

SPANIARDS DO CUBA'S WORK

Natives Are All Right in Some Lines of Employment, but Not as Laborers.

"Ninety per cent of the laborers on the plantations and in the mines of Cuba are Spaniards," said Burton Vandye, superintendent of one of the largest iron works in Santiago, at the New Ebbitt. "They make good workmen, far better than the natives of Cuba. In fact, the Cubans will not work as laborers. They are all right in other lines of employment, but not as workmen. The Spaniards have almost entirely taken the place of laborers of other nationalities. The wages paid are based on an average of a dollar a day, but many make as high as two dollars doing 'task' work.

"Cuba is rich in minerals, but the development of the islands is retarded by the continued unrest, due to the fear that at any time, as in any Latin country, there may be a revolution. I don't mean to say that there is any reason to think a revolution is imminent in Cuba. That would not be correct, but there is always the apprehension that some time there may be an uprising.

"I have given no attention to politics in Cuba. That is a question that doesn't appear to concern many Americans. There is no doubt, I think, that if it were not for the unsettled political conditions of Cuba, American capital would feel safer in investing there, and there would be many more Americans there. At this time I do not believe there are any more Americans in Cuba than there were a few years ago, although the opportunities for making money in sugar plantations and in other lines are many."

SHE WENT HOME TO MOTHER

Habit of Talking in Sleep Causes Serious Break in the Brown Family.

"And pray, who is Doris?" was the question that startled Mr. Brown (who is addicted to that ill-conceived habit of talking in his sleep), as he woke the other morning and found his better half sitting up in bed with an interrogation point in her eyes.

"Doris, Doris, Doris who?" "That's just what I want to know; you've been repeating that name over and over again."

"Oh—ah—yes, yes, of course. It's Charlie Jones' new collie dog. She's a perfect beauty."

"Indeed?" "Rather; she's just the sort of dog—"

"You ought to own? Certainly—you appear very fond of her. You asked, you will be pleased to hear, this collie dog to put her arms around your neck and kiss you; then you told Mr. Jones that you 'loved her with all your heart'; and that 'when you come to die if you could only lay your head on Jones' dog's bosom, you could breathe your life out sweetly there.' Then you asked Jones' dog to 'have another ice,' and if the watch you had given her kept good time. Under these circumstances, James Brown, I think, perhaps, you had better go to Jones' collie dog. I am going home."

Generous Harpies.

"On the return of the army from the Philippine islands most of the troops were mustered out in San Francisco. In advance of their arrival at that point, the pension attorneys of Washington hurried to the spot to open offices or have their agents ready to meet the returning soldiers. According to the language of the soldiers themselves, the rival agents beset them at once, importuning them to file their claims for pensions without delay. To the bewildered youths, eager only to reach their homes, 75 attorneys seemed to be pursuing each victim, assuring him that it was his duty to file his application, whether an invalid or not. The hospitals had to be guarded against these tormentors, maneuvering as friends of the invalids. In the case of a single regiment composed of officers and men of exceptional physical excellence, 477 applications for pensions were filed within four months, for over 20 different diseases.—Charles Francis Adams in the World's Work.

When Lehar "Couldn't Play."

When Lehar, the composer of "The Merry Widow," and recently of "Eva," which will soon have its first performance in Berlin, was the leader of a military band in Vienna, he was an applicant for the place of director of a musical association in that city. One of the requirements was "familiarity with and ability to direct waltz music." Lehar appeared with the other applicants for examination, and was promptly rejected. "Symphonic music seemed to be more his sphere than dance music." It had been believed that the judges had formed a true opinion of the trend of his talent, he would probably still be as unknown to the world as he was when he marched at the head of a Vienna brass band.

Giving It Away.

Being called to his feet unexpectedly at the gathering and asked to respond informally to the toast "The Ladies," Mr. Giffers hemmed and hawed and began: "My friends, all that I am, all that I have in the world, I owe to a woman—my wife."

Here he was interrupted by that lady herself, who arose and said: "I told you, when you put the property in my name, you'd give it away first time you opened your mouth."

BANKERS FARE WELL

Leavenworth "Colony" Is Accredited Special Privileges.

Nearly One-Half of Violators of Banking Laws Have Been Released on Parole From Federal Prison—Are Well Behaved.

Leavenworth, Kan.—The "banker colony" at the United States penitentiary here has lost almost one-half of its population through the operation of the parole law, which became effective last June. The departures include the most widely known convicted violators of the federal banking laws. When the parole law became effective, the "bankers' colony" numbered 40 men and it now includes but 24 former financiers.

The present population includes two presidents, one vice-president, eight cashiers, two assistant cashiers, five tellers, two bookkeepers and three clerks, who are serving sentences varying from 15 years, in the case of William W. Montgomery, former cashier of the First National bank of Pittsburgh, to one year and a day, the sentence given to Herman Genns, formerly a clerk in a national bank at Houston, Tex.

Several of the bankers remaining have appeared before the parole board and are expecting early release, and several others will be eligible to appear at the next meeting of the board in January. It is understood favorable action of the board on several applications are awaiting approval of Attorney General Wickham.

At the first meeting of the parole board at the prison in November, 1910, it acted favorably upon the application of several bankers, among other prisoners, and at each session other bankers have been recommended by the board for release, but not all of these recommendations have received the approval of the attorney general.

During the present year but five men connected with national banks have been received at the penitentiary, which is the smallest number received since 1907, when four came in, and there is much speculation as to the eventual disappearance of the famous prison colony.

Of the 24 bankers in prison only one is due to leave this year by expiration of sentence. He is Herman Genns of Houston, Tex., who was released December 26, when his term expired by "good time" allowance. Two are due to leave in 1912, one in January and one in March, while the last of the present list, unless his time is shortened by parole or commutation of sentence, will leave December 24, 1913.

As a rule, the banker convicts are among the best behaved in the prison, only one having violated a rule of sufficient importance to merit solitary confinement. This man is said to be a disturbing element. He has applied for parole at each meeting of the board, but in each instance has been rejected and he will remain in prison until his sentence is completed.

Nearly all of the 45 convict clerical and stenographic positions at the prison are held by former bankers. Some are holding responsible positions, such as in civil life would command a salary of from \$150 to \$200 a month. With one exception all are "trusties" and, as such, are accorded more privileges than the less better behaved men. Now that the bankers are going, former postal employees are getting the clerical jobs.

The "banker colony" occupies rooms over the office of the deputy warden, which are used by them as a dormitory, each banker having a "room-mate." The rooms are better furnished than ordinary cells, the windows having white curtains, and each man can, under limitations, furnish the room to give it a more homelike appearance. The "rooms" are not locked at night as are the cellhouses, and the only key turned upon them is the one in the outer office of the building. After they retire to their rooms at the close of the day's work they are free to visit each other, under certain restrictions, and can smoke, gossip or amuse themselves as they see fit.

DODGES FANGS OF DEATH

Keeper of the Bronx Zoo in New York Ducks and Cobra Strikes Ground.

New York—A ten-foot king cobra at the Bronx Zoo gave a performance the other day that was entirely unlooked for by the throng gathered in front of his cage. The spectators had been attracted by the snake's hostile attitude toward a small black snake, which he was handling in the manner in which a cat teases a mouse.

Keeper Charles Snyder opened the door in the rear of the cage to assist the black snake. The cobra coiled and flung himself toward Snyder. The keeper ducked and the snake landed on the ground. Then there was action, enjoyed by the crowd safe in front. A snake fears a shovel or a broom. Attendants soon had one of each at work, but at that it required an hour to get the cobra back into his cage.

Inherits Fortune and Drops Dead.

Middletown, N. Y.—John Taylor, who received word a few days ago that he had fallen heir to a portion of an estate valued at \$180,000, dropped dead. His body was found in his barn near this city. Taylor had planned to give up farming as soon as he received his legacy.

ELKS CAN'T EAT ELK MEAT

When They Tried It in California a Game Warden Made a Raid.

One hundred and twenty Elks gathered at the Elks' lodge at San Rafael the other night to banquet on elk meat, but a game warden descended upon the club, confiscated and bore away the savory, steaming, well-cooked elk meat, and the Elks were forced to dine on beef. It was to be a great celebration in honor of L. F. Douglas and John J. Deane, mighty hunters.

Douglas and Deane had brought back 57 pounds of delicious elk meat from their recent Wyoming elk hunt. Two hundred and fifty invitations were sent, and the cooks converted the delicious meat into savory steaks and roast. The banquet was scheduled for 7 o'clock.

Deputy Game Warden Hunter entered the lodge at 6:30 o'clock, as the Elks were chuckling over the savory odor of the cooked meat which permeated the lodge.

"You may have Elks in your lodge," said Hunter, displaying his badge of office, "but, my sirs, elks is deer, and it is closed season for deer in California, and therefore you cannot eat elk." And forthwith he carried away the banquet food. A makeshift banquet on beef followed, but most of the Elks went home dissatisfied.—San Francisco Chronicle.

DULLS EDGE OF COMPLIMENT

But Amateur Musician Bravely Trained From Making Explanation to Young Lady.

Every evening for three weeks twin brothers had been practicing for an amateur band concert. One twin, Joseph, played a cornet, and the other, Joel, operated on the violin. Meeting a young woman, Joseph asked her if she would attend the musical feast.

"Yes," she said, "and I think it will be very nice indeed. I've heard you and your brother practicing. That symphony of yours last night on the cornet was exquisite."

Unfortunately the keen edge of this compliment was dulled, because Joseph recalled that he had not played a cornet on the previous night. He had practiced on a trombone, but bravely refrained from making an explanation.

"And there was another piece that caught my fancy," the young lady continued. "It seemed like a Wagnerian extract. Do you also play a saxophone?"

"No, miss," was the amateur's admission. "I wonder what was the other instrument I heard last night?"

"I can't say positively, but if it was about nine o'clock, I think brother Joel was either putting a new string on his violin or tuning the old piano."

General Invitation.

One morning Miss Lucy Halcomb, the most fastidious housekeeper in Busby, who was reported to have washed an unfortunate grand-nephew into a decline, opened her front door, having heard strange noises on the piazza.

There stood a tramp, his shoes caked with mud, which he was scraping off with a knife and kicking off by alternate applications of his heels on her door-mat.

"What are you doing?" demanded Miss Lucy, indignantly.

"Doing!" echoed the tramp. "I was starting round to the kitchen to ask the young lady I saw hanging out your clothes if she'd hand me a bite of breakfast. Then I thought I didn't make a very good appearance, and I was about to go on to the next house when I saw this mat with the invitation, 'Please use this Mat,' right on it, so I stepped up here. In about five minutes more I'll look well enough so I can go round to the kitchen."

"Well!" said Miss Lucy. "Well!" and then she closed the door, being unable to think of any appropriate remarks.—Youth's Companion.

Jewels of Indian Princes.

Some of the Indian princes possess jewels which would put those of Abdul Hamid in the shade. At the 1903 durbar the blaze of gems surprised even the Indians themselves. The Maharajah of Darbhanga was wearing a diamond necklace which had cost \$90,000, and was considered a bargain at that. Besides a necklace of 13 rows of perfectly matched pearls as large as filberts, the Maharajah of Gwalior displayed a sash depending from his left shoulder to his right knee, the material of which was completely hidden by similar stones. Another rajah carried a sword-hilt cut from a single emerald, and in the turban of the Nizam of Hyderabad was the Nizam diamond, which weighs 277 carats, or more than twice as much as the Koh-i-Noor.

One-Time Tramp Reaches Honor.

William H. Davies, recently placed on England's civil pension list with a pension of fifty pounds a year, is probably the first actual tramp in the history of that country to be so honored. Davies is a Welshman by birth and a tramp by preference, having lived the life, for many years in this country and England. He is minus a foot, the result of a stolen train ride. After years of vagabondage he turned his attention to literature, and following many bitter disappointments "arrived." He has written both verse and prose.

MONKEY TURNS ON SCIENCE

Flees From Doctors Preparing to Give Him Infantile Paralysis and Escapes Pursuers.

New York—An intelligent monkey sat in his cage in one of the laboratories at Cornell Medical college, watching doctors at work under the direction of Dr. Arthur Throw. They were preparing a saline solution containing sweepings from a room that had sheltered a case of infantile paralysis. It is possible that he suspected their intention of injecting the filtered solution into his spine. At all events, he could be heard for a surprising distance as he voiced his feelings.

Finally the filtration was finished, and the attendants opened the cage. The monkey bounded out, leaped to the window and vanished by the way of the five-inch coping between the first and second story window. Workmen passing by along Twenty-eighth street were treated to an unusual exhibition of simian antics, continued by the truant, who was dead to the coaxings from the window.

Then traveling west on the coping, he came to the space between the college building and the Manhattan brass works. This space is used for coal, and it is closed by an iron fence. The monkey tried a flying leap and succeeded in escaping the gates, but he found the fence uncomfortable. For his next leap he took the startled shoulders of one Michael O'Brien, who was working in the inclosure. Then, before the man's hands could close upon him, he jumped for the coal pit and disappeared.

PRAISES WORK IN ENGLAND

Sunday School Worker Closes Tour and Finds the Movement Progressing.

London.—Marion Lawrance, the American Sunday school leader, brought to a close his British tour. It had lasted since September, when he left Chicago.

The object of this tour was five-fold: To inspire and strengthen the interest in Sunday school work, to consider practical Sunday school problems of the day, to emphasize the Sunday school as the church's best evangelistic force, and to call attention to its work as a missionary force and as a medium for the cultivation of the spirit of international brotherhood and peace.

Mr. Lawrance considers the position of the English Sunday school movement to be satisfactory. When asked whether he considered the American child brighter than the English, Mr. Lawrance replied:

"No, children are children the world over. His aphorisms have a directness that appealed to Sunday school leaders throughout the kingdom.

"It is all very well," he says, "to attract children to Sunday schools; but you must make it worth their while to remain inside. You can fool chickens by offering them sawdust once or twice, but not for a longer time. "If you go fishing, and the fish will not bite, you don't throw stones at them. You just change your bait."

CAN'T TELL HIS SONS APART

Marvelous Twins Exchange Sweethearts, Who Don't Know It—One More Bald Than the Other.

Fort Worth, Tex.—John Cobb Harris, a wealthy Mansfield farmer, came to Fort Worth to make a new will, because he was unable to tell his twin sons apart. The will he destroyed gave John Harris certain property and Cobb, the other twin, other realty, but Harris had divided his property just opposite to his own desires.

Harris' sons are 22 years of age and among the most remarkable twins in the country. Both are six feet six inches tall and muscular. With their hats on their father cannot tell one from the other, but John is a little more bald than his brother.

The twins keep a common bank account and always speak of "our money," "our horse" and even "our girl," as they frequently play a joke on their sweethearts by exchanging them.

FEW PRIZE FIGHTERS KILLED

Only One Pugilist Dies in Five Years in London Because of Boxing Matches.

London.—Replying to Silvester Horne, M. P., who asked for the number of persons killed in prize fights and boxing encounters in the United Kingdom during the past five years, the home secretary states that such deaths are not separately classed in the registrar general's statistics.

The deaths included under the heading "Fights, Wrestling, etc.," in 1905 numbered 11; in 1906, 9; in 1907, 8; in 1908, 19, and in 1909, 11. "Probably very few of these deaths were at prize fights," says Mr. McKenna, "as in London during the five years covered by the figures there was only one death in connection with a prize fight." In Ireland not more than two deaths in the five years could be attributed to prize fights or boxing matches.

He Never Heard of Bryan.

Allentown, Pa.—Because he declared he had never heard of William Jennings Bryan, that statement temporarily deprived Charles Wallitch of American citizenship, Judge Trexler, who put the question to the applicant, deferring action to give Wallitch opportunity to post himself upon the personal candidate.

TO TALK UNDER SEA

Will Soon Be a Reality, According to Prophets.

Submarine Link Between England and France Was American Scientist's Invention—Prof. Pupin's Inspiring Work.

Chicago.—Twice within comparatively recent times has the feat of telephoning across the Atlantic ocean been pronounced not only feasible but within the probability of almost immediate accomplishment. The first prophecy was made thirty-five years ago by Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, soon after he had invented the telephone. But in a recent letter to Popular Mechanics Dr. Bell said: "I may say I am a little more skeptical now. . . . I have no doubt, however, that it will be done some day."

The second prediction was made by a former president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers in an article on the important researches of Prof. M. I. Pupin of Columbia university, by which the problem of long distance telephony over land lines of hundreds of miles in extent was made practical, and many other authorities also concurred in this view. Now, as Dr. Bell has said in his case, they are more skeptical.

But, after all, the difficulties in the way are only of a practical nature and probably will soon be overcome. Only a few months ago the telephone engineers succeeded in adapting Pupin's invention to a submarine telephone cable across the English channel, between England and France, so that telephone conversation can now be carried on successfully between the two countries. And this was in the face of hostile criticisms by eminent European and American telephone engineers, that the practical difficulties in the way of this accomplishment could not possibly be overcome. Yet the thing was done in spite of the doubting Thomases of the telephone profession. Then why not a transatlantic submarine telephone? It is, of course, a much more difficult proposition, but the obstacle is one only of degree, and as the problem is theoretically possible it is quite likely that eventually a solution will be found.

Maj. W. A. J. O'Meara, engineer in chief of the work of connecting England and France by telephone, is confident that transatlantic telephony will come with continued advancement in the means of increasing the range of telephonic speech. In a letter to Popular Mechanics Magazine he says:

"As to my views on the possibility and value of establishing a telephone across the Atlantic, I may say that such a service would of course, be of considerable value, but such a desirable consummation does not at present appear to be immediately sight."

"Existing means or devices for increasing the range of speech, both in submarine and subterranean conductors, may be very considerably improved in the near future and further improvements may be made both in transmitting and receiving apparatus. "In view of the enormous strides made in recent years in the direction of increasing the range of telephonic speech, I think the prospect of transatlantic telephony is full of hope, and I confess that I have great faith in the ability of engineers to provide eventually the means for closer intercourse of peoples separated by obstacles which may be considered insurmountable nowadays."

At first blush the layman will point out that transatlantic submarine cable telegraphy has been in successful operation for many years, so why not transatlantic telephony? The answer is that while telegraphy is possible as long as the receiving station is able to discern the difference between a short and a long electrical impulse, the impulse that constitutes an electrical telephonic message must be transmitted and received with little or no articulation in order to be recognized as articulate speech at the receiving station.

Cable telegraphy differs from land telegraphy on account of the fact that a submarine cable possesses in a high degree what is known as "capacity," that is, before it will transmit electrical impulses in measurable amounts it must be electrically charged in a manner similar to a Leyden jar.

Sailors Bite a Shark.

New York.—Capt. S. G. Hupper, mate Edson A. Gay and six black sailors of the American schooner Stephen G. Hart, abandoned floating on her cargo of lumber off the Virginia coast, arrived by the steamship Bermudian from Bermuda, where the shipwrecked men were landed by the steamship Caedue, which took them from the dismantled schooner.

All hands had been without anything to eat, and nothing to drink, for more than 24 hours when, on Wednesday of last week they espied two man-eating sharks pursuing a drifting hatch. The sharks were unaware that there were in their vicinity eight shark-eating men. Captain Hupper bent a poker into a hook and put a piece of rotten salt horse on the hook. One of the sharks bit and was hauled aboard and cut up and the tenderest steaks of him were roasted on a fire built on the deck. The other parts of the shark were thrown to his shipmates, who gobbled them and swam away. All save this part of the yarn of the wreck was sent from Bermuda.

FIND SKELETON IN MOUND

Another Murder Mystery of Early Kansas Days Believed to Have Been Unearthed.

Another murder mystery of the early days of Kansas is believed to have been uncovered when workmen leveling what was supposed to be a natural mound on the farm of John Noland, near Junction City, uncovered a tomb 30 feet in diameter which contained portions of three skeletons believed to be those of white people.

The skulls do not resemble those of Indians, and in one skull a small hole such as could be made by a bullet was found. The forehead bone of each is prominent, like that of the white race. One man was of unusual stature, as is shown by the bones found in a corner of the room.

There is a tradition among the older residents of Junction City that a family of whites disappeared mysteriously years ago and was thought to have been murdered, but this cannot be verified.

When the first white settler came to this section the mound was there. Recently John Noland decided to level it and use the land. The workmen struck what appeared to be a stone wall. They dug deeper and around it and soon uncovered a tomb 30 feet in diameter with stone walls 10 feet thick. The top, which had been arched over at one time, had caved in. It was 4 feet high.

Entrance was gained to the tomb by a passageway 3 feet wide and a chamber 10 feet long. The tomb had been constructed of natural surface rock.

The tomb contained no trinkets, guns or other articles by which identification could be made possible. The authorities who have taken charge of the find have not yet been able to tell whether any one of the three skeletons is that of a female.

COUNT HAD OTHER PROSPECTS

Financial Smash-Up of Prospective Father-in-Law Did Not Cause Him to Worry.

Col. Alexander S. Bacon, president of the Men's Equal Suffrage League of Brooklyn, said the other day to a reporter:

"Yes, it's true that you won't find many American peereesses enrolled under the suffrage banner. The girl who lets a foreigner marry her for money is, anyways, a rather poor specimen."

Colonel Bacon frowned. "There's a New York man," he said, "whose daughter, during a winter in Nice, got engaged to a certain Count Beau de Beaumont. The New York man was rich at that time, but a few weeks before the date set for the wedding he went to smash."

"My dear Count Beau de Beaumont," he groaned that night, "I'm very sorry for you. You are to marry my daughter—you were to have had \$35,000 a year—but the crash has come. I'm ruined now. How sorry I am, count!"

"But Count Beau de Beaumont glared on the back.

"Oh, don't you worry about me, sir," he said, with an easy laugh. "With a title like mine, you know, I can find another heiress tomorrow."

"Made It So."

At Fort Monroe some time ago (this is an old story), where one of the vessels of the navy was temporarily awaiting orders, a delegation of army officers stationed at the fort came aboard. There is a set naval regulation that nothing can be so on board ship until the commanding officer orders it. While the army party were looking over the ship, twelve o'clock arrived. A junior officer approached the captain and said, with a salute: "It is twelve o'clock, sir." "Make it so," responded the captain, and eight bells were struck. The army officers suspected that the navy men wanted them to ask some questions and get sold, or that this was a bit of foolery got up to joke the land warriors. Some time after a party of the army officers invited the officers of the warship to dine with them. The dinner was progressing when a lieutenant entered and, saluting the senior officer present, said, gravely: "Colonel, the major's blind horse is dead."

"Make it so," responded the colonel, with the greatest gravity, and the dinner proceeded. Nothing was said at the time, but the navy officers tell the story.

More Pay, More Love.

"New York city school ma'tams are going to be an attractive target for Cupid's shafts in the near future," said a principal the other day. "With salaries ranging from \$1,850 to \$2,400 yearly, even an extravagant spinster will be able to boost the credit side of a savings account. Some of my women teachers already report an increase in the number of suitors, and they say there is an appreciable increase in the fervor of their beaux' protestations of affection."

An Endless Chain.

"We're kind of irritated in our flat," said the worried-looking man. "What's the trouble?" "Our children keep the next-door neighbors awake, so they pass the time by playing the piano; that makes the pet dog next door to them bark, and that keeps the children next door awake, and there's so much noise through the building that there's no chance whatever of our children going to sleep."