

SELLS ANCIENT COIN.

GOLD PROCEEDS OF DEALS RE-MINTED BY MEXICANS.

Southern Republic in This Manner Puts Large Amount of Currency in Circulation - Monetary Standard is a Boon.

City of Mexico - It is announced by the government exchange and currency commission in charge of the monetary reform system that of the \$10,000,000 constituting the regulating fund held by the commission \$5,500,000 has been exported at various dates since the price of silver made the exportation profitable.

The consignments have been to London and New York, against pounds sterling and American gold coin, subject to the order of the commission. In London the operations were conducted by Messrs. Glynn, Mills, Currie & Co. and Lazard Brothers & Co. and in New York by Messrs. Lazard Freres, as bankers and agents of the exchange and currency commission. The dollars were consigned to these bankers, who sold them at prices of the day, but all at a fair profit, and who now hold the pounds sterling and the American gold coin paid for them in London or in New York, as the case may be.

The entire amount of \$1,486,750 in American gold received by the commission up to date has been placed at the disposition of Manuel Fernandez Leal as director of the mint, to be re-minted and transformed into Mexican \$5 and \$10 gold coins in conformity with the new monetary system. In view of the capacity and plant at the mint, it is estimated that three to four months will be required to complete the recoinage, which will be issued by the commission as certain amounts become available from time to time.

This \$1,486,750 in American coin, at the exchange price of 2.006, represents \$2,982,420.50 in the new Mexican standard currency and represents that much Mexican standard gold currency which will come into circulation within the next four months at most.

In the meantime, the commission will leave the balance of the gold produced by the sale of 5,500,000 silver dollars with their bankers in London and New York, where it will be earning interest, instead of bringing it to Mexico to be locked up in a vault where it would not earn any interest.

Of the \$4,500,000 remaining in the fund after the exportation of the \$5,500,000, the sum of about \$2,000,000 has been expended in the purchase of the old and worn-out coins which are not now legal currency.

As the use of bank checks in business in this republic is constantly increasing, it is only a question of a few years when the percentage of checks used here will be about the same as that of the United States.

The use of the checks in business transactions in Mexico is a comparatively recent feature of the commercial life of the country. Ten years ago it was for only very large transactions that checks were employed here, and even then only rarely. The use of checks has been caused principally by the establishment of American banks in some of the cities throughout the country.

FIFTH PEOPLE IN SCHOOL.

Widespread Desire for Education Throughout the Country Shown by Annual Government Report.

Washington - A statement by the commissioner of education, discussing matters pertaining to his office for the fiscal year 1905, shows that the number of pupils enrolled in the common schools during that period was 12,256, 038, or 20 per cent. of the entire population as estimated by the census bureau. The actual average number of days attended by each pupil enrolled reached 102 days. The commissioner declares that the number of pupils enrolled shows how far the school system reaches the people. Besides those enrolled in public elementary and secondary schools, there were 118,029 students in colleges, 1,370,244 in private elementary and secondary schools, and 162,479 in normal and other professional schools and manual training schools - 17,896,890 pupils in the aggregate. The commissioner says there were pupils enrolled in special institutions more or less educational in their character and more or less of a practical business character to the number of 693,101, making a grand total of 18,589,901.

A GOVERNMENT BLUE BOOK

25,481 Employees Receive \$27,145,709 in Salaries According to Publication.

Washington - The official register of the United States, the "Blue Book," which is about to be issued, gives a recapitulation of the employees in the different departments, the government printing office and the officers of the District of Columbia, showing a total of 25,481 persons in the service in the city of Washington, receiving an aggregate compensation of \$27,145,709. The employees are distributed as follows: Department of state, 120; treasury, 6,301; war, 1,484; justice, 340; post office, 1,168; navy, 608; interior, 4,032; agriculture, 1,608; commerce and labor, 1,284; government printing office, 4,264; government of the District of Columbia, 4,004.

Better Than Togo Welcome. Admiral Rojevstevsky received a warm welcome when he arrived at St. Petersburg. But the natives did not make it as hot for him as Togo did.

ORE SHIPMENTS INCREASE.

Season's Record Shows 6,000,000 Tons Over Any Preceding Year's Mark.

Ironwood, Mich. - The ore-shipping season of 1905 has closed with a record exceeding by more than 6,000,000 gross tons that of the banner year 1902. There have been forwarded by water from the Minnesota, Michigan and Wisconsin ranges of the Lake Superior region to lower lake ports a total of 33,400 gross tons, an amount which would have been larger had it not been for the disastrous gales of the closing days of November, which curtailed the movement.

Official figures from all ports are not yet available. Approximately, the record stands as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Port, Tons. Duluth 8,508,432; Two Harbors 7,779,700; Escanaba 5,225,000; Superior 3,100,000; Ashland 3,500,000; Marquette 3,000,000.

Add to this total the shipments by rail and the amount forwarded from Michipicoten on the north shore of Lake Superior, and the aggregate movement from all the mines of the region is approximately 34,000,000 gross tons, compared with 21,825,000 tons last year and 27,571,000 tons in 1902.

The greatest producer in the Lake Superior region this year has been the steel corporation's giant Mountain Iron property, whose initial consignment, a cargo of 4,245 tons, forwarded in 1892, marked the beginning of the enormous streams of ore which have since flowed from the Mesaba range - almost 100,000,000 tons. The mine this season shipped 2,303,047 tons, more than was ever forwarded from a single property in a single season since the discovery of ore in the lake region 60 years ago.

No mine had ever before achieved an output in excess of 2,000,000 tons, the record up to this year having been held by the Steel corporation's big Fayal at Eveleth, which in 1902 sent 1,918,000 tons to market. The biggest shipper last season was Corrigan, McKinney & Co's Stevenson mine, also a Mesaba property, which closed the year, practically its fourth, with an output of 4,824,000. The largest producer in 1903 was the Fayal, 1,468,000 tons.

STRUCK WITH A DEAD HEN

Passenger Thus Injured Gets Damages from Trolley Company of Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass. - A motorman threw a dead hen at a fellow motorman who was operating his car, but the bird missing its mark, went crashing against the front window, causing injury to a passenger inside, and the sequel to the sport is that the street railway company is held liable to compensate the passenger for the injuries sustained under a decision handed down by the full bench of the supreme court by the judge in the case of Lila D. Haynes vs. the Union Street Railway company.

Motorman John R. Stephenson threw the lifeless hen at Motorman John R. Bolster, who dodged it. As it broke the car window the pieces of glass injured Miss Haynes in the face. The car was bound from New Bedford to Fairhaven, and Judge White at the trial ruled the company could not be held in damages for the injury done through the sport of Motorman Stephenson, who was not the motorman on the car, and directed a verdict for the company.

But this is held wrong, even though Stephenson was not at the time acting within the scope of his employment. The court decided that the company's liability was not limited to the acts of its servants who had charge of the particular car on which she was riding, but that its duty as common carrier to her as a passenger was to protect her also from injuries by its other servants engaged in its general transportation business. Stephenson was at the time on another of its cars and his wrongful act directed to a passenger on another car is held not to make any difference in the company's liability. The plaintiff's exceptions are sustained.

PAILFUL OF SILVER COINS.

Aged Indiana Woman Also Hoards Gold in Baking Powder Cans and Bags.

Frankfort, Ind. - Relatives of Mrs. Hannah Isgrigg made application for the appointment of a guardian, alleging that Mrs. Isgrigg was not mentally able to care for her estate. The information was also conveyed that Mrs. Isgrigg had a large sum of money concealed in her home. City Marshal Bird and Levi Isgrigg investigated. Mrs. Isgrigg, who is 82 years old, at first denied that money was concealed about her premises, other than a few dollars which she had accumulated during the summer by selling garden truck but finally confessed to the contrary, and Marshal Bird uncovered \$1,944.25. The money was in baking powder cans and in cloth bags and a common water bucket was filled with silver dollars. Altogether there was \$1,420 in gold, \$270 in silver dollars, \$70 in half dollars and \$54 in quarters, while the remainder was in small change. The money has been placed in bank to await disposition of the application for the appointment of a guardian.

Aid from Travelers. If the Pullman Porters' union will seriously operate on a "no tip" basis in dealing with the company it can get a passengers' auxiliary with about 25,000 members to help it.

Maintaining the Balance. Maine hunters this year killed more game and fewer of each other than for many seasons. By these tactics it is hoped the supply of hunters will last as long as the deer.

CUPID LIKES 'VETS.'

LITTLE GOD WORKS HAVOC IN SOLDIERS' HOME.

Enough Courtships There to Keep Up Already Established Married Record Among Aged Defenders of the Nation.

Indianapolis, Ind. - Cupid in his most alluring garb is at work among the veterans in the State soldiers' home at Lafayette. In the last year seven or eight marriages have taken place at the home, and it is said there are enough courtships in progress to promise many more matrimonial alliances next year.

"It looks as if we'll have to find a way to head off the little god," declared R. M. Smock, commandant of the home, at G. A. R. Headquarters.

The total population of the home is 1,003. Of this number 495 were women - widows or widows of soldiers. The commandant says the mortality rate at the home seems to be increasing. Included in the population are seven or eight Spanish-American war veterans, mostly young men. Said the commandant:

"The per cent. of deaths is very much greater among the Spanish war soldiers than among the veterans of the civil war. The experience in tropical countries in which many of them had to serve seems to have lowered their vitality, and, besides, the boys who went out in the Spanish-American war were not nearly so well able to stand hardship as those who went out in 1862."

Commandant Smock spoke of many old couples in the home who seem perfectly happy. They have little work to do and are furnished with plenty of clothing and food. The commandant is inclined to encourage matrimony at the home. He says that among all the marriages that have taken place there since he took control only one has resulted unhappily. After their marriage, the mismatched pair left the institution. The husband has returned, however, and has sued his wife for divorce. The husband was formerly a member of the Indianapolis police force.

MONARCHS LOSE PRESENTS

Gifts Shah Was to Have Sent Them Now Rest in Pawnshop - All Won't Take Them Back.

Vienna - President Roosevelt, the kaiser and a king or two have been robbed of the Christmas presents which the shah of Persia intended to give them. Each potentate was to have a diamond studded miniature portrait of himself, and Ali-Bagair, a Persian jeweler in this city, was commissioned to do the work in true oriental style.

Ali had finished the portraits of Mr. Roosevelt, Emperor Francis Joseph and Kaiser Wilhelm, when he was obliged to go to Paris for more diamonds, and turned the finished portraits over to another Persian, Machmed Baga, for safe keeping. When Ali returned he found a nice little letter awaiting him, but no Baga. The missive contained a fine assortment of oriental greetings, wishes and kotows - and a pawn ticket.

Machmed, it seems, pawned the shah's portraits the day he received them and immediately set out for Italy. He was subsequently arrested in Florence, but had only a few hundred francs in his possession. The shah has refused to take the portraits out of pawn, and Ali declares it would ruin him to do so.

BOBTAIL STEERS AND COWS

Tails of Range Cattle Cut Off to Make Bopes - Hogs Robbed of Their Ears.

Redding, Cal. - W. B. Elam, an extensive stock raiser of Tehama county, came to Red Bluff and complained to the sheriff that parties unknown to him were cutting the tails off the stock on his ranges. He thinks there must be as many as 100 bobtailed steers and cows on the range about Hunter's station.

He says the mutilation is done by thieves, who want the hair to use in the manufacture of hair ropes. Mr. Elam claims that the men who rob the cattle of their tails slip up behind them while they are lying down, and with a sharp knife do the work quickly.

Ross McRaye, of Payne's creek, also in Tehama county, went to Red Bluff and swore to a complaint charging that a neighbor had stolen 17 hogs from him. Later 16 of the hogs turned up at the home place, but all of them had been clipped clean of ears. These two complaints, coming so closely together, are a novelty in criminal proceedings in northern California.

Writes 4,917 Words in Hour. Ray T. Vanetich, Colorado service editor of the Pueblo Chieftain, broke the world's typewriting record for both the 20-minute and one-hour tests, taking 2,860 words during the first 20 minutes and finishing the hour with 4,917 words. The dictation was received over the long-distance telephone from Denver, a distance of 120 miles. The previous hour record, 3,830 words, direct dictation, was made by Paul Munter at Madison Square garden, New York, November 4, 1904.

Sun Will Be Cold. Sir Oliver Lodge, the great scientist, declares that one of the recent sun spots observed in the solar eclipse was so large that the earth could be dropped into the cavity with a clear space of 1,000 miles all around it. The sun shrinks very slowly, adds Sir Oliver, and Lord Kelvin has calculated that in 20,000,000 years it would be incapable of warming the earth.

GIANT APE OF THE SANGA.

Big Beast Is Killed in French Congo by Scientists - Weighs 800 Pounds - Has Remarkable Strength.

La Nature recently printed the photograph of an enormous anthropoid ape that was killed near the Sanga river, in the French Congo. Dr. E. T. Hanry writes that these large animals have been seen several times in the last year among the valleys of the Lom and Sanga rivers. The white men at the German and French stations corroborated this report that an atropoid of great size lives in the forests along the boundary between the Cameroons and the French Congo.

Eugene Brusaux, who sent the photograph to La Nature, says that the animal appears to be a gorilla, differing from those living in Gaboon only in its enormous stature. Its skull, face and ears are exactly like those of the gorilla. The specimen that was killed was not less than seven and one-half feet in height, and its body in a sitting position was as high as an ordinary Paluin native. It was killed near Cessa, the chief station on the River Sanga, and was one of three animals living in the neighboring forest, which had become known by their large foot-prints on the ground.

The animal was almost bare upon the breast and stomach, but its shoulders and thighs were covered with thick long hair. It was about three feet and a half in breadth across the shoulders, it weighed nearly 800 pounds and eight porters were required to bring it to the station. A later report says that another similar specimen has been killed near Bayanza on the Sanga.

SEVEN LEAGUE BOOTS FACT

In Footwear Consisting of Tiny Automobiles Inventor Startles Crowds in Paris.

Paris - Parisians were startled here by seeing a big booted man whizzing along the Avenue des Champs Elysees and thence to the Bois de Boulogne at the rate of 25 miles an hour. It was Constantini, inventor of motor boots, displaying his new footwear.

The boots resemble tiny automobiles, 15 inches long, fixed on high boots. Each has four rubber tired wheels eight inches in diameter. Accumulators are carried in a belt. They transmit by wires one and one-fourth-horse power to each motor. The motor can be run at a speed ranging from six to 30 miles an hour. Each boot weighs 16 pounds, but as the feet are not lifted up the weight does not matter.

Constantini claims to have traveled several hundred miles with them. He intends to travel from Paris to St. Petersburg on them. When asked what would happen if one motor started at the rate of six miles an hour and the other at the rate of 30 miles an hour he became diffident and declined to discuss the subject.

BETS HAT OR TERM IN JAIL

Magistrate Makes Novel Wager with Men Arrested for Drinking in New York.

New York - "I'll bet a hat you don't keep sober a year."

This is the gist of a new form of legal procedure in the case of husky men who get drunk, beat their wives, and fail to support their children, as introduced by Magistrate "Battery Dan" Finn in the Harlem police court. The bet is not exactly phrased, this way for it is a one-sided bet. If the man keeps sober he gets the hat at the expense of the magistrate. If he gets drunk within a twelve-month he may get a term on the island.

The new system was tried out on Tom Brennan, a big truck driver. The wife did not want her husband imprisoned, but asked that he be made to keep sober long enough to support her and her five children. Magistrate Finn thereupon made Brennan the novel proposition.

PHONOGRAPH IS A WINNER

Verdict Given Plaintiff Against an Elevated Company - Instrument Is the Proof.

Boston, Mass. - The first use of the phonograph in court in a damage suit for noise resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff.

A. P. Loring, owner of the Albany Building, sued the Boston Elevated Railroad company for \$150,000 because trains passing around the corner of the building caused annoyance.

A phonograph was brought into court to reproduce the noise made by the trains as they passed. A photometer was also used to show the diminution of light due to the erection of the erection of the elevated structure. An oscilloscope showed photographs of the air waves disturbed during the passing of a train.

A verdict of \$45,000 was given with interest, the total making \$58,267.

Oldest University.

Highland university is the oldest university in Kansas, and the first west of the Mississippi to issue diplomas. It was chartered February 9, 1858. The school was the outgrowth of an Indian school, and began with white children in 1856. It has never closed its doors from the day it was opened.

Nordica's Fad.

Mme. Nordica, like many grand opera singers who are fond of some special dish or drink and enjoy preparing it themselves, always carries about with her a machine for making Vienna coffee, and often treats her friends to a cup of this delicious beverage.

CITY TO OWN DEER.

HARTFORD, CONN., BUYS HERD WITH LAND.

Sixteen of the Animals on Preserve Are Nearly All Full Grown - Bucks, in Bad Temper, Fight Among Each Other.

Hartford, Conn. - It is expected that the city of Hartford will soon manage among its assets the herd of 16 deer now on the Colt estate, as it is thought that they will go with the property and continue to ornament the grounds, where deer have been for 30 years or more.

The deer, now in their preserve on the Colt property, are all practically full grown, as the youngest ones are over a year old. They are now wearing their winter suits, a trifle darker in color than the leaves that strew the ground in their little park, and they all seem as contented as if they were assured that a future of prosperity awaited them.

Things do not run smoothly in deerdom, however, for the bucks are in bad temper and have been for a month or two, a characteristic of the male during the rutting season. They fight one another, and resent attention on the part of humans for that matter. Within a few days one of the men on the grounds found two of the bucks lying on the grass, each with his horns hopelessly interlocked in the other's, while one, in addition, had caught his fore legs in the other's antlers, so that movement on his part was out of the question. Assistance was secured and the two animals were finally disentangled. They were exhausted and lay quietly on the ground for some little time after they had been released. Whatever their difference had been, they had forgotten it by the time they were able to walk about again. Had they been wild deer they would have starved to death where they lay.

No one now on the Colt estate can remember the time when the deer were brought there, though it is thought that they were secured by or given to Mrs. Colt after the death of her husband. The herd is now somewhere near high water mark, as for many years there were only seven or eight of the animals. While they are more numerous now, they are showing the effects of in and in breeding, for, it is said, they do not average as large as their ancestors were 20 years ago. Most of them die natural deaths, though there have been some notable exceptions to the rule. One, said to be the finest buck ever on the grounds, was shot 12 or 13 years ago because he had become so ugly in disposition that his presence was dangerous to his fellows as well as to human visitors. He was an animated breach of the peace, and Mrs. Colt was forced to have him killed.

DEER INCREASING IN JERSEY

Good Results of the Law Passed in Eastern State to Save Them from Extinction.

Tuckahoe, N. J. - The great swamps in New Jersey's three lower counties, Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland, did fair way to rival the best deer hunting grounds in the country. Old residents of these counties declare that the deer are now as plentiful as they were half a century ago, when it was an easy matter to shoot five or six in a day's hunt.

Six years ago deer were exceedingly scarce in the southern Jersey woods. They were hunted so relentlessly that they kept to the most inaccessible swamps, and even at that the extermination of the animals seemed likely. Then the legislature interfered.

In 1901 a law was passed forbidding deer shooting for three years. During that period the deer increased so rapidly that the legislature passed another law making it unlawful to kill deer for a further period of two years and then they could be hunted only on Wednesdays in November. Many sportsmen are in favor of continuing the closed season for three or five years longer and allowing each hunter to kill only two deer in a season.

Left unmolested for the last four years the deer have become tame, and it is almost a daily occurrence for farmers to see them near their orchards and barnyards.

NEW CAR DOUBLES SPEED.

Inventor Says Motor-Cycle Car Will Run from Chicago to New York in Eight Hours.

Syracuse, N. Y. - James N. Vandergift, in a paper before the Syracuse Technology club, announced that the Westinghouse company is building a car invented by him which will run at double the speed now attained, and will carry passengers from New York to Chicago in ten hours less than the Twentieth Century limited, and from Syracuse to New York in an hour and a half.

His plan is to have four wheels on the car, placed one ahead of the other, running on a third rail between the two rails now used. The cars are to be pointed at the ends, to reduce the resistance of the air and to lessen the danger in case of a collision.

"The motor cycle train" is to be kept upright by the wheels or rollers running on the two outside tracks.

Swiss Elect President.

Switzerland has just elected a new president without even stopping to take a long breath. The only thing the Swiss people ever permit themselves to get excited over is the arrival of a new millionaire from America.

BANKER'S HALLUCINATION.

Wealthy Greek Who Sacrificed Himself and Thirty-Three Cats to Isis.

A French paper of Constantinople Phare du Bosphore, reports the tragic death of a Greek, Georgio Antikulos who had for years the hallucination that he was the reincarnation of an Egyptian priest of the Temple of Isis.

M. Antikulos was a retired banker. While under the hallucination he built in the neighborhood of Sordun, near Salonika, a temple dedicated to the Egyptian goddess, to which he retired and lived the life of a hermit, only appearing in the village at rare intervals to purchase food.

In imitation of the ancient Egyptian city of Bubastis he also built near his dwelling a park-like enclosure in which he kept a large number of cats, which he treated with reverence, offering incense in their honor, and expending large sums of money on their food.

A few days ago the hermit was found dead in his cell at the foot of a shrine, surrounded by the half-burned bodies of 33 cats.

In an oaken chest placed on a stone pedestal, inscribed with curious hieroglyphics, was found a paper containing a statement in Greek signed by Antikulos, declaring that he had been commanded in a revelation by the goddess Isis to sacrifice himself, together with the sacred cats, at the altar he had erected in her honor. In order that he might, in a second reincarnation, establish her worship in a certain planet to which he would be directed after his death.

The paper concluded with a demand, expressed in the form of a last will and testament, that a sum of £250 which he had deposited at the Salonika branch of the Ottoman bank should be utilized in the erection at Salonika of a home for cats, "the living symbols of the sacred Egyptian cult."

ROAD LINKED WITH HISTORY

Origin of the Natchez Trace, Famous Highway of the Southwest.

One of the oldest roads in the country is the Natchez Trace, of which John Swain in Everybody's Magazine writes as follows:

"A hundred years ago the eyes of America were on the southwest. We were on the edge of a war with Spain over the closing of the Mississippi, and under orders from Washington, Wilkinson, in command of Fort Adams, held some solemn council with the Indians who owned the east bank of the big river, and by treaty established a sacred postroad through their country. It left Nashville in the old Buffalo trace, crossed the Tennessee at Colbert's ferry below the Mussel shoals, and striking the hills back of the Big Black, came down to Natchez and on to New Orleans, with a branch to the Walnut hills. The road was more than a military necessity, for so many pirates infested the Mississippi that merchants returning from New Orleans needed a safer route home with their money."

"After it was opened it became all things in the southwest. Methodism went down that way in the person of Thomas Cison; later Lorenzo Dow followed him with the camp-meeting spirit. Old Hickory marched his army down to Natchez over this route in 1812, and marched it back again next spring. And from that day till nearly our own it has been the great center of that country's activity. Now the railroads have come, the settlers have moved down into the valleys, and opened up poorer roads in the beds of branches and through swampy lowlands. But the trace is still there upon its ridges, the best road of them all."

WILD HORSES IN FRANCE.

Characteristics of the Little Equines That Roam the Plains of the Rhone.

The small white horses of the Camargue (delta of the Rhone), now in number some 2,000 only, wander about the seemingly boundless steppes at full liberty. They are captured from time to time and used to thresh the corn, says the Nineteenth Century. These are supposed to have been first introduced by the Romans and afterward by the Saracens.

But according to M. Huzard, "whatever their origin, whether foreign or native, the horses of the Camargue to-day are the product almost exclusively of the influences of the environment in which they have propagated from time immemorial."

M. Gayot describes the horse of the Camargue as small, agile, good-tempered, spirited, courageous. In the opinion of Prof. Magne the horse of the Camargue must live in a wild state, and the first effect of improving the sanitation of the island will be the disappearance of its horses.

An Easy Choice.

This story is told about President Roosevelt and an aged dandy called Uncle Jake. The old colored man was very religious and was considered a pillar of the church he attended. The president, while out driving one cold morning, met Uncle Jake, crippled with rheumatism, hobbling along. "Good morning, Uncle Jake," said the president.

"Good morning, sah," responded the dandy. Then a happy thought struck Mr. Roosevelt. "Uncle Jake," he said, "which would you rather have this cold morning, a ton of coal or a bottle of whisky?"

"Well," said the dandy hesitatingly, "it's this way, Mistah President, you see ma folks burn wood." - Boston Herald.