

FAVORS A RETIREMENT LAW.

"If there were a retirement law for the clerks employed by Uncle Sam in the various departments at Washington, the civil service would not be cluttered up by a small army of aged and inefficient clerks," said W. R. Hayes, former congressman from Nebraska, the other day.

"As it is now, no head of a department or bureau chief will discharge a man or woman who has been a faithful worker for 30 years or more, because old age has impaired the usefulness of the employe. As a result, there are hundreds, if not thousands, who are kept on the rolls merely as a matter of humanity. If dismissed they would in many instances be thrown upon the charity of the world, for it is utterly out of the question that private employment could be obtained for them.

The stupidity of the clerks themselves has been one of the chief reasons why a liberal retirement law has failed of passage for all these years. The clerks can never agree on any policy among themselves. Many of them obstinately contend that the government has no right to withhold a dollar of their salaries to go into a pension fund for retired clerks, ignoring the recognized improvidence of that large per cent. of employes who never save a penny of their salaries. It would be an act of beneficence toward this class if a portion of their wages was regularly retained.

"Unquestionably, it would be cheaper for the government to give a pension outright to those whose faculties are decayed, and to put young and vigorous people in the place of the superannuated. Every other first-class nation in the world save the United States has some kind of pension scheme for its civil servants, that of Canada, especially, being a model."

MICROBE LOST HOPE.

A lonely microbe, disheartened and ready to die because the public health service is rapidly putting all his ilk where they can do humanity no harm, peeked over the edge of Assistant Surgeon General George Rackler's desk the other day and heard the doctor humming a ditty that went like this: "A fly and a flea, a mosquito and a louse, all lived together in a very dirty house. The flea spread the plague and the steaker spread the chills. All louse spread typhus, too. Folks in hills. The fly spread typhoid and the louse spread typhus, too. Folks in that house were a mighty sickly crew. Along came a man and he cleaned up the house. He screamed out the skeeters and swatted the louse. The fly and the flea he cracked on the wall. Now the people in that house are never sick at all."

"Well," piped up the microbe, "that's all right as far as it goes, but it strikes me you've been a bit partial in this thing. How about the bedbug? Where does he get off?"

"He's going to get off pretty quick," returned the doctor. "So far the bedbug has been able to prove an alibi, but I've put the sanitary detective on his trail and I'll get him yet."

11,221,824,084 CIGARETTES.

If cigarette smoking is as deadly as some of the ants make out, this country will soon be inhabited exclusively by imbeciles.

During the fiscal year 1912, the tidy number of 11,221,821,084 cigarettes was smoked in this country, an average of about 138 for every man, woman and child. Inasmuch as not all men and women and few children before the walking age smoke cigarettes, the average consumption for those who do is considerably larger than 138.

This eleven billion odd is an increase of two billions over the consumption of 1911, and Secretary MacVeagh and his department officials confess they cannot explain this vast jump.

LIGHT HOUSEKEEPING DISCONTINUED.

Secretary Franklin MacVeagh will not permit any more chaffing dish parties in the Treasury building. The monthly parties, the daily teas and dainty hot luncheons have been discontinued. For many years clerks of the treasury have made merry over the chaffing dish at noon, but there will be no more of that and everybody will have to go out to get lunch. The sanitary committee of the department recommended that the secretary have the little eating parties discontinued and all cooking utensils removed.

Driving an Alligator.

Using a child's toy wagon and allowing himself to be drawn about by an alligator, is one of the queer methods adopted by a German sportsman to win a wager, says Popular Mechanics. He claimed in a conversation with a friend that there were no less than 10,000 methods of locomotion, and in the dispute that followed he wagered that he could prove it. The bet was taken up by the friend and a trip around the world was undertaken to try out all the various kinds of transportation, and incidentally to devise some new ones. The alligator stunt was carried out at the alligator farm at Los Angeles, Cal.

Worry kills Work. Wigg—Worry kills more people than work. Wagg—Quite natural! there are more people worrying than working.

APACHES ARE FREED

Government to Select Reservation in West for Indians.

Tribe Long Held Prisoner of War After Conflict With Mexicans and Americans—Never Mixed With Whites.

Oklahoma City, Okla.—Maj. H. L. Scott, representing the war department and Lieut. Ernest Stocker, Anadarko agent, representing the department of the interior, were appointed to select the new homes for the 269 Apache prisoners of war held by the United States government at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

The last session of congress granted liberty to these Indians, after holding them prisoners of war for twenty-six years, and the committee of two will select for them an open reservation somewhere in the west, but the probabilities are that their new home will not be within the boundaries of either New Mexico or Arizona. A reservation in either of those states might incite in the savage Apache Indians a memory of their forefathers' conquests and defeats, within those boundaries, and render their retraining necessary.

The Apache tribe is one of the few tribes that never assimilated the white man's way of living, and since the year of 1858 have not been on friendly terms with any member of the white race.

In that year one division of the six branches into which the tribe is divided, went from the eastern line of Arizona, where they were ranging, into Old Mexico on a trading expedition. When near the outpost of the Kas-ki-yeh they camped, and, leaving their women and children, proceeded toward Casa Grande. Citizens from that town met them and entered into a treaty of peace with them, though the Mexican government had placed a price upon their heads, paying \$100 for a warrior, \$50 for a squaw and \$25 for a dead Indian child.

While in Casa Grande, trading, Mexican soldiers took advantage of their absence from camp and set upon the defenseless women and children, killing all within camp. When the warriors returned in the evening the Mexican soldiers opened fire upon them and the Apaches, being armed with bows and arrows, were exterminated, excepting Geronimo, who at that time was a young brave, and one other Apache. In this massacre Geronimo lost his wife and child, and, according to his own statement made after he became a prisoner of war of the United States, he swore eternal hostility to all Mexicans.

Geronimo returned to Arizona and sought aid from the other five Apache tribes, in seeking revenge on the Mexicans. The citizens of Casa Grande sent him a disclaimer of all knowledge of the massacre of his people after they had entered into the trading treaty with his band in Old Mexico, but Geronimo could never understand how it was the citizens had no control over these acts of the soldiers, and from that year until 1886 made annual raids upon the settlements within 300 miles of the northern boundary of Mexico.

The Apaches, while on their excursions to Mexico, ran off some cattle that were in charge of white cowboys, and shortly thereafter United States troops made their appearance, and the Apaches always professed to believe they came in response to the Mexican government's appeal for aid in exterminating the Apaches.

Geronimo died about eighteen months ago, and most of the old race of warriors had preceded him to the grave, and now the general government believes the younger generation can be once more trusted to run at large on an open reservation.

The failure of the Apache Indians to assimilate the ways of civilization which finally resulted in their becoming prisoners of war, was no doubt due in a large measure to the ascendancy Geronimo had over the members of his tribe, whom he kept constantly avenging the wrongs he and his relatives suffered at the hands of the Mexicans and Americans.

CROW SEIZED A GOLF BALL

North Berwick Woman Player Reports an Inquisitive Bird With Sporting Tastes.

London.—A golf story which is received with a certain amount of skepticism comes from North Berwick. It is that Mrs. Barrett, an American resident there, while playing on the course, had her game interfered with by a persistently inquisitive crow. She had just made a tee shot when the crow took the ball, and, after flying with it for some distance, dropped it. Mrs. Barrett took two other shots, but the crow twice returned and lifted the ball after she had played it.

Wrenches Ankle; May Die.

Pottsville, Pa.—Mrs. Andrew Courer of St. Clair is believed to be dying as the result of an unusual accident.

While standing on a sidewalk she wrenched her ankle and ruptured an artery.

Before the hemorrhage could be stopped she had lost so much blood that it is not believed she can recover.

Glad Only in Bath Towels. Philadelphia.—Half a dozen men, clad only in towels, were forced to flee for their lives when fire was discovered in a Russian and Turkish bath establishment in this city.

ROAD EXPERTS NEEDED.

A practical effort to bring the supply of expert highway engineers to the point where they will be numerous enough to meet the demand for their services is to be made at the American Road Congress, to be held on the Million-Dollar Pier in Atlantic City, September 30 to October 1. At the present time, with the people of the United States spending more than \$200,000,000 a year for the improvement of highways, the demand for expert highway engineers exceeds the supply. There is to be a conference of educational institutions at the American Road Congress, to be directed by the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, and through this conference efforts are to be made to induce the leading universities to establish specific and practical courses for the instruction of highway engineers.

At the present time there are about 27 universities devoting some attention to highway engineering. The instruction in this branch of engineering, however, is, in most cases, merely a part of the general training of engineers, so that there will be a sufficient number of trained men to handle the great problem that has been thrust upon the United States by the widespread agitation for a better system of public highways that will reduce the cost of hauling crops and permit shipments by farmers at all seasons of the year.

Prof. Henry R. Norris of Cornell university is secretary of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, which is composed of officials of the leading educational institutions having engineering departments. Professor Norris has just sent letters to all the institutions which are represented in their society asking them to appoint delegates to represent them at the convention, which will be part of the American Road Congress at Atlantic City. Prof. William T. Magruder, of the Ohio state university, is president of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, while the vice-presidents are Prof. L. R. Marks of Harvard and Prof. F. W. Sperr of the Michigan College of Mines. They believe that if the universities will supply well-equipped engineers it will be a long step towards doing away with the careless supervision of the construction and maintenance of public roads, that new results in the loss of a large percentage of the money invested in roads.

MUST ANSWER QUESTIONS.

In the future, when a person calls at the general delivery window of any postoffice will have to answer those questions put by the clerk before he gets his mail:

"Are you twenty-one years of age?"

"Have you a permanent home in the city?"

"Are you using a fictitious name?"

"Is this correspondence illegal?"

An order issued to postmasters by Dr. C. P. Grandfield, first assistant postmaster general, reads in part:

"The attention of postmasters at offices having city carrier service is called to paragraph 2, section 713, postal laws and regulations, compliance with which should prevent the improper use of the general delivery by residents to furnish in writing their names and addresses and statements of their reasons for preferring to be served at the general delivery."

"Minors calling at such offices may be requested to furnish the information indicated above and also the names of their parents, in order that the parents may be notified and have an opportunity to control the delivery of the mail to the extent authorized by section 643, postal laws and regulations."

TIME "VIA WIRELESS."

The new wireless station at Arlington which will be completed in about a month will act as a clock regulator for thousands of jewelers all over the country.

The right time as recorded at the naval observatory will be flashed all along the coast and as far west as the system will reach. The towers are expected to communicate with vessels three thousand miles at sea, but the exact distance they will command over land has not been calculated to a nicety. It is believed that messages will be recorded at least 1,500 miles inland.

Many large jewelry stores have notified the navy department that they intend to install wireless receivers so they can get the right time regularly "via wireless."

TO MODIFY BROOK TROUT.

Uncle Sam is going to try to produce a trout that can live and prosper in the warm water of the sluggish streams of the southern states. An experimental fish station will be established near Washington for that purpose. Congress has provided the money for the work.

The fighting brook trout is to be modified, domesticated and made to furnish more food and less sport for the human family. The experts of the bureau of fisheries hope to succeed in getting a trout that will fill the bill, but they recall the fact that many years ago fifty million Pacific coast salmon were planted in the Mississippi river and perished.

CLUES TO CRIMES

Trifles Have Served to Convict Perpetrators of Murders.

Slough Slayer in England Trapped by Brown Paper—Doctor Crippen Might Have Escaped Except for His Bloody Pajamas.

London.—The recent death of Sir Alfred Willis, for many years a high court judge, recalls his association with one of the best known and quite the most enthralling of legal textbooks: "Wills on Circumstantial Evidence."

Since the previous edition many notable cases have occurred to enrich the "romance of the forum," among which may be mentioned the Newcastle murder, the Slough murder, Crippen's case and some more recent, though the case of Oscar Slater recently rediscussed—has escaped the attention of the late judge.

The veriest trifle sufficed to put the noose around the neck of Broome, the Slough murderer. On being arrested on suspicion, he sought to discount it by telling the police that they would find \$100 in gold in his room, which he solemnly declared he had brought away from his father's house.

The money was found, but the trouble was to connect it with Mrs. Wilson, murdered some time before at Slough. However, a smart officer had noted just an ordinary piece of brown paper in the victim's sitting room. This he carefully preserved, and on closely examining it was discovered that "it had marks exactly such as would have been made by sovereigns made up into a rouleau, in which they lay not at right angles to paper, but somewhat sloping. No other coins would occupy the same space."

There were also marks of two small milled-edged coins—sixpence or half sovereigns—and minute yellow specks, such as it was found by experiment gold coin would leave after friction with brown paper. The sum found in the prisoner's possession being nineteen sovereigns and two halves, the chain of evidence was thus completed against him through the agency of a small piece of brown paper.

A view of a northern castle in a third class compartment enabled an artist witness to identify the carriage in which Dickman, the Newcastle train murderer, and Nisbet, his victim, embarked on their fatal journey. The accident that Dickman fumbled in his left trousers pocket to find his excess fare at Morpeth enabled the prosecution to connect the man so observed fumbling by the ticket inspector with the owner of a certain pair of "inexpressibles" stained with blood on the lining of the left pocket.

It is still fresh in the public mind how the most convincing evidence against Crippen was supplied by those fatal pajamas, the jacket of which was found with the body of Belle Elmore and was proved to belong to a suit of which the trousers were among Crippen's effects, sold by a Holloway firm on January 5, 1905, thus fixing the date of the interment as long subsequent to Crippen's arrival as tenant of the house, and negating the suggestion that some previous occupier might have done the deed of darkness and concealed the traces in the cellar at Hilltop Crescent.

An insignificant laundry mark, "59," showed the body found on Yarmouth beach in 1900 to be that of a young woman who had lived at Bexley Heath, and a cheap beach photograph served to identify necklaces found in Bennett's possession with one worn by the dead wife, whom he had throttled with a bootlace.

A dentist's recognition of false teeth and fillings in the almost calcined skull which had once held the fine brains of Doctor Parkman, led to the conviction of his colleague, Professor Webster, whose great knowledge of chemistry had enabled him otherwise totally to destroy his victim. A dentist also helped to hang Mannings in like manner.

LOOT KNOWS NO LIMITS

Mississippians in Charge With Stealing Everything From a Polywog in Alcohol to Bible and Ether.

Mississippi.—Loot, the variety of which is said to be the most marked in the history of the Mississippi police department, according to officials, has been recovered by the police from the home of Stanley Warthless, who was placed under arrest. The goods, which according to the police was stolen from a hospital and two hotels where Warthless worked, range from polywog in alcohol to a Bible, and from artificial flowers to other Silver Reef and clothing worth \$1,000 and said to have been taken by Warthless while employed at the hotels.

DUCK MADE A GOLD STRIKE

Waggon in Gizzard Sets Pittsfield, Mass., Woman to Tracing Its Source.

Pittsfield, Mass.—Miss Jennie Robinson has asked a marketman to find where a duck she bought at his place was raised. In the gizzard of the duck she found a lump of gold as large as a pea. Wherever the duck came from Miss Robinson believes there is more gold, and she intends to turn prospector.

SEES GROWTH OF LUNACY.

Dr. Forbes Winslow Declares There Will Be More Insane Than Sane in 300 Years.

London.—There will be more lunatics in the world than sane people three hundred years hence, was the prophecy Dr. Forbes Winslow made. This prophecy is based upon the present rate of the growth of lunacy as revealed by recent returns.

Doctor Winslow expressed strong disagreement with the statement made at the Eugenics congress by Doctor Mott to the effect that increase in lunacy was more apparent than real, and told a press representative that in making such a statement Doctor Mott apparently referred to London only. Dr. Forbes Winslow said that from his knowledge of the progress of lunacy in all parts of the world he had come to the conclusion that "we are rapidly approaching a mad world." He added: "In every part of the world civilization is advancing, and so insanity is also bound to advance. There were 36,762 registered lunatics in 1859, but 135,000 at the present day. That showed the alarming increase."

If Doctor Mott's theory is accepted, we shall wake up when it is too late to prevent a further increase. What happened to the pauper class in London, as an alleged proof against the real increase of lunacy, was very much beside the question, taken as a whole. Fifty years ago there was one lunatic in 575 of the population, but now one in 236. At that rate of progress, he said, in three hundred years' time there would be more lunatics in the world than sane people.

FRAUD OF OBESE MILKMAN

Water From Cow Puzzles Paris Inspectors Until Secret Is Discovered.

Paris.—For many weeks complaints have been received that the milk sold by a Paris dairyman was too thin; samples were taken by the police, and on each occasion the milk was found to contain a large proportion of water.

Despite this, the man vehemently protested his innocence and invited the police to visit his dairy at any time to see the cows milked. Two inspectors did so, and after witnessing the milking carried away the milk, which on examination was found to contain a large proportion of water. The visits were repeated, but each time the milk which came straight from the cow was found to be too thin.

The police were much puzzled until one day inspector Debout noticed that the milkman, who was very fat, milked with only one hand. Another curious point was that he also seemed to grow thinner as the milk pail grew fuller. Inspector Debout at once ordered the milkman to undo his waistcoat, when two indiarubber bladders and a system of piping were revealed. One bladder contain air and the other water. By pressing the air bladder the milkman caused the water to trickle out of the water bladder through a pipe into the milk pail, the operation being concealed by his artificial obesity.

TAKES UP PROSECUTOR'S BET

Husband Accepts Wager of \$5 That There is an Affinity in Case.

Washington, D. C.—George Hamil, a clerk in a big department store and living in Kennelworth, D. C., who, according to his wife's charge, does not properly clothe her, is being shadowed constantly for the corporation counsel's office in consequence of his wager of \$5 with Assistant Corporation Counsel George that there is not another woman in the case.

"Who is the other girl?" asked the prosecutor after the wife, Mary, had related her story of alleged neglect. "There is none," the husband replied. "Oh, yes, there is; I'll bet \$5 on it." "You're on!" snapped Hamil as he covered the bet. He said he earned only \$20 a week, but Mrs. Hamil was certain that he received more. "I am going to have you watched," said Mr. George, "and if I catch you with an affinity it will go mighty hard with you."

GIRL HAS \$1,100 WEDDING

Kansas City Laborer Spends Year Savings as Daughter Is Married.

Kansas City, Mo.—Eleven hundred dollars, the savings of a dozen years was spent by Giuseppe Anello, a laborer in the employ of the Kansas City street department, when his daughter, Mary, 16, became the bride of Vito Campanello, 19. Fifty-nine motor cars hired by Anello whirled the wedding guests on a long tour over the city's boulevards and the festivities ended with an elaborate banquet and ball at a hall in "Little Italy." Anello said he had been saving for the event since Mary was a little girl in Cicely.

Husband Is Too "Spoony."

Fort Worth, Tex.—"A month of spooning after marriage is enough," avers Mrs. Laura Seaman in her suit for divorce filed against Arthur Seaman, to whom she was married July 10 last. "My husband hugged me with such frequency and so often in view of the public," she adds, "that his demonstrative affection became embarrassing. He showed anger when I protested."

RECALL OLD RECORDS

AMERICA HAS HAD HORSES OF RARE RENOWN.

Interesting Comparison of Those of Eighty Years Ago With Jerry M.'s Recent Remarkable Race in Ireland.

Carrying 175-pounds and racing over turf, making many jumps, Jerry M., an Irish thoroughbred, covered a distance of four miles in ten minutes flat. He is considered the greatest horse in Ireland, and perhaps on the continent, and in view of the heavy weight carried, is truly a wonder. But, says a writer in the Horsehoofers' Journal, what about the old warriors of the American turf, those of the '30s and '40s going the same route, working at the trotting gait and covering distances in a little slower time.

The Dutchman, in May, 1836, on the Centerville (L. I.) course under saddle and at the trotting gait, went four miles in 10:51. The weight carried by the horse is not stated, but judging from Hiram Woodruff's scaling of 160 pounds, without saddle, it is safe to say that the Dutchman carried nearly as much weight as Jerry M. did when he won the Liverpool Grand National Steeplechase recently in ten minutes.

When it is considered that the Dutchman worked at the trotting gait, the performance is all the greater. Ten minutes and fifty-one seconds for four miles was the best of early days, and the mark was a record for many years for trotters working under saddle. Reduced to miles it means that the average for each was 2:42.

The record for runners for four miles made previous to 1842, was held by Fashion, who won over Boston, a nine-year-old, in 7:32 1/4 or 1:15 1/4 for each mile covered. The record was established at Union Course, L. I., in May, 1842, the best previous record for the same distance being held by Eclipse in a race with Henry over the same course in May, 1823, the time being 7:37.

The wonderful prowess of Eclipse and other horses of the time was established by the fact that they could repeat the same long distance on the same day, though not in time as fast as the first heat. Eclipse in his race worked under the three in five plan, and each heat was made in time as follows: First heat, 7:37; second heat, 7:49; third heat, 8:24. This was in 1823, 89 years ago, when blood was put to a test, the four miles route being not an uncommon thing to witness.

Tracing the lines of the thoroughbreds back into history, how many times we see the name of Eclipse mentioned; his blood intermingles with the very select of the present day, and the reason why is easily seen. Time has not made great changes in the thoroughbred line if the performances of Eclipse are figured up.

Still, It Seemed Warm.

A Cherrylale merchant came home from the breeze of an electric fan and three loec cakes last night and said peevishly to his wife: "You can certainly get this house good and warm. What do you do to do it?" And the wife replied meekly, as she pushed back the few straggling hairs and nuzzled them in place with a grinning wire hatpin: "I don't see why it is hot; I put a ham on to boil at six o'clock this morning and baked bread, and did a little ironing, and while I had the oven hot I baked a batch of cookies and a couple of pies and heated the water for the children's baths and scrubbed the floor. But I haven't had any fire to speak of except to broil a steak and bake some potatoes since five o'clock this afternoon. It seems kind of cool-like to me."—Cherrylale (Kan.) Journal.

High Prices for Pictures.

I have before me the catalogue. If you went through it with me we should mark the general increase in prices, and we should see how fashion is a particular and powerful factor in some cases. I could show you fine Holbein portraits—"Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk," with the marked price \$50 8s; "Martin Luther" and "Lady Guilford," \$30 and \$18 respectively; "Anne Boleyn" and "Calvin," together \$28 7s, and so on. Then we could reflect upon "The Duchess of Milan," by the same master, which was presented to the National gallery by the National Art Collections Fund at a cost of £72,000—London Opinion.

Rats and the Plague.

There is a theory that the old brown rats aided the spread of plague in Europe, because the fleas which infest them are more likely to take up their abode on human beings than are the parasites of the Norway rat. This is hardly demonstrated beyond the fact that the cessation of plague epidemics in England and western Europe was about coincident with the Norway rat invasion. It seems to have been proved in California that the gray rats can spread the infection, but if the black rats spread it faster, we may yet be brought to concede some good in the gray Norway rat pest that has heretofore driven out its older brother.

In These Days.

"All the world's a stage, you know." "Yes, but not all the men and women are actors. Some have to sit in front and look at the moving pictures."

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