

HIS PATENT CURES

MEDICINES ARE PUT ON SAME BASIS AS LIQUOR.

Internal Revenue Department Dealers Manufacturers Must Pay Rectifier's License—Druggists to Pay a Saloon Tax.

Washington.—Manufacturers of patent medicines which contain distilled liquors have been put upon the same plane as rectifiers and liquor dealers.

The commissioner of internal revenue has given a decision here which brought about this new status of the patent medicine maker and seller.

The commissioner, in a letter of instruction to collectors of internal revenue, says that there are many compounds on the market going under the names of medicines that are composed chiefly of distilled spirits, without the addition of drugs or medicines in sufficient quantities to change materially the character of the whisky.

He authorizes collectors to impose the special tax upon manufacturers of every compound composed of distilled spirits, even though drugs are declared to have been added thereto.

"The same ruling," declares the commissioner, "applies to every alcoholic compound labeled as a remedy for diseases and containing, in addition to distilled spirits, only substances or ingredients which, however large their quantity, are not of a character to impart any medicinal quality to the compound."

Collectors are instructed to send out notices to all druggists and merchants dealing in proprietary medicines, that after December 1 they will be required to pay the special tax as liquor dealers.

While no statement is made by the commissioner as to the medicines that will be affected, it is believed that the decision reaches several prominent and highly advertised medicines. In all instances these medicines have been found to contain as high as 45 per cent. of alcohol, and there are many on the market, it is said, that contain 25 per cent. of alcohol.

These medicines are said to have immense sales in prohibition communities. Figures collected in Massachusetts recently showing that one such advertised compound with a high percentage of whisky had been bought to the extent of 300,000 bottles in one year in prohibition communities of one New England state.

ALICE PLUNGES INTO TANK

President's Daughter Leaps in Water When Congressman Longworth Fails to Take Dare.

Honolulu.—The transport Sheridaa brings a story of how Alice Roosevelt, fully dressed, dived into a canvas bathing tank while on the steamship Manchuria one morning on her way from Nagasaki.

"Congressman Longworth," she remarked, "if you will take a plunge dressed as you are, I will follow suit."

Longworth, who was arrayed in a blue coat, flannel trousers and white duckboots, shrugged his shoulders.

"Well, if you don't dare, I do," said Miss Roosevelt, and before a dozen members of the Taft party could protest, Miss Roosevelt had tossed her parasol aside, and dressed as she was leaped into the tank.

"Don't you take a dare?" she shouted to Longworth as she arose to the surface, and started to swim as gracefully as her bedraggled clothing would allow.

This bantering was too much for the Cincinnati man, and he plunged into the tank to help Miss Roosevelt to steps, where they both climbed up and out of the water.

Fate of Greedy Rattler.

In Ozark county, Missouri, the other day a large rattlesnake was found imprisoned between two rails of a fence. The snake had come upon a flock of young quail, caught one of the birds and swallowed it. The survivors ran to the other side of the fence, where upon the snake crawled between the rails until it caught another quail, which it swallowed. The result was that the snake, owing to the bulge made by the first morsel, was unable to move forward and because of the second protuberance was unable to get back. Thus its greed led to its death.

Statues While You Wait.

Machinery has threatened the noble hand trade of the sculptor. A Neapolitan has invented a sculpturing device, whose motive power is steam or electricity, which they say can do the work of 20 first-class sculptors. One of the machines has reached New York, but is the subject of a lawsuit against the purchaser of the American rights from a "sculpture syndicate." When this is settled and the machines get to work every town in the country can become an art center.

The Busiest Man.

A Chicago automobile club has elected an official surgeon. That man won't have time to breathe, if he takes care of all the members.

PITTSBURG SHY ON BIRTHS

Smoky City Leads in Race Suicide, According to Figures by City Physician Booth.

Pittsburg, Pa.—A table of births and deaths in Pittsburg during the last 14 years, prepared by Dr. B. A. Booth, city physician for the bureau of health, shows a startling decrease in the number of births notwithstanding a large increase in population.

"The figures show race suicide is a fact," Dr. Booth said, "and I think more so in Pittsburg than any of the larger cities of the country. There is also another feature. At the present advanced age the physicians save 50 per cent. more babies than they did ten years ago. The advance made in science has reduced the loss of cases to the minimum. Taking this into consideration, together with the increase in population and such a decided decrease in the birth rate, it shows that something is radically wrong. President Roosevelt is right in his theories on race suicide."

In 1891 there were 7,067 births, the rate a thousand being 28.61. In the same year there were 5,832 deaths, the rate a thousand being 23.61. The table is complete to the end of 1904, which shows a decrease in the birth rate to 21.74, more than seven per cent. The death rate is decreased from 23.61 to 19.79 from 1891 to 1904.

The figures for the first three months of this year are surprising. In 1891 the excess of births over deaths was 1,235. The figures for this year indicate that the excess of births has been wiped out and the conditions are reversed, there being a decrease of 23 births from the death rate.

HUNT SNAKES FOR SKINS.

Men in Upper Missouri Valley Gain a Living by Capturing the Venomous Reptiles Alive.

Trempealeau, Wis.—Hunting rattlesnakes for their skins has furnished a new and hazardous occupation for many men who reside among the hills and rocky bluffs of the Upper Missouri valley, where the rattler attains perfection as to size and color. The snake must be taken alive and decapitated before he has an opportunity to strike himself, for once the deadly poison is injected the skin loses luster and value.

The price paid for perfect tanned skins is about one dollar each, and in addition the oil obtained from its supposed value as a cure for rheumatism and kindred diseases. Each rattler captured alive means about \$1.50 to the hunter.

Among the most successful hunters is Alfred Johnson, of this place, who possesses many large and beautiful skins. His latest capture was nearly seven feet long and carried 19 rattles. Mr. Johnson has succeeded in domesticating a large number of young rattlers, which allow him to handle them as he will, and follow at his call like well-trained puppies.

SUIT TESTS DIVORCE LAWS

Short Period of Insanity Intervenes Between Alleged Cruelty and Wife's Pleint.

Carlinville, Ill.—A peculiar suit for divorce has been filed in this county, involving the construction of the law which prohibits the granting of a legal separation because of insanity. So far as is known, no similar proceeding has ever been filed in Illinois.

Mrs. Georgia Kitzmiller, wife of Former Representative James V. Kitzmiller, is the complainant. Cruelty is the charge, and the acts complained of date back 13 and 14 years. They consist for the most part of threats.

In 1903 Kitzmiller was adjudged insane, and sent to the hospital at Jacksonville. He has spent much time there, and it is understood that he has quite recovered his reason. Recently he returned to the home of his father in Girard, where he is now living.

Whether the acts of cruelty complained of, and which occurred so many years ago, can be set up as proper grounds for divorce in a case where a period of mental irresponsibility has intervened, is the important question to decide.

HISTORIC PAINTING FOUND.

Supposed Long-Lost "Last Supper" Is Located in New York in Deposit Vault.

New York.—In a vault at the Lincoln Safe Deposit company, in Forty-second street, is a very old painting with a romantic history. It is believed by those who own it to be an unfinished work by Raphael.

The picture is alleged to be the long lost "Last Supper," which was stolen or disappeared during the Spanish pillage of Rome in 1527. That there was such a picture, and that it was an unfinished work, art historians show. It is also a matter of history that it disappeared at the time mentioned.

One hundred and fifty years ago the picture, now in the Lincoln vaults is alleged to have been in the possession of an old Spanish sailor, who lived in a hovel near New Orleans. He kept it locked in a tôle chest, and would never show it, not even to his family. He is supposed to have got it either by theft or by purchase in Spain.

It is now in the possession of Samuel O. Trudell, who will take it to Europe to be passed upon.

Good-By, Little Girl, Good-By.

One of the saddest events of the war will be the farewell of the Russian prisoners to the Japanese gelscha girls.

PHONE ROUND EARTH

IOWA ELECTRICIANS INVENT NEW WIRE SYSTEM.

Sioux City Men Claim to Have Originated Device Which Will Make All the People Each Other's Neighbors.

Sioux City, Ia.—Two Sioux City electricians, M. L. Garrett and E. W. Preston, claim to have found a way to talk around the world.

By the use of an invention just patented by them it will apparently be as easy for Americans to converse with their neighbors in Europe as it has been to talk ten blocks across the city.

Only girdle the world with wire, these men declare, and they will make it possible for the Swiss maiden in her Alpine home to flirt in the morning with young men on Florida plantations. Only bisect the two American continents with copper wire, they declare, and it will be mere child's play for the lowan to order cattle from Patagonia over the telephone.

And it is true that the instrument is quite simple. Loosely speaking, it might be said that it consists of a telephone receiver put to the mouth of a telephone transmitter. In other words, that it brings the ear-piece of the ordinary telephone up to a mouthpiece that the earpiece may talk into the mouthpiece and sent on the sound.

Garrett and Preston solved the problem by putting together what are really two separate telephones. The central piece is a Eureka transmitter, such as is used by many telephones to-day. This is simply the diaphragm, or disk, seen in any mouthpiece, the vibrations of which are sent over the wire.

Back of this disk are placed two electro-magnets. These electro-magnets are similar to those used in telephone receivers, so, roughly speaking, it might be said that two receivers are put against this disk. The sound from one direction comes over one of these electro-magnets, or receivers, is communicated directly to the disk, which vibrates just as the disk in the original instrument, and the sound is sent on just as it came from the original instrument, 200 miles away. Sound from the other direction passes over the other electro-magnet and to the disk, and goes on its way in the opposite direction, and thus people at opposite ends of the wire can converse with one another.

Heretofore only one receiver magnet has been used in devices of this kind and this is why it has never before been possible to talk but one way. The manner in which the two currents are kept separate is not explained by the inventors, who are not making public some of the details of their instrument.

TELLS OF A HAUNTED ROOM

Earl to Relate to Son Story of Strange Events in Castle Where Ghosts Roam.

London.—When Lord Glamis comes of age the secret of the haunted room at his ancestral home, Glamis castle, Forfarshire, will be communicated to him by his father, the earl of Strathmore. At least that is locally understood to have been the invariable practice on such occasions from time immemorial.

What secret the haunted room conceals it is supposed to be passed on to every heir as he attains his majority; thus its precise nature is in the possession of never more than two persons at the same time.

Conjecture or tradition, says, however, that in the long ago, when the Lindsay and the Ogilvies were at feud, a number of the latter clan were imprisoned and died in that particular chamber. That the room has some uncanny peculiarities appears to be beyond doubt, for the late Lord Strathmore had it walled up after visiting the apartment one night to determine the origin of certain weird noises, which, it is said, for a long time disturbed and puzzled him.

The earl opened the door with a key, and dropped back in a dead swoon in the arms of his companions, nor could he ever be induced to open his lips on the subject afterward.

TRAGIC DEATHS IN FAMILY.

Strange Series of Thirteen Fatalities Among Relatives of Indianian—Only Two Remain.

Indianapolis, Ind.—Thirteen tragic deaths among members of the same family is the record made by the kin of Abraham Cripe, a German farmer of Fulton county. The thirteenth victim was Samuel Horn, who was killed recently while hauling logs. But two members of the family remain, and the homestead is deserted through superstitious fear that in some way the place is responsible for the tragedies.

Cripe was prosperous, but his wife was discontented and wanted to return to the old country. She became insane and burned herself to death in a pile of hay. A few days later Cripe's sister fell dead while at work. Two months afterward Lucien Cripe, a son, became derailed and died within a short time.

Next Elias, a brother, was found murdered in his barn. His two sons, Clark and Jay, died in an insane asylum. Wilson Burns, a son-in-law of Abraham Cripe, murdered his wife, Joseph Cripe and Mrs. Margaret Braham, an aunt, and then blew out his own brains.

Cannot Recover Ring.

An Indiana court has decided that a jilted lover cannot recover the engagement ring by suit unless there is a contract to that effect. After this every prudent Indiana lover will arrange to have the engagement ring placed in escrow pending the wedding.

EX-SLAVE MEETS MASTER.

Southern Negro Encounters Man Who Owned Him More Than Forty Years Ago.

Springfield, Neb.—Harry Edmundson, a well-to-do negro living two miles from here, and Mason Peters, a rich stockman, of Kansas City, met a few days ago for the first time in over 41 years since 1864. Then Harry, at the age of four years, had recently been presented to Mason Peters, the eldest son of Ashby Peters, of Clay county, Mo., on whose homestead the boy was born in slavery.

Together with his mother and five brothers and sisters, Harry had been sold at auction, but Mrs. Peters had taken a fancy to the little fellow, and at her intercession he was not delivered to his new masters, but was allowed to remain on the old homestead, and was given as a present to the elder son of the family.

Soon after his mother, calling her six children to her, set out to seek her own and their freedom, having lost faith in Uncle Sam. They made their way to what is now Kansas City, Kan., where they found friends and Harry "just grewed." Now he is the happy possessor of a wife and family, and a fine 80-acre farm.

Through a newspaper clipping Edmundson recently located his old master and in response to a letter received an invitation to pay him a visit. The invitation was accepted and the one-time slave had a pleasant time with his former owner. He has just returned to his Nebraska home.

MAKE FIGHT ON LAZY WORM

Porto Ricans Are Enthusiastic Over Medical Success—Experiment a Good One.

Washington.—That the people of Porto Rico have become thoroughly awakened and enthusiastic in their desire and endeavor to rid themselves of the scourge of anaemia, popularly designated the "lazy worm" affliction, is indicated in a report just received by the surgeon general of the army from Capt. B. K. Ashford, who is expending \$15,000 this year in a campaign against that maldy.

During the months of June, July and August nearly 10,000 patients had been treated, with cures in nearly every instance. In August at the medical station in Albonito exactly one-third of the population was treated. This number was 2,482, of whom only six died, 716 were discharged as fully cured, while the majority of the remainder are on the road to recovery.

The effect of the disease is to render the victim absolutely unfit for work. The disease gradually wastes away the tissues, during which time the afflicted becomes a public charge on the community. The natives believe this wasting away was from lack of food and ridiculed the idea that a cure could be effected through the use of medicine. Besides administering a cure, the medical corps under Dr. Ashford has been conducting a campaign of education in regard to sanitation. This is later to be followed with a law on the subject from which great good is expected.

CALLS HIS WIFE A WITCH.

Russian, Believing Neighbor's Stories, Refuses to Live with Helpmeet—Woman Pleads Innocence.

Freehold, Pa.—Andrew Fetichik, a Russian living at Drifton, brought his wife to the office of Dr. J. B. Houston here and asked the physician to examine her, claiming she is bewitched. He said his neighbors for months had been tormenting him about her, but until lately he did not believe them. Now he joined with them in believing that she was "possessed," and unless the doctor could do something he would no longer live with her.

Dr. Houston declined to make the requested examination. Fetichik could not be persuaded to believe that his neighbors were wrong, as well as himself, and declared that he no longer recognized the woman as his wife, and would not live with her.

The neighbors have accused her of an evil power, and threatened to kill her. The poor woman says her neighbors have influenced the husband against her, and denies being the author of the alleged ill of which she is accused.

RARE CONTINENTAL BILLS.

Washington Newspaper Writer Owns Collection Dating Back to 1785—Received from New England.

Washington.—Col. Ezra Nat. Hill, a newspaper writer of this city, has come into possession of some rare and valuable pieces of continental money which he has been exhibiting to his acquaintances. One of the notes was issued by the city of Albany, N. Y., March 26, 1791, and the legend "Three Pence" is printed across its face in old style type.

Another note of similar value was issued by the city of Philadelphia in 1797, while a quaint bill on aged-yellowed paper was issued by "the state of Massachusetts Bay" in 1785, and calls for "one Spanish milled dollar." Another note, issued by the same state, calls for "two Spanish milled dollars," and still another demands seven of the dollars of the dons.

Col. Hill says this queer and interesting continental money was sent to him by a friend in New England.

Fine Table Fish.

Swordfish as an article of diet is said to far excel salmon.

BIGGEST CREAMERY.

BUTTER PROCESS IN WORLD'S LARGEST PLANT.

Averages 55,000 Pounds of Butter a Day—Twenty Thousand Farmers Send Cream—Cream Alone Nets \$250,000 a Month.

Topeka, Kan.—In what is reputed the world's largest creamery, enough butter is made daily to provide a pat of it for 5,000,000 people. Fifty-five thousand pounds is the average daily output of the Continental creamery here. This quantity, in one-pound rolls laid end to end, would make a string five miles long. In one 24-hour run the concern turned out 32,000 pounds.

Five years ago the Continental was built and put into operation on an entirely new plan. Instead of receiving the whole milk it gets only the cream. The farmer patron has a hand separator. As soon as the milk is drawn from the cows it is run through this machine.

The skim milk is fed at once to pigs and calves, warm and sweet, worth almost as much for feed as before the cream was removed. The cream is gathered by the representative of the creamery, and hauled or shipped to the factory.

Under the old system, the farmer's wife drudged at the entire process of butter making. Now the men do the milking and separating—the factory does the rest.

The farmer used to market his butter at the country store at low prices for groceries and callings at a high price. Now the cream is made into a high-class article worth twice as much in the market as country butter, and brings the farmer nearly twice as much money as he used to get from his cows.

The Continental creamery plan is very popular among farmers. It has pushed out along all railroads, even to the western border of the state. Some cream is hauled 400 miles. The company has its own refrigerator cars for handling cream and butter.

It has 500 co-am-receiving stations. Its patrons number 20,000 Kansas farmers, who receive an aggregate of \$250,000 per month, although as individuals few keep more than a half dozen cows. Farmers are pleased with the system and are gradually increasing their milk production. They find the semimonthly check convenient to have, especially during dull seasons.

In the factory everything is done accurately. An expert examines each can of cream as it comes in grades it into first and second class, or rejects it entirely. From the receiving vat the cream goes to the Pasteurizer, where it is heated to 180 degrees, then cooled to 70 degrees for ripening.

Ripening is important. It controls the flavor of the butter. Flavor is caused by bacteria and a starter containing bacteria that gives a desirable flavor is added to the cream at the beginning of the ripening period.

A record is kept at every step and feature in the operation—the hour the cream is received, the amount of butter fat it contains, its acidity and grade. During the ripening process frequent chemical tests are made for acidity, and when sour enough it is cooled to the proper temperature and churned. These records are all handed to the butter maker, and he knows just how much and what kind of butter he will get; also how much salt and color to add.

The buttermilk is drawn off and the casein extracted, dried and sold to paper manufacturers to be used as a sizing material. The butter is cooled down, printed, wrapped in sealed packages by neatly dressed girls, and placed in storage to await shipment.

SOON TO LAUNCH WARSHIPS

Navy Department Announces Vessels Are Almost Completed—Nineteen Other Craft Under Construction.

Washington.—Thirteen first-class battleships will soon be added to the United States navy, several of which are nearly ready to be placed in commission, and 19 other vessels, including armored cruisers, protected cruisers, torpedo-boats and torpedo-boat destroyers, are under construction.

The first class battleships will be placed in commission within the next six months. The bureau of construction and repair the other day prepared a statement showing the progress made on the vessels during the month of August, and how near completion are these ships. The most progress, four per cent., was made on the Mississippi, which is being constructed by the Cramps at Philadelphia. The percentage of completion of the battleships is: Rhode Island, 93; Virginia, 92.89; New Jersey, 89.3; Georgia, 86.44; Connecticut, 86.15; Louisiana, 86.4; Nebraska, 79.58; Minnesota, 71.16; Vermont, 61.4; Kansas, 60.1; Mississippi, 33.71; Idaho, 33.66, and New Hampshire, 18.12.

Snake Head Kills Dog.

William English and Milton Davis, of near town, were out hunting on the farm of J. D. Powers, at Perry, Mo., a few days ago and they shot a large rattlesnake, shooting off its head and about four inches of its body. The severed head was buried by the discharge against the bird dog of Mr. English. It bit the dog and he died within a few minutes.

Not Known in Biblical Times.

If the inspired writer of old days had lived in our time, he might have changed his language to "All men are grafters."

FIND A RED MARBLE MINE.

Through Direction of Princess, Source of Wealth Is Unearthed in Canada.

London.—Owing to her notable commercial instinct the princess of Wales has caused a mining discovery to be made in Canada which appears likely to prove of world-wide importance.

While on her tour in Canada with the prince of Wales, then duke of Cornwall, four years ago, her royal highness was presented with a collection of precious stones, etc., from all parts of the dominion.

The princess specially admired certain specimens of colored marble, including a very rare variety known as sodonite, which is of a very rich blue color. On her return to England she intrusted the collection to Charles C. Allom, who was engaged upon the designs for the decoration of Marlborough house.

"Why cannot more be found?" asked the princess, who went on to say that she felt that the stones, if existing in sufficient quantities, would be of immense value for decorative purposes.

Mr. Allom made inquiries as to the likelihood of the marble existing in workable quantities in Canada, and with success such that he has just returned from Canada and brought with him a collection of specimens of the rough marble, which range in hue from delicate mouse-gray to blood-red, with all possible shades of green and blue. There has also been discovered a quarry of statuary marble which is of the greatest importance, as the world's supply is at present limited to the quarries of Carrara in Italy and Vermont in the United States, which both belong to the same owner.

For the frieze of Pierpont Morgan's palatial new library at New York, it is said, Stanford White, the architect, has ordered a supply of the finest blue marble from Canada, which will probably cost \$15 a foot.

MOON AS HOME OF MOSES

Theory of Creation Has Doughnut Basis—Declares Earth Spurred Through Hole in Comet.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—A Brooklyn man, Constantine McKeever, has evolved a new theory of creation which he openly asserts, in lectures he is giving at Kensington, is the only correct one. Briefly put, this remarkable theory is as follows, or something like it: Away back in the dim past a hobo of a comet, shaped, according to McKeever, like a doughnut, with a hole in the middle, butted into the then existing world. Now comes the solution.

The earth shot up through the hole in the doughnut. All living things were annihilated, except those near water. They were cooled off by the resulting vapor, but some got burned and became negroes.

Not satisfied with pushing its "nose" through the doughnut, the earth started on a record-breaking dash for the sun. Some earths that went through the process earlier have overtaken the fugitive, and are now flattening themselves out in vain endeavors to push right through. Those are the sun spots.

When the earth got well past the doughnut, the people began to scamper down to the south pole. Meanwhile the comet was creating a new world out of the "envelopes" of fire that shot off continually, and the living beings got aboard this earth from the other, which was halted in its mad sprint.

World No. 1 went right on axziz, mnd, k, and behold! she now shines nightly as Luna, the moon.

What is the conclusion? Why, Moses lived on the moon. So did the rest of the bunch. It was not the moon then, but now it is. Mr. McKeever offers to pay \$100 to anyone who can disprove his theory.

GIRLS WORRY A GOVERNOR

Is Made Victim of Practical Joke by Fun-Loving Maids During Legislative Reunion.

Cleveland, O.—Gov. Herrick was the victim of a practical joke at Cedar Point during the legislative reunion recently which has just leaked out. Several Columbus men were guests at the hotel. Their feminine friends decided to play a joke on them. They acquired the key to the men's room. Hard knots were tied in every article of wearing apparel, suit cases were opened and the contents scattered over the floors; furniture and chairs piled on the radiators, and altogether the apartment made to look as though it had been struck by a good-sized and healthy cyclone.

Meanwhile Gov. Herrick came home from the legislative banquet at two o'clock in the morning, or thereabouts, and prepared to retire. His room was in an uproar, his pajamas were not serviceable and his bed was disarranged. Indignant and surprised Gov. Herrick went to the hotel clerk and demanded an explanation, which could not be furnished. The girls had entered the wrong room.

His Heart on Right Side.

When Malcolm Rose, a landscape gardener, was placed on the operating table at the Los Angeles county hospital to undergo an operation for the removal of a growth from his neck, it was discovered by the surgeons that the patient's heart, instead of being in a normal position on the left side of the body, was on the right side, nearly six inches from its proper place. The organ in every way, however, appeared normal.