

Norwich Bulletin and Courier

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The Circulation of The Bulletin.

The Bulletin has the largest circulation of any paper in Eastern Connecticut, and from three to four times larger than that of any in Norwich.

CIRCULATION table with columns for year and circulation figures: 1901, average 4,412; 1905, average 5,920; 1906, average 6,559; 1907, average 7,179; 1908, average 7,543; December 25, 7,733.

TIME FOR A HALT.

The country is in a mood just now to admire Secretary Ballinger, who stands for the people instead of for the seekers of special privileges, and is not afraid to say so.

In his address to the University club of New York, the other evening, he said:

"The people of this country have lost vastly more than they can ever regain by gifts of public property, forever and without charge, to men who gave nothing in return. It is true that we have made superb material progress under this system, but it is not well for us to rejoice too freely in the slices the special interests have given up from the great loaf of the property of all the people."

There is nothing the matter with the ring of this sentiment. It will find popular lodgment and enthusiastic support in all sections of the country among the people.

Secretary Ballinger has been fearfully slandered by the class he would have called to account, and to whose schemes he dare propose a permanent stoppage. Ballinger does not believe in winking at any system of robbery, jobbery or grafting.

AN AMUSING INCIDENT.

The fact that the United States treasury is in the receipt of a lot of Confederate bonds, from Pau, France, the lawyer holding them denouncing their immediate redemption, causes a smile to spread all over the country.

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A MATTER OF ECONOMY.

The damage of the asylum for the insane of Vermont, at Waterbury, the other day, it was thought, would make necessary a special session of the legislature and entail considerable of an additional burden upon the taxpayers of the state, but in the height of the discussion Governor Prouty says it will not be necessary to call a special session of the Vermont legislature to appropriate a sum of money to complete the repairs to the state hospital for the insane, which was damaged by fire last week.

The state carried a good insurance on the property, and the fire serves to bring attention to the desirability of protecting state property well in this manner. It is a good example for all states and cities. There is no reason why public property should not be insured as well as private, and the interests of the taxpayers require that it should be. A wise policy on the part of Vermont will save a large additional expense.

If it took Dr. Pearson of Chicago twenty years to properly dispose of two millions for educational purposes, how long will it take Carnegie to do his stunt.

If Horace Johnson can see a storm coming three days before the rest of us, why should we doubt the citizen who sees an airship sailing right over his head?

From all parts of the country come reports of crowded postoffices and a shortage of carriers. The mails were burdened with presents three days ahead in time of delivery.

Mr. Brokaw would not think of calling any one a drinking man who takes less than six or seven drinks a day. This is not the kind who support the saloons; they could not afford that!

FREDERICK REMINGTON.

Frederick Remington, the artist and writer, who died at Litchfield in this state, the other day, did more by his pictures to acquaint the American public with the wild life and the military life of the west than any other American painter or sculptor.

The Toledo Blade points out that "a prairie pony that looked like a pony, pictured an Indian such as anyone who ever saw an Indian might recognize, instead of a figure from the Leatherstocking tales, painted the cowboy as he was, not as some untraveled artist in Brookline, Mass., imagined he ought to be."

A GOVERNORS' CLUB.

The name indicates that this might be a political organization, but it is not. There are governors besides governors of states. This idea of organizing self-governors and binding them by pledge and fine not to chew, smoke or drink to excess, originated in Battle Creek, Mich., and there is no doubt that the members of the club would be a better governor of a state.

Following is the club pledge: "The undersigned therefore agrees to restrict his use of alcoholic or malt beverages to ordinary portions of either (not both) or of each and each portion of tobacco in any form each day of 24 hours, or payment of \$1 for each portion used in excess as an alternative."

"I, the undersigned, agree to the rules and regulations hereth defined, and upon signing my name do solemnly affirm that I will strictly, honestly and completely obey them."

"This covenant is with my Higher Self and with the members of the Governors' club, and rests solely, but sufficiently, upon my Sacred Personal Honor."

If all the signers have "sacred personal honor," this scheme ought to work well, but this is a quality rarer than it ought to be, and it is too often found on the weakest side of a man. It is a noble idea. Temperance in all things is the direct way for man to realize what the command, "Know thyself!" means. No man is capable of knowing himself who is incapable of self-control.

SPORT FOR SPORT'S SAKE.

Many Middlebury college is not so far out of the way in the opinion of its delegates at the football conference that the game played in this country should be supervised by the English game. There is, somehow, a suggestion of manliness, wholesomeness, and cleanliness about English sport that distinguishes it as sport for sport's sake and not for the box office. And we Americans are headed the other way, more shame to us. We are commercializing our fun, just as we do arduously every thing else, and even the youth's game of football must needs partake of some of the elements of a bullfight or a circus "thriller" in order that it may hold the fickle public interest and be self-supporting from the money point of view.

Games that have to be "financed" on such a basis or by such a policy are not recreations for the players, but popular amusement enterprises for the benches. And the sooner we recognize the distinction the nearer we may be to a reform.—St. Albans Messenger.

There is going to be a reform made in the American game of football. There is evidence of it everywhere. Now if the reformer is as senseless as the corrector of the rules two years ago by which the game was made more perilous than ever, much is not to be expected from the change! Why not accept the English game as played rather than risk a second miscarriage?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

When the sons and daughters of Boston went to sit down to a banquet they count up full five hundred.

George Washington ate with his knife, it is said. A habit with such a backing as this ought not to shock polite society.

Dr. Cook must realize that as the world measures up a man so must he stand, regardless of what he thinks about himself.

President Taft has something of special importance to say to congress when it again assembles, and he will say it straight.

The farmer who is ignorant of the price of timber now is in a fair way of having his valuables suddenly taken from him.

The declaration that the stuff that pops like whiskey when the cork is pulled is whiskey was not accepted as a government definition.

Happy thought for today: The dawn of the millennium will be close at hand when one fisherman believes the stories told by another.

When it comes to indebtedness Boston stands third in a list of 158 of the city's spendthrifts. But Boston thinks she has enough to show for it.

When a boy gets up to the confessional's window he gets so earnest to get close to the good things that he flattens his nose on the glass.

Boston is feeling sure that New England will hold a corn exposition in 1910 that will make this section look up in the eye of the west.

Trinity college, Hartford, will raise the fifty thousand by tonight which is required to make sure the conditional half-million to come to it.

It is not so much matter about Zelavaya. Those Nicaraguans will know what it costs to kill Americans when

THE BULLETIN'S DAILY STORY AT THE TURKISH BATHS

"I take the baths simply to keep myself in good condition," explained the very large woman to her pretty little neighbor on the next couch. "It isn't as if I were too stout. I have a large frame, of course, but not an ounce too much, my husband says. He always admires his looking women. I wouldn't lose a pound for the world!"

"Well, I would," interrupted the red-haired woman. "Of all atrocious things in this world, it is fat. She eyed the large woman and continued: "When I found that I was five pounds above normal I came down at once to take a course in bathing. I roared and roared and was pounded until I've lost three pounds. Hips are simply disgusting to me. Of course, this sea-bathing is a little better, but I'll take mine in effect, thank you!"

"Well, I confess I'm fat—just plain fat," commented a second stout woman. "I've dieted and walked and taken active and passive exercises until I'm too tired to move. I've gone without dessert. I've had massage until my hips were black and blue. Now I'm rolling."

"Rolling" asked the pretty little woman. "What's that?" "Haven't you tried rolling yet?" chorused the others. "Why, you can reduce a pound in four days if you roll for fifteen minutes night and morning, and it's the surest!"

"But I'm not trying to reduce." "Not trying to reduce! Then why are you here?" demanded the large woman, sternly. "I've always been thin," meekly responded the little woman, "but of late I've had rheumatism, so my physician advised Turkish baths. It's the only thing that has done me any good."

"It must be hard not to be able to wear evening dress," said the first large woman, at last. "Of course, if one doesn't go socially it doesn't matter much, I suppose." The red-haired woman winked at the dazed little lady. "My husband would object seriously if I should propose wearing anything else than decollete every evening for dinner," the large woman continued. "We entertain extensively."

"I'll suggest you get your own house-work," whispered the red-haired woman to her thin neighbor. "Look at her finger nails!"

"We sighed the second fat woman, "I can't even look well in a low-cut evening dress."

they get round to the bill for damages. A storm that could do a half-million dollars' worth of damage along the coast of Newfoundland must be admitted to be the severest for half a century.

The tramps never come around to ask for a handout until the Hebrew has been there and earned his money for clearing the way to the back door of snow.

FACTS ABOUT FIRES.

Census Bureau's Interesting Statistics Relative to Fire Laddies and Losses.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30, 1909.—The number of city employees of the fire departments in 1907 was estimated in the forthcoming United States Census Bulletin No. 105, relative to statistics of cities of 30,000 and more population. In 1907, the police, 29,055, or nearly three-fourths of the number of employees of the police departments in the same cities.

Fire protection in many cities, however, is not maintained by volunteer fire organizations, so that the fire fighting force is somewhat larger than the police force. Call men are more numerous in the cities with a population of over 100,000, and in the last few years there has been a marked tendency for all cities of over 30,000 inhabitants to replace call men with regular men.

It is stated that by presenting the number of regular firemen per 10,000 inhabitants, the number per 1,000 acres of land area, and the number per 100 miles of improved streets, opportunity is afforded for comparing the effective strength of the departments of the different cities. In 1907, the 10,000 inhabitants is probably the best measure of fire protection.

An Increase in Appropriations. The appropriations for 1906 and 1907 as given in the bulletin include the salaries of firemen, fuel, and other expenses for maintenance. The appropriations for 1907 amounted to \$38,329,656, an increase of \$3,648,856, or 10.5 per cent. over the previous year.

The per capita cost of maintenance of fire departments in foreign cities is, according to the bulletin, much lower than in cities of the United States, computations of the per capita cost of the United States geological survey placing the per capita expense in Berlin at \$0.28, London at \$0.19, St. Petersburg at \$0.23, Paris at \$0.21, Milan at \$0.17, and Stockholm at \$0.23. The bulletin cautions that the inference should not be drawn from these data that the fire departments of this country are not economically maintained. The low per capita cost of maintenance abroad is the result of stricter building precautions to prevent the occurrence of fires. The foreign municipalities also make no payment for water for fire purposes, an expense incurred by two-fifths of the departments in the large cities of this country.

In those cities from which complete reports were made there were 88,525 fire alarms during 1907 and 78,507 fires, of which 53,843 resulted in losses. In other words, for every alarm of fire, the alarms were for fires which occasioned loss. Similarly, disregarding those cities with incomplete reports, the total loss through fires was \$48,578,750, on which insurance was paid amounting to \$43,658,728, leaving a net loss of \$4,920,022, or 12.4 per cent.

The total fire loss per capita was \$2.28, and the net loss per capita \$0.28. Of the total loss reported a separation of the total on buildings and the total on their contents was returned for \$43,309,461, or 89.1 per cent. \$65,427, or 3.3 per cent. was on buildings and \$29,342,654, or 60.7 per cent. was on contents.

Per Capita Wealth. In 1900 the wealth of the United States was \$7,000,000, or about \$907 to the person. In 1904 these figures had increased respectively to \$107,000,000, or \$1,310. Or, in other words, the per capita wealth is over four times greater than it was 50 years ago. But it is not possible that contentment has increased a particle. This is because the more one has the more he wants to have. Possessions increase one's desire.

But there is another consideration that requires serious explanation. It is quite probable that the great portion of this increase from \$7,000,000,000 to \$107,000,000,000 has got into the hands of a few, and while the average citizen has increased his possessions from what they were in 1850, they have no doubt increased some, but the millions and multimillions have increased their possessions. The increase of wealth in the hands of a few

Spare the Perissimon's Pucker. It could not fail to arouse dire forebodings among the sturdy American pioneers if they knew of the loss of the proposed elimination of the pucker from the perissimon by the United States department of agriculture. They would view with alarm the general view of the age and see a deplorable softening of the national character had not taken place.

Those of us who have known the perissimon in its native land are contented to grieve at its threatened domestication. Take away the pucker and you have taken away the tang of the brush, the odor of the wildwood. Its individuality is justified. Another who is untempered with by man nor two perissimons are alike.

It is the most temperamental of fruits, and on the ground it is ripened by the same amount of sunlight, brought to epicurean perfection by the same frost, one perissimon will draw the mouth, until the unlucky devourer looks like an imitation of the twin brother, sugary and luscious, will melt away sizzly like a dream. But puckerless, what was formerly a gas-trointestinal stimulant, becomes as tame a performance as eating a tomato.—New York World.

Borrowed Sports.

It is no uncommon thing for business education or other methods and customs which have proved eminently successful in one country to be adopted in another country. Any new scientific discovery, wherever and by whomsoever made, is a contribution to the knowledge and advantage of all nations. The application which each country makes of this knowledge is determined by the nature of the industry, and, it is superior to their own application.

tion, adopted by them. It is by this interchange of ideas that the world has arrived at its present stage of advancement, and by similar exchange it will continue to progress.

So it is in sports. Most of those which we enjoy in the United States are importations, in identical or modified forms, of sports which other countries have enjoyed before us. The American game of football is commonly acknowledged to be an offshoot of the English game of Rugby. Golf is essentially Scotch, and so on. In turn the American game of baseball is characterized with enthusiasm in Japan and in other parts of the world. Now comes the American consul in England, Scotland and Ireland with a report that roller skating, which had heretofore been regarded as a distinctively American diversion, has become tremendously popular in those islands and that rinks are springing up at every convenient place.—Manchester Union.

Haircutting at Home.

If the master barbers carry out their rumored intention of raising the price of haircuts in Waterbury barber shops to fifty cents each, six dollars a dozen, look out for a revival of the old-fashioned industry of haircutting at home.

The smart time Willie wants fifty cents (half a dollar) to give to the barber for a haircut, mother will take off her apron, tie it around his neck, place him in a chair, grasp her scissors and proceed with the best of intentions but "practice skill to save fifty cents. There must be quite a few of the old wooden chopping bowls left over in these days of rotary food-choppers. The wooden chopping bowl in the days antecedent factory haircuts led to distinct fashions in hair trimming. The styles which it originated were never distinctly popular with the boys who wore them, but they were unmistakable. A chopping bowl haircut could be identified at first sight from quite a distance. Its salient characteristics were the pair of portieres that hung over the ears and down the back of the neck.

Of course, in those days the little clipping machine which trims the back of the hair as close as you will, or gives you "a shingle" all over in summer if you desire it, had not been invented. Perhaps armed with one of the new fangled machines, mother could do better now than when we were a boy. At all events, unless mothers are different now than they were in former generations, she will try. The extra quarter settles that.

Home haircutting died out, not because of protest among the juvenile waders (they were never with silent scorn), but because the adoption of the gold standard or something of that sort made money so plentiful that a quarter looked no bigger than a dime. Mother stopped cutting hair because twenty-five cents seemed, after all, reasonable enough for cutting a boy's hair.

But if the tariff goes up to fifty cents a haircut, mother will embark in the business once more and remain in it until another financial revolution occurs to make a half dollar seem no more than a quarter than it is.

There are gloomy days ahead, days that will try the soul of every boy old enough to have his hair cut, but not old enough to earn the money to pay for it.—Waterbury Republican.

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