

In politics, for every foregone conclusion there are a dozen forlorn hopes.

A preacher says that playing cards or pines is a gamble. Not if you play badly enough.

It becomes increasingly evident that the only adequate way to deal with the Black Hand is to amputate it.

The difference between a doctor and a lawyer is that the doctor charges for telling you to go to a warmer climate.

An observing newspaper has noticed that since his marriage Senator Beveridge has given very little advice to young men.

Some men never learn how to suffer in silence. A Denver man has made public complaint that his wife spans him.

If the grip germ would only make a warning noise, something like a rattlesnake, everybody would be less afraid of it.

No politician who declares that it is impossible to make \$1,000,000 honestly is going to make friends among those who have a million.

When all laws are prohibited from being, as suggested by a Boston man, you won't have to sit up very late awaiting for election returns.

A typhoider committed suicide the other day because his work was full of typhoid. You never hear of a baseball player taking his own life for a similar reason.

Women arrested for forging checks who committed the crimes because they were hungry. Still, some people prefer being hungry to getting into bad company.

The English we use in this country is essentially the same that is used in England. It is the slang prevailing in the two countries that is, unfortunately, so different.

With the muzzle of a loaded gun against his chest, a man attempted to shoot his friends that it could not be made to go off at half cock. He was killed in the family plot.

An examination of the brain of a German scientist who spoke fifty languages discloses the fact that it was of ordinary size, shape and texture. It should be explained, however, that the scientist never mastered slang.

United States authorities have deported a boy to Russia seven times. The next time he comes they ought to let him stay. A youngster of his perseverance and determination has the making of a good citizen in him.

Although in foreign countries and in some parts of our own land a birth is announced in the newspapers as a matter of course, a New York man who doubted the wisdom of pursuing this practice in large cities. Within a fortnight he had had calls from thirteen salesmen, and received thirty-six letters and circulars, and fifty-eight samples, all aiming to promote the infant's health or happiness by the sale of some article of merchandise.

"What is a titled aristocrat?" shouts questions upon the floor of Congress, and every good American answers that it is nothing whatever, and cheers lustily as the orator belabors the aristocratic girl who goes title hunting in Europe, or who is captured by a number of hussars in America. And yet a mob of 5,000 persons, in the largest city in America, disputes ground with an army of policemen with clubs as an effort to see a real live nobleman. The crowd is not composed of the poorest of the common people. Grant's latest is not displayed in a prince of the blood in any European capital but the populace of New York manifests in the obscure possessor of an important title in a fourth-rate European country.

The folly of the king system of government is illustrated in the case of Portugal. Because an 18-year-old boy happens to be the son of his father he becomes the head of the nation. Without experience, with immature faculties, without proof of aptitude, without evidence of the proper sort of character he is hatched into a seat on the throne. It is all very well to say that he is but a figurehead; that the real responsibilities of the government will be borne by older men; that he is the ruler of Portugal in name only, but that does not vindicate the soundness of the monarchial idea. If he is to be the actual head of the government, the plan of giving him such a position merely because he is who he is becomes for that reason peculiarly absurd. If he is not to be the actual chief of the government, but an ornament only, the absurdity of the thing is just as clear, for what is the use of having a king if somebody else is to do the work? A king under such circumstances becomes a ridiculous superfluity and a sort of relic of the old days of popular servility to a fictitious "divine right."

The decision of the United States Supreme court in an Oregon case affecting the labor of women will establish a principle of far-reaching influence. The state passed a law forbidding employers from forcing women to work more than ten hours a day. A Portland laundryman questioned the constitutionality of this law. He declared that it put a limitation upon the power of contract. From the Supreme Court of Oregon the case reached the highest national tribunal. That body has decided in favor of the state legislation. The opinion of the court, as stated by Justice Brewer, calls attention to the fact that the rights of women can no more be infringed than those of men.

But on many accounts women are entitled to greater protection than men. Whatever theories may be advanced in connection with women's rights, the facts remain that the sexes differ in structure of body, in physical strength, in the capacity for long continued labor, particularly that done standing. The difference is marked when there is consideration of the influence of vigorous health upon the future well being of the race, the self-reliance which enables one to assert full rights and the capacity to maintain the struggle for subsistence. Because of these reasons the court declares that legislation in behalf of women may be sustained even if similar legislation is not required for men and could not be sustained. The difference in laws for men and women is justified by the inherent differences of sex. If some of the burdens which rest upon women are peculiarly heavy they ought to have compensation in other directions. There has long been recognition of the principle that child labor should have its own laws and should not be put upon the same plane as that of adults. This decision places the labor of women in a distinct category also. It does not deprive a state of the right to refuse to enact laws regulating women labor, but it makes it certain that state laws regulating the labor of adult women which differ from those affecting adult men, will not be set aside by the federal Supreme Court. A state legislature may enact such a law, however, and the state Supreme Court hold it unconstitutional. That was the case in Illinois. Its Supreme Court made short work of a law regulating the hours women should work on the ground that it was an unlawful interference with the right of an adult to dispose of her labor. Some state Supreme Courts have taken the Illinois view of the case, while others have been of a contrary opinion. Probably in time there will be a general acceptance of the principles enunciated by the Supreme Court of the United States. The reasons asserted by the court will be recognized everywhere as having great force. They will make their appeal to the better judgment of all. Whatever the theories advanced in favor of substantial equality of women and men in political, personal, and contractual rights, the fundamental differences of sex will continue to exist and will be considered as important in shaping laws.

FAMILY LIFE IN FRANCE

American life is not such as American newspapers would lead a stranger to infer. Neither does French life seem such as strangers infer who know it only from a certain class of French novels. The French, we have been accustomed to fancy, writes Prof. Barrett Wendell in "The France of To-Day," do not know what we mean by home. But those who do speak English have no conception of what the French mean by foyer. In tenderness of sentiment, in instant appeal to emotions of enduring purity, one word is as beautiful as the other.

The love of French parents for their children, and of French children for their parents, is beyond dispute. But even in its most closely intimate aspect, it never forgets that the parent is the parent and the child the child. The fact of authority implies the right to formal respect as well as to obedience.

The fact that you belong to an organized social group while, implies your duty, whatever your station therein, to conduct yourself with courteous consideration for the other members of it. This, too, neither parent nor child ever suffers himself to forget.

The great and affectionate pleasure of French domesticity is of a kind which could not exist if conventions were too much neglected. The result is that, in the full security of the foyer, the French seem surrounded by something like the pleasures and the limitations which make at once agreeable and a shade monotonous our American experiences in general society.

Narrow Escape.



Veteran—Many's the time I've made the enemy run. Listener—Yes? Veteran—And once they nearly caught me!

Mystery About Deaths.

Four deaths are known to be directly attributable to exposure to the X-rays. There is a mystery about these cases, the disease being unknown to medical science, though it is believed to involve some great principle of life. Dr. W. G. W. of the president of the Rochester Academy of Medicine and the American Orthopedic Society, was the last victim.

The Turning of the Worm.

Mollie—I wish you were more like Mr. Simpson. Coddie—My dear, if I were more like Mr. Simpson, I should have married a woman more like Mrs. Simpson.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

LANDLORDISM IN AMERICA GROWING.

AMERICANS have long been flattering themselves on having escaped the evil of Old World landlordism. When the flat and the apartment house began to crowd out old homesteads in the cities and to suggest that tenancy was inevitably the coming mode of existence, the saying was that, however secure a foothold the European might gain in centers of population, the American farmer would eternally be lord of his own domain. But, alas for this shortsighted optimism! Even while the men are exulting over the record-breaking crops and incredible wealth of our farmers, landlords and tenants are multiplying rapidly in agricultural regions. A significant summary of facts has just been given in the Popular Science Monthly by Prof. Homer C. Price, of Ohio State University. Eight years ago more than thirty-five farms out of every one hundred were operated by tenants, while 23.3 per cent of all farm lands (i. e., both developed and undeveloped acres) were rented to transient occupants. Rural landlordism is three as prevalent in this "land of economic freedom" as in overpopulated Germany, and statistics taken to-day would probably show that the high tenancy rate of France (47.2 per cent) is almost, if not quite, equaled. When it is considered that the relative number of tenants has been increasing in spite of the millions of acres taken up annually for forty years in homestead grants, the magnitude of this economic transformation becomes still more impressive.—New York Tribune.

THE ARMY PAY QUESTION.

INTERESTING facts and figures upon which the officers of the army and the War Department base their claims are given in a circular just compiled by Captain Johnson Hagood, of the Coast Artillery Corps, at the direction of the department. Among other things, Capt. Hagood shows that the privates, corporals and sergeants receive less money to-day than they did forty years ago. For the line of the army it is seen that the base pay for a private is \$13 a month. From 1864 to 1871 the pay of a private was \$10. In the engineer corps, however, the private now receives \$17 a month, while a first-class private in the hospital corps receives \$18 a month. At the end of the third year the private in the infantry, cavalry and field artillery receives \$14 a month and the compensation increases to \$22 which is given at the end of the twenty-fifth year of service. After the thirtieth year and until the thirty-fifth year of service \$23 is given. Small additional monthly qualifications in target practice, foreign service, for certificates of merit, for distinguished service and for extra duty not of a military character. What the government allows the soldier in addition to his own pay and what the enlisted men must pay for is also shown. The allowance consists of clothing, rations, lodging, medical attention and medical supplies. The allowance for clothing, it is stated, amounts to an av-

EBB AND FLOW OF IMMIGRATION.

HAT immigration flood of 1,285,000 people in the fiscal year 1907, which ended on June 30, and which left all the records far behind, attracted far less attention than did the influx of a quarter of those dimensions half a century ago. When the potato famine in Ireland in 1846 sent the immigration into the United States in 1847 above the 200,000 mark for the first time in the country's history, and when the abortive insurrections in Austria, Hungary, Prussia, Bavaria and other European countries in 1848-49 re-inforced the Irish influx and sent the immigration above the 300,000 line in 1850, and above 400,000 in 1854, many persons feared that the alien deluge would overwhelm America and subvert its institutions. Then started that wave of nativism which resulted in the establishment of the secret, oath-bound Know-Nothing party, which swept Massachusetts and several other States in 1854 and 1855, and which, under the name of the American party, polled 375,000 votes for Fillmore for President in 1856. The civil war and the necessity of getting as many soldiers from all elements killed nativism, and, except in a few feeble and sporadic outbreaks, it has not reappeared since.—Leslie's Weekly.

DOLLARS KEEP THE PEACE.

HE frequent reference to dollars as the saviors of war has tended to obscure a larger truth with reference to money—namely, that it is the foundation of peace. While it is true that a very poor country in these times dares not go to war with a rich neighbor, it is just as true that a rich nation cannot afford to go to war, either. This inhibition arises from two causes, one direct, the other indirect. The direct is the tremendous cost of war, and the consequent confusion into which the war bill throws the financial arrangements of even the richest nations of modern times. Great Britain, in even her small war with the Boers, was obliged to strain her credit somewhat, and had the humiliation of seeing her consols go below par. This was almost as unflattering to England as the loss of a battle by the blundering Buller. The indirect inhibition upon war is found in the fact that victorious nations can no longer recoup themselves for the expenses out of the loser.—Minneapolis Journal.

SAVING MONEY.

The married man looked doubtful and rubbed his chin thoughtfully before replying. "But what do you want light dresses for now?" he asked. "They don't need them now, my dear," explained his wife, with gentle toleration, "but they're going to need them by spring. Don't you understand that?" "It's a long time till spring," said the married man. "What's the use of rushing the season?" "I don't call it rushing the season to buy the material," said his wife. "The dresses needn't be made up yet." "Then why buy them?" "Because it will be a saving of money. If I waited until all the spring stocks were in I should have to pay more. Don't you think that is a pretty good reason? Besides, I want to have plenty of time to make them. You're always telling me that I put everything off to the last minute. I can get a dressmaker a good deal cheaper, too."

CHILD MARRIAGES IN MEXICO.

Women Over Thirty Have Not Much Chance of Being Wedded. Not the least of the romantic features of the marriages of Mexico are the ceremonies uniting children. The marriage of girls over 12 years of age and boys 14 is permitted, and most marriages in Mexico come in early life. There are about 170 to 180 marriages a month in this capital, a ridiculous proportion in view of the fact that the population by the census of 1900 was 550,000 and is now probably nearer 600,000. This small proportion of legal marriages is due largely to the expense attending a religious ceremony, for the poor is educated to believe that the legal marriage is not sacred without the church service. Hence, when he cannot have the church service he does not bother to have the official, which is not expensive, performed.

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The general age for women to marry in Mexico is about 20. The statistics for the last two months show the following figures on the marrying of women: From 12 to 20 years, 33; from 21 to 30 years, 102; from 31 to 45 years, 24; from 46 to 60 years, 5. No woman over 60 was married during this period. As is seen from these figures, the number of women who married at from 21 to 30 years is greater than any other. The age at which most women marry in Mexico is from 18 to 24. It is to be observed that in the higher classes the girls marry generally when over 20, and some of them nearly 30 and over 30, while in the middle class a great majority of the women marry before they are 20 years old. Among the lower class, on the contrary, the number of girls who marry before 20 is considerable, and many of them marry at 15, 14 and even 12 years. The most recent cases of girls married at 15 and 16 are observed among the middle class and lower class people. One of these is Angela Carmona, who married at 15 years; another is a Spanish girl, Rosario Gonzalez, who married at 16, and another is that of Eduarda Gutierrez, who married at 14. As to the men, the age at which they generally marry is also from 21 to 30 years. The statistics for the last two months show that the number of men married at different ages was as follows: From 14 to 20 years, 5; from 21 to 30 years, 90; from 31 to 45 years, 57; over 45 years, 1. It is seen that the proportion of men marrying before 30 years is strong, although it is not as heavy as that of the women married under that age. The proportion of women married under 30 years is 136 to 29, while the same proportion among the men is 95 to 70. In Mexico a woman above 30 is considered as not having much chance of being married, and in the middle class the chances are not great beyond 25 years.—Mexican Herald.

POETIC JUSTICE.

The Washington Star calls the following a "Boomerang Joke." The return hit therein cited is certainly decisive and deserved. The story was told by Mark Twain as a retort administered to a fellow passenger on a steamer, who had injudiciously informed the humorist that he looked seasick. Said Mr. Clemens: "It never pays to tell people that they do not look well. A young man in a certain New York office put up a joke on the bookkeeper, who was a quiet, steady, serious chap. The joke was for every one to tell the vicinia that he looked very, very bad indeed. It was wondered what effect this would have. It was a hot August morning when the joke began. The office boy started in. 'Ain't ye well, Mr. Quill?' he said. 'Yes, of course. Why?' Quill asked. 'Why, ye look so pale,' said the boy. 'I feel all right,' returned Quill, calmly, and he put on his office coat and set to work. But when the shipping clerk told him he looked ill, Quill frowned and said he had had a bad night—that was all. When the cashier asked him what made him have such a queer color, he said his heart felt strange. For an hour or so Quill was tormented with anxious inquiries, full of gloomy foreboding about his health. Finally, with an impatient, worried gesture, he threw down his pen and hastened to the office of the chief. He was gone about five minutes. When he returned the chief was with him. 'Men,' said the chief, raising his hand to command the attention of all, 'as Mr. Quill is sick, I have granted him a ten days' leave of absence. Please arrange to divide his work equally among you while he is gone.' Schoolmaster—Now, can any of you tell me whether there is a connecting link between the animal and vegetable kingdoms? Small Boy—Yes, sir, please; there's hash!—London Opinion.

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NEW INVENTIONS

Improved Cigar Tip.

In the manufacture of cigars paste is generally used at the tips to secure the wrappers in place. An improved method of binding the wrappers to the filler has been invented and patented by a Philadelphia man, which is very simple, and at the same time efficient, besides eliminating the pasting heretofore necessary. He employs a metallic tip, cone-shaped, which is adapted to be slipped over the end of the cigar around the wrapper. The tip is provided with spurs, that penetrate the wrapper and filler and hold the device on the cigar till it is ready for use. The smoker can then readily detach it. Any desired material can be used to form the tip, the latter conforming to the shape of the end of the cigar. The tip is also useful to display the name of the brand of cigar, as well as the name of the manufacturer, in place of the ordinary paper band.

Novel Handbag.

Pickpockets will be up against a hard problem when they tackle a woman with a pocketbook equipped with the safety lock shown in the illustration. The invention of a Pennsylvania man. This novel and useful construction of a handle can be employed in connection with any type or form of bag, valise or other portable receptacle. There is no possibility of the bag being opened without the knowledge of the person carrying it. The handle is in two sections, which are hollow, and have locking latches operating in connection with a catch in the interior of the bag. To open the bag the outer hollow portions of the handle are swung outward, releasing the latches. The bag is then opened in the usual way. Obviously, it would be impossible to open the bag without removing the hand from the handle. Nat-

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Self-Loading Cart.

In the illustration below is shown a self-loading cart, the most recent of the many devices designed to do away with hand labor. A Pennsylvania man is responsible for the complicated piece of ingenuity, which, he says, will gather up dirt or any article and deposit it automatically in the cart. The apparatus is placed in the rear of the cart and consists of a collector which connects with gears, wheels and other operating paraphernalia. The collector gathers up the dirt, etc., as the cart is moving, raises it over the dashboard and dumps it. Any ordinary cart equipped with the apparatus can collect a load in a very few minutes. Of course, it is unnecessary for the driver to dismount during the operation. When the cart is filled, levers are disengaged and the apparatus temporarily put out of commission until the cart is emptied and ready for the next load.

Pen and Pencil Holder.

Among the recent improvements in office desk accessories is a pen and pencil holder patented by a New York man and shown in the illustration. Instead of promiscuously dropping pencils and penholders all over the desk, where they are invariably lost in the debris of letters, etc., the holder provides a convenient resting place, where they are readily accessible when needed. The holder consists of a wooden stand, from which extends a wire frame, the front of which is bent into numerous corrugations. The pencils and penholders are supported upon the holder by wire clips with hooks, the latter being secured on the end of the pencil. The holder is placed on the desk where the pencils and penholders can be readily grasped when wanted.

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A FREE LANCE OF THE SEA

In the month of December, 1577, Master Francis Drake, who was destined to be the destroyer of the Spanish Armada in years to come, set sail from Plymouth harbor in command of the Pelican, the Elizabeth, and three smaller vessels. As in every expedition in which he had a free hand, says Captain Jack Brand, in his recent book, "The Free Lances," Drake's squadron was the very best in every particular that could be sent out of England. His ships were new, well found, and the very latest specimens of the naval architecture of the time.

This salt-water soldier of fortune assumed great state in his private arrangements. His table furniture was of solid silver. To be sure, he had plenty of silver, and like the conquerors of Peru, might have shod his horses with the precious metal had he so desired. Even part of the furnishings of the cook's galley were of plate. Some idea of the state he kept may be gathered from the following letter from a Spanish officer whom they captured during the voyage:

"The general of the Englishmen is a cousin of Juan Aquiles"—which Mr. Brand interprets as John Hawkins. "He is the same who five years ago took Nombre de Dios. He must be a man of about 35 years, short, with a ruddy beard, one of the greatest marines there is on the sea, alike from his skill and his power of command. His ship is a galleon of about four hundred tons (three hundred tons over-estimated—J. B.), a very fast sailer, and there are aboard her a hundred men, all skilled hands and of a warlike age, and all so well trained that they might be old soldiers of the Italian tercias. Every one is specially careful to keep his harquebuss clean.

"He treats them with affection and they him with respect. He carries with him nine or ten gentlemen, cadets of high families in England. These are members of his council, and he calls them together upon all occasions, however simple, and although he takes counsel from no one, he is pleased to hear their opinions before issuing his orders.

"He is served with much plate with gilt borders and tops and engraved with his arms, and has all possible kinds of delicacies and sweets, many of which he says the queen gave him.

WORK A DAY FOR NOTHING.

Does it ever occur to people that leap year may, and generally does, touch their pockets appreciably? Those wage earners who are paid every Friday or Saturday suffer nothing because they are paid for the extra day they have to live during the year. But those in receipt of monthly or quarterly checks for salary are different, for they lose the payment for the extra day's work.

Employers are naturally forgetful of such little matters and employees are not so long sighted as they might be, if we may judge from the fact that when engagements are entered into and contracts made for a term of years no account is taken of that extra day in leap year.

A simple calculation shows that a person earning \$1,000 a year, paid monthly, quarterly or annually, finds himself out of pocket to the extent of \$2 15 as the result of leap year, and, of course, the larger the income the greater the loss.

The chancellor of the exchequer dealing with millions of the nation's money is not slow to appreciate the importance of leap year. Taking last year's budget figures as a basis, the extra day would mean an increase of some \$297,000 in gross revenue and of \$382,000 in expenditures.

Interesting, too, is it to figure out what leap year means in regard to our foreign trade. Taking again the figures of our last financial year, it will be found that one day's extra imports amount to the huge sum of \$1,544,000 and one day's extra exports to \$1,202,000. Thus from the mere fact of its being leap year our total foreign trade ought to be \$2,750,000 sterling greater this year than last.—London Mail.

Full of Reminiscence.

At the different army stations in the West it is the practice for the officers on leaving their post for some distant station to sell off everything they do not care to keep. In connection with this custom in "Reminiscences of a Soldier's Wife," Mrs. Ellen Biddle tells an amusing story.

A Favorite Dress.

There was a very estimable woman living at the garrison, a veritable Mrs. Malaprop. She told us of some jewelry she had lost, and among the things was a topaz chain with a beautiful "pendulum."

Simple Enough.

"From some of the articles you read nowadays you would think that the ideal place for existence was in a feeble-minded institution."

Simple Enough.

"Because there everybody leads the simple life."—Baltimore American.