

### FORM PRODIGY CLUB

#### Young Mental Wonders of Harvard the Founders.

Master Sals, a Ten-Year-Old Expert on "Fourth Dimension," One of the Organizers of Society.

Cambridge, Mass.—A prodigy club has just been founded in Harvard, where there have been for the past few years boys who entered possessed of extraordinary mental attainments. The two best known of these are the sons of Prof. Weiner of Harvard and Dr. Norris Sidis, the eugenic expert of Boston. The sons of both these men were trained under specially prepared schedules of study, which included with a native ability has been found in extraordinary types of mental activity.

Dr. Norris Sidis recently asserted that he could produce a prodigy from any American child of average intelligence under his system of development. His son, William J. Sidis, when ten years old, passed into the Massachusetts Institute of Technology because the age limit at Harvard kept him from entering. When he was a freshman at Harvard young Sidis lectured on the mathematical problem of the fourth dimension. Among the learned professors in the special audience was the late William James.

Another prodigy is fourteen-year-old Norbert Weiner, who is in Harvard's graduate school, having taken his degree at Tufts college. Besides being a linguist he is a mathematician of ability.

The curious features that have been noticed about these boys is their eagerness to put aside their studies for simple games that delight young children.

As they have both been exploited by the magazines, where their pictures have appeared, these two boys a few days ago called on some others in Harvard, who are quite as gifted, and the following conversation, savoring of the nursery, took place.

"Have you been written up?" asked young Weiner of the newest genius.

"Not yet, but they came and took my picture the other day."

"Oh, that's nothing. I had a whole article about myself written by my father," said young Sidis.

"Let's found a Harvard Prodigy Club," suggested the boy bachelor of arts, Weiner.

And so the four child wonders have formed Harvard's first and only prodigy club. The latest addition to the club is Adolph A. Berle of the freshman class, son of the Rev. A. A. Berle of the Shawmut Congregational church in Boston.

### THE PLUMBER WORMS TURN

#### Propose to Bring Suit Owing to Assertions in Begbie's New Book.

London.—At a meeting of the Institute of Plumbers held the other day exception was taken to the statements regarding plumbers made by Harold Begbie in his latest book.

In a chapter headed "The Plumber," according to a delegate at the meeting, Mr. Begbie said that the plumbing trade was the worst from the moral point of view, that there was no bigger set of thieves than those of the plumbing trade, that he did not know why it was, but plumbers appeared not to be able to help it. He would sooner have a burglar in the house than a plumber. Further, if these were "rum" things to say about the whole trade, they were nevertheless true.

The meeting, in solemn conclave, decided that plumbers were tired of being the butt of comic papers, and a resolution was passed ordering that legal opinion be obtained as to the chance of winning a libel suit against Mr. Begbie as a warning to others.

### USES CHAMPAGNE FOR SHAVE

#### Seattle Visitor Makes Lather With Wine Because of Water Famine.

Seattle, Wash.—It has been forbidden for any person to take a bath either in a private residence, public bath, club or hotel, because the city has been without water since the pipes were carried away.

J. J. Forster, of Chicago, an officer of the Atlantic steamship service of the Canadian Pacific railway, staying at the Calhoun hotel, went without a shave and a bath as long as he thought he could and then he rang for a pint of champagne, mixed his shaving lather with it and had a delightful shave, he says. Then he ordered eight gallons of milk and indulged himself in a milk bath.

### GIRL DENIES SIX MURDERS.

Lafayette, La.—Arrested and accused of the murder of six persons, then confronted with her blood-soaked clothing that had been found near the crime scene, Clemantine Barnabot, a negro girl, laughed at the police, refusing to admit any part in the murders.

Her brother and two other young negroes have been arrested with Clemantine as material witnesses.

The family of Norbert Randall, including six persons, were found in bed, their bodies horribly hacked. It is believed they were murdered as they slept.

### PRESS ACCUSED OF SLANDER

#### Husband of Late Mlle. Lantelme Enters Suit for Libel Against Parisian Weekly Review.

Paris.—M. Alfred Edwards, husband of the late Mlle. Lantelme, who is well remembered, was accidentally drowned through falling from the window of her cabin on board M. Edwards' houseboat at Emmerich-on-the-Rhine, has entered a suit for libel against a weekly review called the "Revue Parlementaire" for publishing certain comments on the Emmerich accident, in which it was suggested that the death was not accidental.

M. Edwards declared that he was determined to put an end to these insinuations. "I have already placed two letters," he said, "in the hands of my lawyer. One of them is from M. Georges Grand of the Comedie-Francaise and the other from Mlle. Vermeil. Recently M. Grand was in a box at the Odeon theater, with three other people, one of whom, a young journalist, declared that I had simulated an automobile accident in order to cure wounds received in a tragedy. M. Grand interposed, proving that he had been himself injured in the same accident, and insisted on an apology.

"At about the same time as the above incident, four people were guests at the house of M. Rene Boylesse, and one of them, a woman, loudly declared that she knew the true story of the Emmerich accident, having learned it from Mlle. Lantelme, an intimate friend of Mlle. Lantelme. A young woman who had listened to this story waited until the woman had finished, and then asked: 'You know Mlle. Vermeil, so well as that?' 'Intimately,' replied the teller of the story. 'Then you lie,' was the reply. 'I am Mlle. Vermeil.'"

### EUGENICS IN NEW ZEALAND

#### Scheme to Make Physical Unfitness a Legal Bar to Marriage—Will Better Race.

London.—New Zealand has started a movement which is expected to make physical unfitness a legal disability for marriage, just as in England and America a man is now deprived of his privileges as a citizen if he is mentally unsound.

The movement had its inception by a case ventilated in the press of a man who had been eight times in an asylum, being the father of ten children, all of whom were public charges, and therefore a handicap to the common welfare. But the movement had scarcely gained headway before there arose a conflict between the old principle of individual liberty and the new principle of the healthy development of the race.

Students of eugenics all over the world will watch with interest the developments in New Zealand, for there the percentage of physical health and mental development is much higher than in England and the people seem anxious to keep it so. Besides, in older countries, where many more conflicting interests are involved, particularly those of inheritance and entail, the difficulty of a rational solution of the principle of individual freedom is much more involved.

### THESE CHILDREN SEE ANGELS

#### Were So Pure in Heart Biblical Promise is Fulfilled for Them, Says the Bishop of London.

London.—Preaching at St. Paul's Haringway, recently the bishop of London said that among the congregation at a confirmation service he once conducted in Westminster abbey was a girl of 13. During the service she said to her mother: "Do you see them, mother?" "See what?" asked the mother, and the child replied: "Angels on each side of the bishop."

It was said that the pure in heart shall see God, and was it not therefore, possibly that a child perfectly pure could see things adults could not see?

The Bishop also told the story of five girls whose father, feeling ill, went to lie down. The youngest girl was sent to bed, but ran from her room calling: "Come out; there are two angels walking up the staircase." Later the child again called out: "The angels are walking down the staircase and father's walking between them."

### WINS FARM IN LOVE SUIT

#### Girl Wooed for Six Years by Farmer Who Refused to Wed Her, is Given Tract of Land.

Reading, Pa.—Miss Helen Jones, who was awarded a verdict of \$519.63 against Eugene F. Bauer for breach of promise, has just bought Bauer's eleven-acre farm in this county for \$1,750, subject to a dower of \$27,800. The verdict caused Bauer's bankruptcy and the farm was sold to satisfy the judgment and dower.

After courting her six years Bauer asked her to marry him, so Miss Jones testified, but his love grew cold and the romance was shattered. Now she is the owner of her former sweetheart's property.

Kin of Fairbanks a Suicide. Marysville, O.—Miss Alice Fairbanks, aged forty, a niece of former Vice-President Fairbanks of Indianapolis, committed suicide with poison at the home of her mother, Mrs. Mattie Fairbanks, near Chickery. The motive is unknown.

### LOVERS ARE BALKED

#### "Princess Pretty" and Young Marquis Meet Costacle.

#### Indian Maharajah Will Not Allow Daughter to Marry Heir of the Duke of Sutherland.

London.—The course of true love is not running smooth for the East Indian Princess Pretiva, the young daughter of the Maharajah of Cooh-Behar, and the young Marquis of Stafford, heir of the Duke of Sutherland and his millions.

Pretiva, whose intimates rightly call her "Princess Pretty," and her mother passed the summer at Box-hill, where Stafford, who is 23 and an amiable youth, was a constant visitor. And small wonder, for the charming Princess excels in outdoor sports.

Although her lovely features have an Oriental cast, her skin is almost as fair as that of an English girl. She loves England, where she has passed most of her life, and has declared that she will not marry an Indian potentate.

Of course no one but Stafford knows how much he had to do with inducing her to form this resolution. Now the Princess has gone to India with her mother, the Maharajah of Cooh-Behar, carrying the late Maharajah's ashes.

Stafford swears he will follow his innamorata, making the durbar his pretext. His father, whose lineage runs back to a Gower who followed William the Conqueror, and his intelligent mother, who was Lady Millicent St. Clare-Erskine, daughter of the Earl of Roslyn, strongly oppose such a match for Stafford. They have asked the war office to refuse him the leave he must ask to go to India.

And there are other obstacles in the way of his pursuit of the girl he loves. The Maharajah has informed Stafford that he cannot visit her daughter in India, as she will live in retirement in the palace of her brother, who is now the Maharajah of Cooh-Behar, and will not attend the durbar. Besides, the new Maharajah objects to his sister marrying an Englishman, as calculated to further weaken his subjects' loyalty. It has been strained by his own prolonged visits to Europe before his father's death and by the fact that he and his family are so largely Anglo-Bengali.

### BOY IS SAVED BY EMPEROR

#### Richard Wahrman Is Being Sought For In United States To Tell Him Good News.

Vienna.—Efforts are being made in the United States on behalf of the Austrian court to discover the whereabouts of Richard Wahrman, son of a Hungarian deputy, who left for America about six weeks ago. The Emperor Francis Joseph has consented to pay all the young man's debts, and the court officials want to inform him of the good news.

It is so rare an occurrence for a Hapsburg to hand out money for a commoner, and so unusual for Francis Joseph to bestir himself and his pursestrings in the cause of simple charity, some are thinking there must be some old love romance of other days concealed behind the Emperor's act. But there is no ground for believing that this is the secret of young Wahrman being freed from his liabilities.

Martin Wahrman, the deputy, once ingratiated himself with the Emperor by some signal service, and this is a return Francis Joseph is making him. Some years ago young Wahrman's brother Arnet committed suicide when pressed by his creditors and the father was so distressed by the fear that his remaining son might take his own life that friends appealed to the Emperor.

Francis Joseph made it a condition that Richard Wahrman shall never return to Europe.

### \$125,000 THIEF IS NABBED

#### Bold Robber of a Postal Wagon in Berlin at First Gets Safely Away.

Berlin.—A bold robbery occurred in this city when \$125,000 was stolen from a postal wagon used to collect the money shipments of the sub-stations.

The criminal got away, leaving no clues to his identity. Later, however, he was taken into custody accidentally and most of the money was recovered.

Among the booty found on the prisoner was 2,966 dollars, American, presumably the contents of registered letters which had been mailed to America.

### INDIAN SHOT; USES FIRST AID

#### Redskin Shoots Off Part of Foot, Makes a Bandage of Shirt and Finishes Work.

Trenton, N. J.—The action of Noah Senoyah, a Carlisle Indian, in tearing off part of his shirt for a bandage probably saved his life when he shot off part of his foot while gunning. He returned to the home of his employer, John Neely, of Penn's Manor, did his chores, wrote a note for Mr. Neely and went to his room. It was nearly midnight when he was found by his employer.

While the wound is very serious, the Indian will probably recover.

### BOOM BLACK ART IN LONDON

#### Witchcraft Act of 1736 to Be Used Against Fortune Tellers of Metropolis.

London.—This city is at the mercy of a veritable plague of fortune tellers, palmists and other self-proclaimed necromancers, who prey upon the rich and poor alike, particularly in the shopping districts. They have even become so fearless that they are advertising by means of sandwich men about the Strand, in Piccadilly Circus and in Regent and Oxford streets.

It seems impossible to convict them of obtaining money under false pretense of foretelling the future, and it is almost impossible to get evidence against them, as they receive no un-recommended clients. Their success among the superstitious and the credulous is due to the fact that their clients unconsciously reveal information concerning what they desire.

"It is all very well to say that the official police view is that, so long as fortune tellers and palmists do not dupe the poor, they should be allowed to take money from the rich. Cathcart Watson, M. P., has communicated with the home secretary suggesting that these persons who pose as necromancers in any way can be proceeded against by the witchcraft act of 1736, which imposes penalties upon persons who pretend to exercise or use any kind of sorcery, witchcraft, enchantment or conjuration."

As to those particularly dealing with the wealthy, Mr. Watson adds: "It is all very well to say that the ladies who patronize these fortune tellers are above the superstitions of the ignorant and not likely to be duped, but I maintain that the practice is a grave danger to society. Suppose a woman asks—as many do—how long her husband is likely to live, and the fortune teller discovers that there is another man in the case, and the name of that man. Imagine the possibilities of the situation."

"The more humble fortune tellers are causing enough trouble in the provinces. Welsh miners have refused to go down to work because a local 'wise woman' has foretold disaster. In Newcastle it was proved that 25 girls had visited one fortune teller in a single afternoon. In the Isle of Wight it was proved that one woman had correctly foretold the future, but that did not save her from a fine. A disguised detective went to her to have his fortune told, and she informed him that he would shortly undertake legal proceedings in which he would be successful. She was right. He took out a summons against her and successfully proved his case. But the fact that these provincial people were all penalized shows that the local authorities are alive to the danger. Why do the London police refrain from taking action against the West end fortune tellers?"

### VISITED BY STORK 22 TIMES

#### Latest Addition Likely to Give Maine Couple Record for Country—All Are Alive.

Bangor, Me.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dickey, of Canaan, Me., are maintaining their record for raising the largest family in Maine; if not in the country. Their twenty-second child was born several days ago.

All of the children are alive and healthy. The youngest is five days old and the oldest twenty-nine years. All of these children were born singly. Mr. Dickey, who is forty-five years old, became a mother at fifteen. Mr. Dickey is fifty-three years old.

The Dickeyes live on a sixty acre farm and fourteen of the children live at home. The eldest son is a clergyman in California. Mr. Dickey raises nearly everything the family eats and what he has to buy he always pays for in cash.

To maintain his family requires fourteen barrels of flour, 115 bushels of potatoes and other things in proportion every year. To keep them warm in winter twenty-three cords of rock maple wood are burned. Mrs. Dickey says the big family does not bother her at all.

### PLUMBER SEALED IN CHIMNEY

#### California Worker Cuts His Way Out With a Chisel Handed to Him Through a Sill.

Niles, Cal.—While Neil Alberg, a plumber, was clenching rivets inside the chimney of a new factory here the other day the man on the outside was called away.

Another set of mechanics, who did not know Alberg was inside, riveted a rain protector over the top of the stack, sealing him inside.

Declines \$12,000 Pastorate. Baltimore.—Rev. Dr. Harris E. Kirk, pastor of the Franklin Street Presbyterian church, announced to his congregation that he has declined a call to Calvary church, Philadelphia, because he believed his services were needed here more. For several weeks Dr. Kirk has given consideration to the call, and many members of his church had thought he would accept it. The salary is \$12,000.

82,546 Women to Vote. Los Angeles, Cal.—The official count of voters eligible to cast ballots in the city election on December 5 totals 192,177. Of these 109,628 are men and 82,546 women.

### SWINDLES RICH MEN

#### Wealthy French Colonial Officer Latest Victim.

#### Mme. Germet, a Parisian Beauty of American Parentage, Uses Clever Ruse to Defraud Her Admirers.

Paris.—After promising to marry three men in order to swindle them of presents of jewelry, Mme. Germet, who says she was born at Wilmington, Del., in the United States, but who ordinarily resides with her husband and three children in the Rue Basse-Du-Rue at Orleans, now occupies a prison cell in Paris.

Some weeks ago Mme. Germet, an elegantly dressed and refined looking woman of 25 years, became acquainted at Vichy with a young French colonial official, to whom she pretended that she belonged to one of the most aristocratic families of the Bourbonnais district of France.

An accomplice wrote her several letters, making constant reference to her property and aristocratic relatives. Finally the official became engaged to Mme. Germet and presented her with a splendid ring, valued at 8,000 francs. The next day his fiancée left Vichy and disappeared. She went to another pleasure resort, however, and there pursued similar tactics with an officer from a garrison station in the vicinity of Paris. Having again received a handsome present of jewelry she decamped and reappeared in Paris.

Here she made the conquest of a wealthy Russian. As she was engaged with him in attentively examining a jeweler's window in the Rue de la Paix yesterday morning two men approached and politely requested her to step into a taxi-auto with them. They were detectives, who arrested her on the charge of swindling the colonial official and the army officer. Brought before M. Hamard, he ordered her to be detained pending trial.

When informed of the arrest of his wife M. Germet refused to do anything in the matter. "My wife does as she pleases," he said. "I don't interfere in her affairs."

### MERCHANT RETURNS TO CULT

#### Former Diamond Man Sells His Denver Home and Goes Back to Point Loma.

Denver, Colo.—E. A. Neresheimer, a millionaire, will sell all his holdings here, including his well-appointed home, and, with Mrs. Neresheimer, will go to Point Loma, Cal., to rejoin the colony of theosophists there. This is a colony of the followers of Mrs. Katherine Tingley, called by her disciples "The Purple Mother."

Neresheimer was a diamond merchant in New York and was at one time president of the Theosophical Society of America. He lived in the Point Loma colony for three years. When he left it is said his wife had persuaded him to do so.

It has been rumored also that he was about to give up his sect, but his determination to go back to Point Loma, with Mrs. Neresheimer accompanying him, appears to discredit all such rumors.

The Point Loma colony has figured in the newspapers several times. Once George L. Patterson of New Castle, Pa., sued Mrs. Tingley for \$200,000 which he said his mother had been influenced to give the sect. At the trial letters were read purporting to be from the Divinity directing the plaintiff's mother to give money to the colony.

### RECOGNIZES HIS MOTHER

#### After Three Weeks of Coma Physicians Give Hopes of Recovery of Injured Lad.

Yonkers.—Surprising the physicians of St. Joseph's Hospital and relatives who had given up hope of his life, Daniel Conley, twenty years old, is emerging from a state of coma in which he had lain in the hospital for three weeks. He fell from a roof on October 30 and his skull was fractured.

Following a delicate operation it was thought he would gain, but not until a day or two ago did he show any signs of improvement. His mother was called, and his face brightened as he recognized her and spoke to her. Then he relapsed into unconsciousness, but the physicians said they thought he would recover.

### GETS SOIL OF EACH STATE

#### Connecticut's Collection Includes Earth from Noted Battlefields and Other Places.

Hartford, Conn.—Solomon Close of Stamford, a veteran of the Civil war, has presented to the state a cabinet containing samples of soil from every state in the Union, and from each of the possessions of the United States. For thirty years Mr. Close has collected specimens of soil, and he now possesses samples from almost every spot of interest in the world.

The cabinet presented to the state contains also samples from St. Helena, Napoleon's tomb at Paris, from the Scotch estate where Paul Jones was born, from the battlefields of Flodden and Bannockburn, and from Robert Burns' grave.

### WOMEN SPOKE IN A CHURCH

#### As a Result, Louisiana Presbyterians Are All Torn Up—Appeal to General Assembly.

New Orleans.—Because women made verbal reports at an interdenominational meeting in the fashionable Lafayette Presbyterian church here last night strife has been started among Louisiana preachers of the Presbyterian sect and the shade of John Calvin are being invoked to call down wrath upon those who permitted such a violation.

The Rev. J. C. Barr, pastor of the church, and whose congregation include many of the wealthy families in New Orleans, announced today that he would carry to the general assembly the highest body of the church, the verdict which the state synod at its meeting last week at Ruston, La., found against him. The Rev. W. M. Alexander, pastor of the Presbyterian church, brought the charges. He said that the alleged violation of church rules was of the gravest importance, and the state body sided with him.

The synod raised its hands in horror at the mere idea of women not keeping silent in churches. True, the women who spoke were not preaching sermons, and the meeting was not strictly a Presbyterian meeting, but it was in a church and women broke away from the "keep silence in public" mandate.

Dr. Barr admits the charge in general, but says that the women were not speaking in the church. He says the congregation is the church and that the place of worship is merely the church building.

"Our buildings do not represent the church itself," he declared.

### BABY SECURITY FOR DEBT

#### Mother Successfully Appeals to the Court for Infant Held by Woman for Board.

Oakland, Cal.—Her baby held as security for a board bill, Mrs. Estelle E. Ramos of Berkeley applied to the superior court for an order compelling Mrs. and Mrs. John Rudy of 2100 Sixth street, Berkeley, the people to whom the board bill is due, to give up the child. Mrs. Ramos won her petition before Judge Wells after a hearing that lasted only about ten minutes.

Mrs. Ramos recently secured a divorce from John W. Ramos and an order for \$25 a month alimony. Since then Ramos has been out of work, unable to find it, he says, while his wife declares he will not take employment offered him. Unable to secure anything from her former spouse, Mrs. Ramos herself went to work and placed her baby with the Rudy's with the understanding they should be paid for its keep out of the alimony.

Ramos paid nothing, and Mrs. Ramos decided to try to care for the child herself, but the Rudy's refused to surrender it until the bill was paid. At the hearing today Ramos appeared in court with the Rudy's, but did not participate in the proceedings.

A clash between Mrs. Ramos and Mrs. Rudy occurred when Mrs. Ramos went to take her child from Mrs. Rudy's arms, after Judge Wells had given her its custody. The two women scolded each other despite the warnings of the bailiff, hurling angry accusations at each other as they fled out of court. Ramos has a petition for appointment as guardian of the child.

### POLICE FIGHT NUDE MANIAC

#### Ex-Pugilist Suddenly Goes Insane and Stampedes Crowd at Atlantic City, N. J.

Atlantic City.—Leonard Southbal, an ex-pugilist, whose head was injured in the ring years ago, suddenly became violently insane while standing at North Carolina and Atlantic avenues. His yells and queer actions caused a stampede. First he grabbed a thermometer, crushed the glass and swallowed it. He did the same thing with the glass bottom of a cigar lighter taken from a cafe counter.

Then Southbal ran outside, throwing off his clothing as he ran. A horse trough was his objective point. He calmly divested himself of every stitch of raiment and dived into the trough. The temperature at the time was below the freezing point and he had to break through a coating of ice. It took five policemen ten minutes to overpower him. He is now in a straitjacket in a padded cell.

### MANY BEG FOR COMMUNION

#### Horrors of the Great Famine of 1899 Are Being Repeated in Russia.

St. Petersburg.—The sufferings experienced in the famine of 1891 are being repeated in the province of Orenburg and the Turgai territory, in Asiatic Russia.

The starving inhabitants of these regions are flocking to the towns and villages, many of them begging for the administration of the last communion. Crops in the province of Orenburg are 76 per cent. below the average, and the bishop of Tchelyabinsk has issued an appeal to the government asking aid for the peasants.

Shuns All Churches 50 Years. Middletown, Conn.—George H. Ward, the oldest newsboy in New England, who has just passed his seventy-third birthday, went to church Sunday for the first time in 50 years. He enjoyed the service so much that he will be a regular attendant hereafter.