

BOY WILL SOON BE RICH.

Wonderful Rise of a Plucky Little Hungarian Lad.

Cleveland.—If Abraham Potiker lives on at his present pace he will be a millionaire. He is only 14 years old, but already he has saved \$550. He earned all the money in four months. Of this money \$300 is in a Cleveland bank and \$250 he sent to his father in Hungary to bring his parents to this country.

In addition to this he has fed and clothed himself, goes to school every day and has mapped out a special reading course for himself in the public library.

It's a simple matter for Abraham. Every one down town has seen him about the streets, city hall and the police headquarters with a couple of pasteboard boxes under his arm, smilingly happy.

In these boxes are candies and chewing gum. They are his stock in trade, his principal material asset. Out of those boxes in four months has come \$550. When he deposited the \$300 in the bank he wrote his name clearly for the clerk.

Over in Hungary his crippled father is preparing to come to his oldest son, the 14-year-old candy pedler of Scoville avenue southeast. There are six children, two girls and four boys, all younger, coming with him. Abraham has made the United States their land of promise.

TWIN GIRLS WORK SWINDLE.

Take Advantage of Their Remarkable Similarity to Confuse Clerks.

Pittsburg, Pa.—By taking advantage of their absolute similarity of appearance, twin sisters living outside of Pittsburg have been able to swindle a number of department stores recently. They were finally trapped by a 15-year-old salesgirl and were arraigned before Magistrate Brady, where they told their story.

According to a prearranged plan, one of the sisters would go into a store during the rush hours and make a purchase amounting to 25 cents and tender a \$10 bill in payment. The clerk would have the package wrapped up and hand over the change and package to the purchaser.

The latter would go outside and a moment later her sister would step up to the same clerk and demand her purchase and change. The similarity of appearance would fool the clerk, who, thinking she had made a mistake, would correct what appeared to be an error, and the second sister would get another package and \$9.75. They tried the scheme on Catharine Pay, a 15-year-old salesgirl, who at once detected the fraud. She followed one sister outside the store and saw her divide the money with the other, and they were both arrested. The prisoners were fined \$10 each and costs.

LOSERS PENSION BY TIMIDITY.

War Veteran Refuses to Strip Before Physicians for Examination.

Omaha, Neb.—Because he refuses to strip for a medical examination, John Darnough, a veteran who without the rigors of the civil war and distinguished himself by his bravery in battle, cannot get a government pension of which he stands in sore need.

Darnough is 64 years of age and a sufferer from catarrh of the stomach. Three times he has applied for a pension and each time he has refused to undergo the physical examination. In a letter received by the pension examiners in Omaha he again positively refuses to strip in the presence of the examining physicians.

During the war Darnough's comrades gave him the sobriquet of "Sissy John." It is said of him that he would never bathe in the presence of even his tent mate.

Although Darnough lives on a South Dakota homestead and has spent most of his life in the West, no tentfoot from the East probably ever had more delicate taste or niceness in the matter of dress.

His comrades say that when he was in the army he was never known to drink, smoke or chew, and that his only fault was a copious indulgence in profanity under provocation.

Turkey Too Big to Sell.

West Chester, Pa.—A 46-pound turkey, which was disposed of here by the raffling process on Christmas and New Year's, is giving lots of trouble. Since then it has changed hands ten times, and the present owner says it is an elephant on his hands. He can not use it, neither can he sell it, because of its huge proportions. The fowl is now to be disposed of for the eleventh time by raffie, and what the final disposal will be is the query of the hour.

New Wonders in Surgery.

Berlin.—Dr. Posner, professor of surgery at Berlin university, says surgery is making such progress that he looks forward to the time when surgeons will be able to grow artificial arms and legs to a body. He even goes further and says that in future surgeons will find no difficulty in attaching a beheaded head to the trunk, provided the operation is carried out expeditiously enough.

Carries Bullet 43 Years.

Bellefontaine, O.—Matthew S. Lyons of Beaver has just located a bullet which entered his face and destroyed his sight 43 years ago while a member of the Union army. The ball is below the left eye, and as Mr. Lyons is enjoying good health it will remain unremoved.

ONCE A COAL PASSER

CARLOS ROMERO, MEXICAN NOW WORTH MILLIONS.

Started With \$700, Bought Abandoned Mines and Made them Pay—Riches Have Not Turned His Head.

Hostotipaquillo, State of Jalisco, Mex.—Three years ago Carlos Romero, of this place, was employed as helper on a locomotive of the Mexican Central railroad, at \$20 per month, Mexican money, which is equivalent to \$10 United States money. He is worth to-day more than \$1,000,000, all made in mining. A few weeks ago he paid \$500,000 cash for a group of mines in this district. He owns a number of rich mines which are adding to his fortune every year at the rate of about \$1,500,000 every year. The Cabrera mine, one of his properties, was operated by the Spaniards more than a century ago, and it has a record of having produced more than \$50,000,000 during its early history. Its rich ore bodies were only touched on the surface and Mr. Romero is taking out great quantities of ore that runs high in value.

Mr. Romero was born of poor parents. He worked at odd jobs at a few cents a day until he obtained a situation on the Mexican Central as coal passer on one of the big locomotives. Romero saved, from his wages, small as they were. He could live cheaply, and \$20 per month was a big sum to him. His run was through a mining region, and he came into contact with miners at the various places along the line of the road. Year after year passed and Romero's pile of earnings increased until he had about \$700 saved.

He then began to look around for a safe investment for his little fortune. One day he learned that the ancient Mololoa and Tamara gold mines in this district could be bought for a trifle. The ore in the mines was thought to be exhausted. Romero got a lay-off for a few days and made a personal examination of the mines. He decided that they might still be worked with some profit. He bought the mines, making the first payment with his few hundred dollars. He quit his job on the railroad and went to work with his pick in the lower workings of the Tamara mine. He had been at it only a few days when he uncovered a bonanza of ore. It was the richest strike ever made in this district.

He got out enough to make the first shipment, which brought him a draft of more than \$10,000 from the smelter. A large force of men was employed, and both mines were placed in regular operation. A rich body of ore was also discovered in the Mololoa mine. Everything Romero touched seemed to turn into money. The two old mines netted him more than \$1,000,000 during the first year of their operation under his ownership. He bought other mines and they produced rich quantities of ore, which added to his fortune.

Mr. Romero's head has not been turned by his rapid rise to fortune. He lives in the simple, plain way that he did when he was earning \$20 per month. He has developed a remarkable business ability, and no man in the state of Jalisco stands higher as a shrewd, hard-headed man of affairs than he. He contemplates erecting here a magnificent palace for a home. It is said that it will surpass in grandeur the famous marble palace of Pedro Alvarado, the multi-millionaire mining man of Parral, whose meteoric rise to fortune has not been unlike that of Mr. Romero.

BRITISH GUNNERS ARE GOOD.

Report of Target Practice Shows Improvement.

London.—Further returns concerning the gun practice of the fleet have been issued. These reports give the result of the practice from 52 torpedo destroyers with 12-pounder and six-pounder guns and the result of tests with the rapid-firing guns on 89 ships of the fleet.

The targets used were six by eight feet, and the range varied from 700 to 1,000 yards.

The reports show that the percentage of hits to rounds fired has improved from 21.6 in 1905 to 34.5 in 1906, and the rate of hits per gun per minute has increased in the case of the 12-pounders from 2.12 to 3.41, and in the case of the six-pounders and three-pounders, except those of Vickers type, from 1.97 to 3.35.

Three ships mount three-pounders of Vickers type guns supplied with the telescope sight. With this gun an average of more than eight hits per gun per minute was made.

Alarm Clock Starts Furnace.

Winsted, Conn.—W. H. Bradford, employed in a stove store here, has rigged up a novel and simple contrivance in his home for the man who likes to sleep as late as possible winter mornings and at the same time have the house warm when he dresses. Before retiring Bradford winds and sets a small alarm clock and places it in a box in his bedroom. The alarm key is left in a horizontal position and a latch is so attached to a hinge on the back of the box that when the alarm goes off it is released and drops a supply of coal into the furnace, thus allowing the fire in the cellar to start up. Chains and pulleys are used. Bradford will apply for a patent.

LONG RIDE TO COLLECT TAX.

Corporal of Northwestern Mounted Police Crosses Arctic Wastes.

Winnipeg, Man.—In order that the government might not lose the few dollars it would receive from customs dues Corporal Seller of the northwestern mounted police made a 995-mile trip through Arctic wastes and successfully accomplished a journey which many an explorer would be proud of.

Seller was stationed at Fullerton, on the west coast of Hudson bay. He heard from natives that the Scotch ship Ernest William had put in further north and intended to trade with the natives. He decided at once that it was his duty to see that the ship and captain paid the dues required by the government regulations.

Accompanied by interpreter Ford and an Eskimo guide Seller set out on his long trip, which occupied two months. Intensely cold weather was encountered and many blizzards, but the only casualty was the death of one dog of their team of ten.

For two days both men and dogs were short of rations and had they not opportunely fallen in with a party of natives would have been in desperate straits. For a part of the journey the food had to be eaten frozen and raw, as alcohol and wood gave out.

The courageous policeman kept a diary from which these extracts are taken:

"Very cold day. Had both feet frozen."

"Terrible snowstorm. Must find natives to get food, but cannot stir while storm lasts. Our dogs have had nothing for three days and cannot possibly spare them anything from our scanty store."

"Another bad storm. Sent Ford and Eskimo out to look for natives. They found some who told them that the place where the ship was called Melachuseetka, the place where ghosts chase women."

At the end of two months the little party reached the place where ghosts chase women, and received a hearty Scotch welcome from the captain of the ship, who paid his government dues and outfitted the corporal for his return journey.

Seller receives \$150 a day.

SAVES \$5,000 LOST RADIUM.

Valuable Salt, Accidentally Spilled, Recovered With Sanitized Plates.

New York.—The wonderful properties of radium have enabled George B. Pegram, instructor of physics at Columbia university, to recover \$5,000 worth of the element which Dr. Robert Abbe, of St. Luke's hospital, this city, believed he had lost. Dr. Abbe was using radium in treating a patient and dropped the tube containing 50 milligrammes of it on the floor. The radium salt spread over the carpet and became invisible.

Dr. Abbe sought the help of Mr. Pegram, who visited the hospital with several photographic plates covered with black paper. These he had placed on the carpet where the radium was thought to be. Development of the plates showed him the exact position of the radium on the carpet. He then had that part of the carpet taken up and with the dust under it conveyed to his laboratory. In the laboratory Mr. Pegram shook all the dust out of the pile of carpet and then by a simple chemical process recovered about 50 milligrammes of a mixture of barium and radium bromide which he believes contains most of the salt that was lost. The whole amount lost was only about a grain.

UNCLE SAM'S STOCKING FULL.

Enormous Customs Receipts Swell National Surplus.

Washington.—Uncle Sam's Christmas stocking is full to overflowing, and with but a few days before the end of the first half of the fiscal year the government finds itself with a surplus of receipts over expenditures of more than \$23,000,000. At the same time last year there was a large hole in the national footwar, causing a balance on the wrong side of the ledger amounting to \$8,670,000, and congress was curbing its desire to appropriate money.

The enormous customs receipts thus far in the fiscal year continues to excite the gratification and amazement of the treasury officials. Never before in the history of the United States has there been such an inflow of money to the treasury from the customs collectors. The customs receipts thus far in the fiscal year have been, in round numbers, \$159,700,000. This is about \$14,000,000 more than receipts from customs in the same period of the preceding fiscal year.

Widespread general prosperity is the cause ascribed by treasury officials for the increase in receipts.

Relics of the Civil War.

Bloomington, Ind.—Among the most interesting relics of the civil war in this part of the state are two buttons from the uniform of Jefferson Davis, president of the confederacy, which are now in possession of Samuel Hunter, son of Gen. Morton C. Hunter. He has had the Davis buttons and two union buttons from his father's uniform, made into a pair of cuff buttons which he prizes highly. The Davis buttons were exchanged by Mrs. Frank Worely, formerly of Ellettsville, but now of St. Louis, for two buttons from General Hunter's federal coat. Mrs. Worely, a favorite niece of Jefferson Davis, was a close friend of the Hunter family, although differing widely from them in political faith.

WE LEAD IN EXPORTS

UNITED STATES SURPASSES ALL OTHER NATIONS.

Products Valued at \$1,700,000,000 Shipped to Europe and Other Countries During the Past Year.

Washington.—The United States is now the largest exporting nation in the world. Of the \$1,700,000,000 of products sent from American ports during the year, \$1,000,000,000 consisted of natural products and \$700,000,000 of manufactured products.

In the latter classification the United States shows the most remarkable increase. According to the report of the bureau of statistics just issued this country now supplies 15 per cent. of the total of the value of all kinds of manufactures now entering the world's international commerce. The report states:

Ten years ago, in the fiscal year 1896, they amounted to but \$258,000,000; in 1896, but \$145,000,000, and in 1876 \$105,000,000. The share which manufactures formed of the total exports was, in 1906, 42 per cent.; in 1896, but 30 per cent.; in 1886, but 22 per cent., and in 1876, 20 per cent. Thus the exports of manufactures in 1906 are three and one-half times as great as a decade ago, and the share which manufactures form of the total exports about one-third greater than at that time.

This is the first time that exports of manufactures have crossed or even approximated the \$700,000,000 line. Even in the fiscal year 1906, which is only six months away, the total exports of manufactures were but \$686,000,000; in 1905, \$612,000,000; in 1904, \$523,000,000; in 1903, \$468,000,000; in 1902, \$454,000,000; in 1901, \$466,000,000; in 1900, \$484,000,000; in 1899, \$380,000,000, and in 1898, \$325,000,000. Thus the exports of manufactures in the calendar year 1906 are practically twice as great in value as in the fiscal year 1898, having thus doubled in eight years.

Practically one-half of the manufactures exported from the United States goes to Europe, the great manufacturing section of the world. Of the \$686,000,000 worth of manufactures exported in the fiscal year 1906 \$138,000,000 worth went to Europe, \$182,000,000 to North America, \$75,000,000 to Asia, \$64,000,000 to South America, \$30,000,000 to Oceania, and \$13,000,000 to Africa. Of the \$318,000,000 worth of manufactures sent to Europe \$73,000,000 was manufactures of copper, \$46,000,000 mineral oil, \$14,000,000 manufactures of iron and steel, \$32,000,000 manufactures of wood, \$27,000,000 leather and manufactures thereof, \$16,000,000 naval stores, \$13,000,000 agricultural implements, and the remainder miscellaneous manufactures.

Of the \$182,000,000 worth of manufactures sent to the various countries of North America \$72,000,000 was iron and steel manufactures, \$18,000,000 wood manufactures, \$10,000,000 cotton goods, \$8,000,000 leather and manufactures thereof, and \$7,500,000 cars and carriages.

The United States now holds third rank among nations as an exporter of manufactures. The total exports of manufactures from the United Kingdom in the latest year for which statistics are available were \$1,333,000,000; from Germany, \$910,000,000; from the United States, \$700,000,000; from France, \$661,000,000; from the Netherlands, \$347,000,000; from Austria-Hungary, \$215,000,000; from Belgium, \$204,000,000; from Italy, \$200,000,000; from Switzerland, \$141,000,000, and from Russia, \$17,000,000.

It will thus be seen that in this grouping of the world's great exporters of manufactures the United States now stands third in the list, though it is proper to add that the figures for the United States are for the calendar year 1906, while those for practically all the other nations quoted are for the year 1905.

Manufactures form, however, a much larger percentage of the exports of the great manufacturing countries of Europe than they do of the exports of the United States. The share which manufactures form of the exports of the United Kingdom is 38 per cent.; Switzerland, 76 per cent.; France, 70 per cent.; Germany, 67 per cent.; Italy, 60 per cent., and of the United States, as above indicated, 43 per cent. in the calendar year just ended.

FARM OVERRUN BY CATS.

New Jersey Man, in Effort to Get Rid of Rabbits, Increases Troubles.

Morrisstown, N. J.—Dr. Joseph Ward, of the Lyons farm, near Newton, is in a sad predicament. The farm is overrun with cats. There are cats every where—in the house, the barn, the henney, the pig sty, the corn crib, and also in the well. Everywhere are cats—black cats, white cats, blue cats, brown cats and cats of other shades. And all because the doctor tried to rid his strawberry beds of the rabbits which destroyed large quantities of the fruit.

Under the game laws the doctor could not shoot the rabbits or drive them away with dogs, so he had recourse to cats.

Dr. Ward went out into the highways and byways and gathered in all the felines he could beg or borrow. Soon he had his farm overrun with them. They exterminated the rabbits, but now the doctor is looking for some way to get rid of the cats.

CLAIMS GIFT OF TONGUES.

Girl Shows Remarkable Power, and World's End Foreseen.

Cleveland, O.—Strange things are happening at the training school for missionaries at Alliance, O., conducted by Rev. Levi R. Lupton of that city and Rev. William E. Smith of Cleveland. Mr. Lupton and three or four of the young women pupils at the training school say they have just received the "gift of tongues" from God and are now able to speak several languages which they cannot understand, but which, they say, will enable them to go to heathen lands and preach the Gospel so that the natives can understand and be converted to Christ.

Among the pupils who received the "gift" is Miss Mary Corlett, a former Cleveland school teacher.

"I believe that a real gift of tongues has come to Miss Corlett. It is a divine gift and its effect, I believe, will be to convince people that God is still in the world," said Rev. J. Walter Malone of the Malone Stone company, also pastor of the Friends' church in Cedar avenue, S. E.

"I believe that the gift presages the end of the world. The apostles all had it. This means that the apostolic days have come again."

Rev. Mr. Malone was Miss Corlett's pastor in Cleveland.

By the "gift of tongue" Miss Corlett talks for hours at a time in languages that are unintelligible.

This "gift" came to Miss Corlett after long prayer. She is studying at Alliance to be a foreign missionary.

Rev. Mr. Lupton says he has been praying for years for the wonderful gift as is spoken of in the second, third and fourth verses of the second chapter of Acts. Recently, says the minister, he was under the power of God, as though in a trance for 11 hours, and when he awoke he was able to speak five languages, most of them unknown tongues and which at present he is unable to interpret.

BLONDE MEN ARE DISAPPEARING.

This Scientist Says It Is Too Hard to Keep Tab on Women.

New York.—That blondes are disappearing from the United States, and that, in time, save those that originate in drug stores none will be seen, is a contention Maj. C. E. Woodruff, of Plattsburg, presented to the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the recent meeting at Columbia university.

Once upon a time, when Americans were chiefly Anglo-Saxons, a large majority were fair. Now they are growing darker, even to the extinction of the blonde type, the major declares. Maj. Woodruff read a paper entitled "The Disappearance of the Blonde Type From the American Population" before the anthropology section. He presented some interesting statistics to prove his contention, and outlined a theory of causes.

Blondes, according to the major, that is, blonde men—are rapidly disappearing from American life. Should the process which is responsible continue unchecked, the time is not far distant when a flaxen haired man will be a curiosity. The major does not speak for the women. So difficult is it to gather actual statistics of the natural blondes among women, his figures touch only half the Americans. At certain seasons of the year blonde women seem to be on the increase. This usually happens in the spring and summer, when it is fashionable to wear soft, transparent, fluffy clothes. Then it is, the New Yorker thinks, some of the scientists allege that yellow is more becoming than brown or black.

"I have noticed after 25 years on the police force that in descriptions of women arrested in summer the word appears often," said a gray whiskered sergeant of an uptown police station. "But we have few blondes in the winter."

FEAT OF A ONE-ARMED MAN.

He Builds a Two-Story House Without Outside Help.

London.—Quite a pretentious two-story house stands at Rochester, England, as a monument to the industry of a one-armed man named Simpson, who is connected with the British postal service. The man has for many years been employed on one of the rural routes and as his time is not wholly taken up at his labor he spends a large part of each day at work on a farm which he owns and operates. Having a few spare minutes left each day, he thought occurred to him to build a residence for himself. He gave the matter some thought and finally drew the plans, which were submitted to the local authorities and duly approved by them.

He commenced the work of foundation laying and for ten years he gave the project what time he had after attending to his other duties and at the end of this period the house was complete in every particular. The interior woodwork was all in place and the walls and ceilings properly decorated and all of this was done by the one-armed Handy-Andy during his spare time. The cart in which the bricks and lumber were hauled was also constructed by the remarkable workman. In the rearing of the building all work was done by his hands, or rather his hand.

Mr. Simpson's arm was shot off by the accidental discharge of a gun when he was a lad of 12 years, but notwithstanding this handicap he has more to show for his industry and perseverance than most persons with the usual number of arms.

LATEST CHICAGO SEER

"DANIEL II." REVEALS IDENTITY TO SMALL BAND.

Says Lake Will Wipe City Out—Declares Earth Was Thrown Off Its Balance at Time of Crucifixion.

Chicago.—A new prophet has arisen in Chicago to seize the throne vacated by John Alexander Dowse. The latest reincarnation of the seers of old is "Daniel II," better known to the outside world as Dr. William Daniel Gentry, a former State street physician. The new prophet revealed his identity to a band of 23 souls at Central Mission hall on Clark street.

The people of Chicago need woe themselves no longer over the prospect of a deep waterway from the lakes to the gulf, proclaims the prophet, who is a strictly up-to-date seer. In a very short time the earth is going to take a little jump of a couple of hundred miles, as a result of which the deep waterway and many other improvements in the terrestrial globe will be accomplished immediately.

As a matter of fact, it is hardly worth while for the citizens of Chicago to bother themselves about anything at all, for they and their city will soon be resting quietly under 50 feet of water, and the ships of the nations of the earth will fall quietly over the Maanac temple. So saith the prophet.

In the orthodox manner prescribed by immemorial tradition, the gift of prophecy and the revelation of his identity with the hero of the lions' den came upon the unsuspecting Daniel like a flash. For nine years he had abandoned the practice of medicine to take up the more lucrative business of faith healing and the casting out of unclean spirits, for this purpose traveling all over the continent.

While passing near Hamilton, Ont., recently he fell into a deep trance, he declares. Before his eyes stretched a great valley. At the same time his sight attained a remarkable perspicuity and he gazed with eagle glance over the entire continent of North America, and saw the world as it had been in the days of the cave men, before even the Indian had seen the prairie.

Simultaneously the seer heard a voice proclaim in his ear that he was Daniel reincarnated to proclaim the great truth to the world. Awakening, Dr. Gentry hastened back to Chicago and summoned his followers.

In his glimpse of the world as it used to be Daniel discovered that the deep waterway from the lakes to the gulf indeed had been once an established fact and he set immediately about to discover how the change had come about. Naturally he turned first to the book which he had written in those far-distant times when he had witnessed to the truth before the King of Babylon and there he found the secret revealed.

According to the prophet the earth was thrown off its balance at the time of the crucifixion and in the 19 centuries which have elapsed it has been wandering on its misguided way, accumulating snow and ice, formerly unknown, and incidentally disrupting the internal navigation system of North America. As a conclusive proof of his statement Dr. Gentry points to the fact that the magnetic pole is several hundred miles from the north pole and also that investigation has proved that the polar regions formerly were within the tropical zone.

This state of things is all going to be altered very shortly, he says, but the manner in which the change will occur promises small comfort to Americans. The new prophet essentially is a man of wrath and his prophecies teem with denunciations and calamities.

When the change comes, he says, Lake Erie will disappear and Lake Michigan will arise and sweep Chicago out of existence. At the same time all the cities of the Atlantic coast will be inundated, he says. In order to avoid any unfairness in his distribution of calamities Daniel II. has provided earthquakes for the destruction of all the great cities of the interior and with disregard for figures, declares that "incalculable billions of people will be destroyed." Unlike Dowse, Dr. Gentry has no intention of building a new Zion. Those who believe in him, he claims, will be caught up out of the general devastation and conveyed to Jerusalem. He apparently is not concerned about what will happen in the rest of the world apart from North America and Palestine.

To Make Engagements Public.

Topeka, Kan.—State Senator Smith will introduce a bill in the Kansas legislature providing that all marriage engagements must be published in local papers and churches at least 30 days before the wedding ceremony is to be performed. Mr. Smith claims such a law would tend to prevent divorces, unhappy marriages and declares it is a highly satisfactory rule in several European countries.

Jake Mogg's Performance.

Humboldt, Ia.—Jake Mogg, of Audubon, Ia., has beaten the record for dry chicken picking. At Humboldt, just before the holidays, Mogg killed and picked 302 chickens in nine and one-half hours. The feat was accomplished with perfect ease, and Mogg is now considered the world's champion chicken picker.