Omaha, Neb.-"Tax Title" Scaman, the eccentric Omaha man who has accumulated a fortune of between \$100-, (no) and \$200,000 buying tax titles and who for years has boasted that it cost. him but 15 cents a day to live, has decided that he has been paying too much to keep his body and soul together and has resolved to cut down

his living expenses. He believes that he can reduce his living expenses to at least 12 cents a day and he purposes to do it if possible. Mr. Seaman, who is an old man, lives in a little one-room shanty near Benson, six or seven miles west of Omaha, and he never takes a street car, walking to the city in the morning and walking back home at night. He lives alone, doing this, own cooking,

washing and other housework. He never buys any but second-hand clothing and he buys that at the cheapest second-hand stores in the city and very rarely, wearing a suit till it is covered with patches sewed on by his own hand. Occasionally he goes to Kansas City, Denver, and other large cities in the west to buy tax titles and he always walks on these journeys, eating and sleeping at farmers' homes on the way and generally getting his food and lodging without paying for them.

He is one of the most eccentric characters in Omaha and he takes keen delight in the reputation for niggardliness he has won.

# FILIPINO TAKES HONORS.

#### Student at Normal School Wine in Oratory Contests.

Washington. - New honors have heen won by the Philippine students who are being educated in this country. Miguel Nicdao, who will represent Illinois in an interstate oratorical contest soon to be held at Emporia, Kan., is a student at the Normal school at Normal. He defeated all contestants in that institution and won a gold medal. Then he was successful in a contest participated in by all the state normal schools and won the right to contest in the interstate contest in which Wisconsin, lowa, Illinois, Kansas and Missouri will be represented.

At Cornell university the Philippine students have organized a sextet which has become one of the most popular organizations in the school.

At the normal school at De Kalb. Ill., the young Filipinos organized a champion football team which recently defeated the faculty team.

There are 182 young Filipinos attending school in this country as the wards of the Philippine government, most of them being scattered among the state institutions in the middle

#### HAS NO MEMORY AFTER FALL. Sixteen-Year-Old Boy Can Recall Nothing Prior to His Accident.

St. Peter, Minn.-In a fall from a cload of straw at his father's farm in Lafayette township, Walter Johnson, & a 16-year-old son of J. Aaron Johnson, received an injury to the brain that has affected him curiously.

 He has lost his memory completely, and can recall nothing that occurred prior to the time he was hurt. The boy was hurt while trying to prevent a younger sister from being injured. The two were riding on the straw, and when the girl lost her footing her brother clutched her by the arm. Both went to the ground together, the boy striking upon his head and losing consciousbess.

After he had gained the use of his faculties he was questioned concerning the accident. He could remember mothing of it, nor has he any recollection of things that happened only a few days before. The boy's doctors say that his case is a strange one. They are of the opinion that the first he years of his life will always be a blank. He will have to begin his edu-Cation anew and gradually develop his memory.

#### RICH MAN ELOPES IN OVERALLS, Flees with Mountain Girl and the Parson Fears for His Fees.

Bristol, Va.-H. G. Phillips, 26 years old, and Miss Emma Lilly, a mountain girl 17 years old, eloped to Bristol from Shady Springs, W. Va., and were married by Rev. A. H. Bur-

roughs.

The bridegroom was in his working clothes, and Mr. Burroughs had a suspicien that he might not be able to pay a reasonable marriage fee, but the stranger paid promptly and before he jest with his bride Mr. Burroughs Bearned that he had just received \$32,000 in cash from the sale of a fractional part of coal lands owned by him in West Virginia.

The young man excused his unpretentions appearance by saying that he was forced by circumstances to steal his girl in a hurry and had not had time to change his overalls.

Horse Quits at Whistle. Lawrenceville, Pa.-A union horse is owned by Judson Dale of Marsh Creek. The horse, Jack by name, refuses to work more than ten hours a day, and when he hears the whistle of the sawmill near Dale's farm blow at noon he quits work. When the gix o'clock whistle blows, the animal starts for the barn and cannot be stopped. Asron Brewer of Millertown has another curiosity in the shape of en hen which laid two eggs in one day recently.

GOLD MINING NEAR HOME.

#### Mountains Near Washington All Have Some Precious Ores.

Gold is mined within sight of Washington monument. The heights around the capital are a part of the Appalachian system and before the outbreak of the gold fever in California all the gold produced in the United States came out of the Appalachian mines.

Only the ores that contained free milling gold could be worked with the crude processes then known. Then, too, because of the presence of subterranean streams, mining could not be done at any great depth.

Nevertheless, gold mines are in profitable operation to-day in Maryland and southwestern Virginia, and these gold veins, badly broken and disintegrated, are being worked down through the Carolinas and into Geor-

gia and Alabama. There is not a ravine or gulch in the environs of Washington city where, if a man dig down to the gravel and black sand that lie over bedrock, he cannot, by panning, get a color. It has not been found in sufficient quantities to make placer mining attractive, though many men have washed out enough gold to have a ring or charm made.

A few miles west of Washington a man may see several small mines, some in operation and some abandoned. Great areas of gold-bearing rock have been uncovered or blocked out. Gold is obtained, but in many instances it has cost more to extract it than the gold was worth.

At present there is one mine in which extensive operations are being carried on, and though the operators do not talk for publication, the belief is general that they are making a good profit from the mine.-Technical World.

#### MAY BE GREAT BEGINNING.

#### Possibilities in Generous Gift of Mrs. Russell Sage.

In our great Appalachian chain there are many mountains that have a slow and steady slope on their northerly side, but break off into a precipice, giddy, sun-swept and glorious, toward the south. The vast fortune of Russell Sage is like one of those mountains. How many cold, patient, sunless years Sage spent in piling up that slowly climbing hoard! And now, if the benevolent hopes of Mrs. Sage are realized, it is to break suddenly away in a bewildering golden descent to the very doorways of the humbledwellers in the valley, bringing down

its flood of light and betterment. No one can doubt the essential benevolence of this gift, which is likely to become illustrious. It will depend a good deal on the way the trust or foundation is administered. If the money is frittered away in finding out new ways to theorize about the living conditions of the people it will simply prove a dignified way of throwing to the winds the income of \$10,000,000. But if it is used to apply the ax of keen, frank research and vital suggestion to the root of the evil of poverty, duliness, ignorance and vice, it may be the beginning of the end of the slum and whisky perversion of our civilization.

# The Larger View.

"Up around the Connecticut coast," Mr. Huggins will remark, with a bland, blue eye, "there are schooners in the business that are 150 years old and still staunch vessels."

You must not murmur at this. It is best not to gainsay sea-folk; they are tempestuous and squally, and besides. it would do no good. There is something about the salt sea air that makes hyperbole and the aggravated use of the multiplication table involuntarily. The size of a fish, the view of a sea-serpent, the length of a swim -all these things are known to expand and increase in the briny air as a flower develops in sunshine; it is something childlike, ingenuous, natural. Neptune is the father of meadacity.-Broadway Magazine.

# Pickings to Be Considered.

Andy Horn, who was once the proprietor of a large saloon on the New York East Side, was hiring as barkeeper a man who is now prominent in political life, and who tells the story with considerable giee. "I'll give you ten dollars a month," said Andy. "Ten dollars! A man can't live on that." "You forget the pickings," said Andy, in serious earnest. "The barkeepers down here tell each other that my till's the easiest one to work in New York." "I took the job without further argument," says the ex-bartender.

One Odor He Missed. At a big public luncheon Beerbohm Tree sat next to the dean of Manchester. Said a guest: "Well, Mr. Tree. what have you been doing to-day?" "Oh," replied the actor-manager, "I went for a long motor ride this morning and I lost a bet." "Indeed!" remarked the dean. "May I ask what the bet was?" "Certainly," said Mr. Tree. "I made a bet that we would pass through 400 different odors and we only encountered 399." "Ah!" was the quick reply, "you missed the odor of sanctity."

#### The Point. "What we want in this domestic machinery," she exclaimed with flashing eyes, "is something to choke

"Perhaps," he retorted, "but nothing would do that short of a throttling wengine."

off useless discussion."

DISLIKE SMELL OF KEROSENE.

#### Cats Particularly Will Not Stay Where Oil Is Used.

"I never knew until this winter," said the superintendent of a dog and cat hospital, "how thoroughly most animals detest the smell of kerosene. Several times the steam heating apparatus in this place went on a strike and we tried to raise the temperature by means of an oil stove. The smell of the oil produced a regular mutiny among the animals. Cats are particularly sensitive to the odor of kerosene. Next door to my house is a stationery store which has been heated all winter long with an oil stove. In the beginning of the season the proprietor owned a fine cat that seemed well satisfied with his comfortable quarters. No sooner, however, was that stove lighted than the cat deserted the stationer and sought a home for the winter in a steam) heated flat further down the street. He comes back once in awhile on a visit, but the smell of the oil prevents his becoming a regular inhabitant of the store."

#### HAD REACHED THE LIMIT.

#### Could Not Afford to Take Gloves and Give Tip Required.

Mrs. Potter Palmer while entertaining the National Civic Federation told an amusing story about country house

'You know," she said, "how huge these tips are, how many servants must be remembered, how, indeed, some people are obliged to refuse to visit large country houses because they can't afford the expense. Well, there is a story in this line about the famous Jonas Hanway. As Hanway was leaving the country house of a duke a string of servants waylaid

"'Sir,' said one, 'your overcoat.' And Hanway put on the overcoat and gave the man a sovereign. 'Your umbrella, sir,' said another.

And taking the umbrella Hanway surrendered another sovereign. "'Your hat, sir.' Another sovereign.

"'Sir, your gloves.' "'Why, friend, says Hanway, 'you may keep the gloves. They are not worth a sovereign."

## Anent the Billiard Cue.

Concerning the billiard cue and the old-fashioned "billiard mace," or "billiard mast," as Cowper wrote the word, it may be noted that the original French term for the instrument of the game was "Masse" or "billiard." "Queue," according to Littre, was at first the name of the tapering "tail" or striking end of the less clumsy stick that subsequently rose into favor, and eventually came to mean that stick itself. "Queue," in the sense of the tail of a wig, used sometimes to be written "cue" in English, but we reserve the French spelling now for this and for the tail people at a theater door, giving the English to the billiard stick and to the actor's "cue"-if that also represents "tail," the tail of the preceding speech. But, as the actor's cue used to be written "q" or "qu.," it has been thought to represent the Latin "quando" (when).

# Needed the Noise.

A man who had lived 18 years on a corner in Kansas City where two double tracks of street car lines cross sold his property a few months ago. He was advancing in years and thought he needed a home away from the rumble, clatter and clang of the cars. A week after he had moved he met a friend. He told his friend he thought his health was failing rapidly. He did not know what was the cause, but he had not been able to sleep since he had moved.

"Get back to the trolley line," was his friend's advice. He took it. "Never slept better in my life than I do now. I needed the noise," he said a few days later.

#### Reducing a Baritone. Oscar Hammerstein has engaged Sig. Ancona, his stout little baritone, on a singular condition, according to the New York Sun. "He's got to get five inches at least off his waist measure," Oscar said, "before I, ratify the contract. He's too fat to look any part but Falstaff and if he comes back here next winter without having taken off that extra girth there'll be nothing doing so far as the Manhattan Opera house is concerned. That's one of the definite conditions in his contract. Dalmores goes to a gymnsium every day, and there is no reason why they should not all do that when they're too fat.'

#### The First Offense. Tommy (who has been punished)-Mamma, did your mamma whip you

when you were little? Mother-Yes, when I was naughty. Tommy-And did her mamma whip

her when she was little? Mother-Yes, Tommy. Tommy-And was she whipped when she was little?

Mother-Yes. Tommy-Well, who started it, any way?-Lippincott's Magazine.

# Studying Greek for a Purpose. "Imes your son study Greek in col-

Oh, yes. He's very enthusiastic Over it." "I thought he didn't care for lan-

guages?" "Me doesn't as a rule, but next year the football team is to have Greek signals and Harry is trying for the

### NEGROES AFRAID OF COMET.

Report in Indian Territory Towns That Earth's End Is Near.

Muskogee, I. T .-- The ignorant negroes throughout Indian territory are greatly excited by the reported approach of a destructive comet. In many places they have quit work and are assembling nightly in churches and holding religious services.

It is reported at Fort Gibson and at many other points along the Arkansas river where there are large negro settlements that the comet is the only thing talked about, and the negroes believe that the world is coming to an end. This condition has reached such proportions that the Times-Democrat. a local newspaper, telegraphed Prof. P. J. J. See, of Mare Island, asking his opinion about the comet. His reply

"The comet is a ghost of the air. It is going from the earth instead of toward it. There is no danger of contact."

A great many Indians have also become alarmed over the agitation, but they are not demonstrative about it, as are the negroes. At Westville it is reported that meetings are being held nightly and prayer offered. These reports come from the smaller towns and rural communities. There is not much excitement among the negroes of the larger town, although it is understood that in nearly every church service Sunday reference was made

#### FINED FOR USING TYPEWRITER. Man Haled Into Court for Working His Machine During Night.

Paris.-A few days ago, according to a report from Balz, Switzerland, a journalist who manipulated his typewriter in his room at night was summoned in legal action for disturbing the other tenants. He was fined 80 cents or four days in jail with warning that a second offense would be dearer.

Similar cases crop out occasionally in Paris, where freak cases abound. Pianists are the most frequent offenders. The law says that pianos must not be banged after ten o'clock in the evening. Phonographs are rapidly becoming close competitors of pianos, but an instance has recently been recorded in which a phonograph played a role more useful than an-

noying. The landlord of a residential house let his ground floor to a coppersmith, the noise from whose workshop greatly disturbed the other tenants. One of them, instead of resorting to the complicated procedure of calling in experts, simply had the noise registered by a phonograph and brought action for damages against the landlord and coppersmith. By means of the machine he gave the court a correct idea of the nuisance complained of and judgment was given in his favor.

### UNCLE SAM HUNTS FOR HEROES. Naval Department Has Medals for Many Modest Sailors.

Washington.-Uncle Sam is to run opposition to Andrew Carnegie in "hero medal" distributing. Beneficiaries are to be those who fought with the American navy or marines in the Spanish-American war. It is not required that "heroes" Uncle Sam is hunting for saved the lives of anyone. If a veteran can prove he was especially active in the war he will

get a medal. "The navy is looking for every man who helped whip the Spaniards, as it has several hundred medals on its hands of which it wishes to dispose,' the instructions received here read. "Heroes who risked their lives in the service of their country are being actvertised for, but still the most of them have failed to answer the honor roll

By a legislative resolution on March 3, 1901, the secretary of the navy was authorized to issue bronze medals commemorative of naval engagements in the waters of the West Indies and on the shores of Cuba in the Spanish-American war. A board of awards submitted a list of engagements, but the secretary has enlarged the list so as to include all officers and men who were under fire.

# MAKES HIMBELF AT HOME.

#### Burglar Breaks Into House, Bathes, Sleeps and Then Robs.

Stamford, Conn.-After breaking into the home of two wealthy maiden sisters, the Misses Frances and Cornella Smith and finding it untenanted, a burglar calmly took a sleep in one of their rooms before selecting the articles which he wished to steal. He set the alarm clock for five o'clock. When he arose he took a bath, ate a hearty breakfast and then commenced a leisurely inspection of the valuable articles in the house.

The Smith sisters are in the south, and when the caretaker found the broken window in the kitchen he ran to summon the police. While an officer was climbing through the broken window the burglar walked out of the front door with several hundred dollars' worth of booty and escaped in the direction of Greenwich unseen by the officer.

# \$10 Clerk Elected Mayor.

New Haven, Conn.-William C. Gilbert, a shoe clerk, was elected mayor of Danbury by a majority of 425. He is president of the Danbury Republican club. He earns ten dollars a week. His opponent, William A. Braum, was elected last year by a mas jority of two votest

Edition pobdomadairy \$5.00.

## SUGAR BEETS IN ENGLAND.

Experiments in the Midland Section Prove Successful.

Washington.-Consul F. W. Mahin, writing from Nottingham, furnishes information regarding the cuffivation of sugar beets in England and the project to establish a sugar factory in Lincolnshire, stating that sudersaful experiments during the last sexson have been announced. Consul

Mahin continues: "The experimenters now state that: it is fully demonstrated that at least the midland section of England can grow the sugar beet to fully meet the requirements of quality, quantity and cost. For instance, on a farm near Stamford, in Lincolnshire, the yield of sugar beets last year averaged 20 tons per acre—the German average is given as about 16 tonsand expert analysis showed the quality of the beets to be highly satis-Tactory.

"A question has arisen which threatens to embarrass the sugar factory projects. Fear is expressed that if these projects were accomplished foreign sugar-producing countries would reimpose the bounties abolished by the international convention of 1902, which they could do by withdrawing from the agreement in 1908 after formal notice thereof, thereby crushing the incipient British industry. To allay this fear it is proposed that the British government be asked to give some guaranty that bountyfed foreign sugar shall not be allowed to compete on equal terms with that of the home product. It is reasoned also that without an assurance of this nature capital would shrink from the proposed beet sugar factories."

# TEACHER HALF A CENTURY. Never Married Because She Regards

Man in Light of Luxury. Sigourney, Ia .- "I have never had a love affair. I am heart whole and fancy free. I am not a man hater. I think they are very necessary at times, but I regard them in the light of a luxury generally. I never just exactly felt that I could afford to

support myself and a man too." This statement was made by Miss Nancy Frey, who has just opened her eightieth term of school, and at 71 years of age holds the unique position of being the oldest teacher both in years and point of service in lows.

Miss Frey was born in Knox county, Iowa, in 1835, and began teaching at the age of 20. Two years later her family removed to Sigourney, and since then Miss Frey has continuously taught school in Keokuk county.

"I began teaching in the days when teaching was the only profession a woman was allowed to enter with the consent of her relatives." said Miss Frey. "I was aware of two alternatives left for a school teacher. I chose to remain a bachelor girl. I don't allow anyone to call me an old maid."

Miss Frey has kept step with the progress made in pedagogy and her school is said to be one of the most advanced in study and the best disciplined in the state.

# TO COLLECT MILE OF PENNIES.

#### Women Adopt Unusual Plan to Pay Off a Big Church Dept.

La Porte, Ind .- There is a debt resting on the First Christian church, of which Rev. Marion H. Garrard is pastor. The Ladies' Aid society of the church has decided to lift the burden, and they will adopt an unusual methed of accomplishing the desired end.

They will collect a mile of pennies. Each member of the church will be supplied with a narrow strip one foot in length. On one side of the strip will be printed the financial plan. The other side will be divided into spaces large enough to hold a penny each, 15 to each strip. The coin side of the paper will be coated with an adhesive preparation to hold the pennies.

It is calculated that when a mile of pennies is received the sum of \$544.88 will have been collected, and this will enable the women of the charch to pay the debt.

Tells on Yankes Nimrods. London.-The British government has been advised that arrangements are being made in America by large bodies of sportsmen for a visit to East Africa, presumably in quest of game. By direction of his government the British ambassador has directed the attention of the department of state to this matter and has furnished the information that, with a view to protecting game from extermination, everyone must conform to certain strict regulations which are in force in the protectorates of British East Africa and of Uganda. Under these regulations it is necessary to obtain a sportsman's license, which costs about \$250 for each protectorate, and no more than 500 such licenses can be issued in any one year.

#### Grows Palms on Texas Soil. San Antonio, Tex.—The growing of

date paims for their fruit is a new and rapidly developing industry along the delta of the Rio Grande in Texas. Experts from the department of agriculture at Washington have made exhaustive experiments in this section, with the result that they unreservedly advise the planting of date palms in a considerable territory that by means of their soil surveys has been found to be particularly adapted

to their growth. This, with the exception of a small area along the Gila river, in Arizona, is the only section of the United States where these trees do wall.

# MORE COCOA IS USED

#### TASTE OF AMERICAN PEOPLE EVIDENTLY CHANGING.

#### Big Increase in Value of Imported Product While Coffee and Tea Show a Decline-Figures Pre-

pared by Government.

Washington. — Cocoa importations into the United States are now averaging more than \$1,000,000, a month, against an average of \$25,000 per month a decade ago. Meantime importations of both coffee and tea show a decline, especially during the last two years. Whether the taste of the people of the United States in the use of this class of the requirements of the table is actually changing can perhaps scarcely be determined by the record of a single year or brief term of years; but it is at least an interesting fact that the ; value of cocoa imported into the United States has more than quadrupled in the last decade, while that of coffee has actually decreased during that time, and that of tea increased about ten per cent. In quantity, however, the change has been less strongly marked.

The figures of the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor show that the quantity of cocoa imported in the eight months ending with February, 1907, is about three times as much as that of the corresponding months of 1897, a decade ago; that the quantity of coffee imported in the same eight months is more than one-third greater than that for the corresponding months of of 1897, and that the quantity of teaimported during the same period is. about 11 per cent less than in the corresponding months of 1897. Thus cocoa importations have increased practically 200 per cent, those of coffee 29 per cent, while those of teahave decreased 14 per cent during the decade.

The total quantity of cocoa imported in the crude state in the eight months ending with February, 1907. is 61,299,427 pounds, valued at \$8,344,-426, against 20,730,059 pounds, valued at \$1,930,831 in the corresponding months of 1897. The total quantity of coffee imported in the eight months of the fiscal year 1907 is 647,-206,151 pounds, valued at \$51,869,152, against 466,204,372 pounds, valued at \$53,332,608 in the eight months of 1897; and the quantity of tea imported in the eight months of 1907 is 72,-475,440, valued at \$11,606,058, against 81,220,822 pounds, valued at \$10,247,-50% in the corresponding months of

The average valuation of the cocoa imported in the eight months ending with February, 1907, is 13.6 cents per pound, against 9.2 cents in the corresponding period of 1897; that of tea, 10 cents, against 12.6 cents a decade ago, while coffee shows a fall, averaging eight cents per pound in the eight months of 1907 against 11.4 cents in the corresponding months

of 1897. It is only during the last decade that cocoa has formed any considerable part in the importation of arricles. of this character for the table. The value of cocoa imported in the crude state in 1887 was but about \$1,500,000..... By 1897, a decade later, it amounted to a little less than \$3,000,000. In 1907 the total will probably exceed \$12,000,000 for the full fiscal year, since the average for the eight months, for which a record is already made, is above \$1,000,000 per month, and in the single month of February the total importation was \$1,250,990. These figures do not include prepared or manufactured cocoa, of which the importations are comparatively small. amounting to less than \$500,000 annually.

A very large proportion of the cocoa imported is drawn from American countries. Of the 61,000,000 pounds imported in the eight months ending with February, 1907, over 15,000,000 pounds were from Brazil, over 13,000,-000 from the British West Indies, more than 10,000,000 from the West India islands, about 9,000,000 from South American countries other than Brazil, while the remainder came chiefly from Europe, but was presumably shipped first from the South American countries to European ports and dealers and thence to the United States. Brazil seems to be gaining in its contribution to both the cocoa and coffee consumption of the United States. A decade ago Brazil supplied but 17 per cent of the cocoa. imported into the United States, while in 1907 she supplied about 25 per cent. Of the coffee imported in 1897 Brazill supplied 76 per cent and in 1907 83 per cent, these figures in all cases for the eight months ending with February.

In tea importations the decade also shows a marked change in the source of supply. In 1897 China supplied 55 per cent of the tea imported; in 1907 but 33 per cent. Japan, which in 1897 supplied 37 per cent of the total supplied in 1907 practically 50 per cent. The importations of tea from the United Kingdom and the East Indies combined, which may probably be considered as representing the East Indian tea imports, formed in 1897 about six per cent of the total and in 1907 about 14 per cent of the total imports of this article.

Shunned Men for 27 Years. Omaha, Neb .- Miss Jennie E. Carroll, a Wyoming spinster, is dead. She had not spoken to a man for 27 years, and requested that none but warnen attend her funeral.

# L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS