Coster Girls of London Can't Afford to Buy Them, But Must Wear Them.

Ostrich plumes are as much of a necessity to the London coster girl on her outings as are the pearl buttons to her masculine companion, and the big trimmed hats with their drooping feathers are familiar in all gatherings of this class.

Many of the girls cannot afford to keep their money tied up in useless plumes, and there thrives a brisk industry in the hiring of these feathers. The loan of a single plume for a day costs but a shilling, or for four shillings a gorgeous trio may be had for outing, to be returned promptly the next morning.

Weather conditions determine the terms somewhat, since a wet or foggy day will take the curl out of the feathers and make recurling necessary, for which "Arriet" has to pay an extra shilling.

On a bank holiday some snops rent out several hundred plumes, while on other occasions there is a steady trade with young women who wish to adorn themselves for an outing.

Remarkable Postscript.

Miss Carey Thomas, the president of Bryn Mawr college, talked at luncheon about the ingenuousness of children.

"A friend of mine," she said, "once showed me a letter that her little son had written her from Andover. The letter ran like this:

"Dear Mother: I am well and I hope you are well. Will you please send me \$2? I know the last did not last long, but it is all spent now, and I need \$2 badly. I hope you are well. I am well. Please do not forget \$2."

"Then there was this postscript: 'I was ashamed to ask for money so soon after the last you sent that I sent after the postman to get this letter back, but it was too late, he had gone.'—San Antonio Express.

Valuable Canine.

"Henry," said Mrs. Peck. "Mr. Smith's dog came very near biting me this afternoon. I was awfully frightened, and it's up to you to do something about it."

"I will, my dear," replied Peck. "I'll see Smith the first thing in the morning, and if he doesn't ask too much for the dog I'll buy him."—Chicago Daily News.

Showed It.

Friend—I suppose the babe is fond of you? Papa—Fond of me? Why, he sleeps all day when I'm not at home, and stays up all night just to enjoy my society!—Town and Country.