

AFRO-AMERICAN CULLINGS

Some 60 years ago, Frederick Law Olmsted, who later became our greatest landscape architect, made several memorable visits to the south. The books of travel he then wrote are prized by historians on the whole the best material we have concerning the economic condition of the south while slavery endured.

A dozen years ago another traveler, with Olmsted's books in his bag, toured the entire south with much the same general inquiry in his mind. He wanted to learn how much the labor system of the south had improved. He came back rather discouraged about the Negroes, but rather enthusiastic about the growing disposition of the South to use more and more white labor, both native and foreign.

Perhaps his judgment was somewhat influenced by the feeling of the southerners round him, and particularly by their eagerness to attract immigration. At that time this eagerness was not only very great, but rather indiscriminate. Apparently, the south wanted all the white men it could get, from whatever quarter. Today there are signs that the attitude of the south on this important matter has somewhat changed. The desire for immigrants from the north is, indeed, still undiminished. There is also a hearty welcome for European immigrants of races known to be readily assimilable by the southern native stocks—which are mainly English, Scotch and Scotch-Irish, with a smaller admixture of French and German. But the south does not seem so keen as it was for all sorts of immigrants. So much may perhaps be inferred from the recent course of southerners in congress, particularly Representative Burnett of Alabama.

Perhaps the best explanation is that the south, although it has received few immigrants, has been prospering mightily during the last decade. Undoubtedly, too, the troubles of the north with foreign labor have made an impression on thoughtful southerners. Perhaps we can hope, also, that the Negroes themselves have helped a little to make southerners more content with things as they are—although probably that is not the view of most southern white people.

The Negroes themselves seem to be agreeing more and more with Booker Washington that the south offers them their best industrial opportunity. In that opinion Principal Washington finds himself strengthened by a close study of the poorest classes in Europe, whose condition he is constantly comparing with that of the Negroes in the south. He declares, for example, that "the condition of the colored farmer, even in the most backward parts of the southern states in America, is incomparably better than the condition and opportunities of the agricultural population in Sicily." He has reached the same conclusion about other parts of Europe. For that and for other reasons he would not welcome a great miscellaneous immigration into the south. No doubt in that he truly represents the mass of his people.

No such unanimity on the subject can, however, be attributed to southern white people. Many complain that their labor-supply is both scant and inefficient, and many desire more settlers in order to hasten the development of the country. But it does seem true that concerning these great matters both the white and the black south are today in a happier and more hopeful mood than at any other time since the war—YOUTH'S COMPANION.

The last battle in which a British sovereign personally led his troops on the battlefield was in 1742 when George II, at the head of his army, defeated the French at the battle of Dettingen.

The first day's session of the National Negro Business League convention was devoted to a discussion of general merchandising, the development of insurance business among the negroes, the negro inventor, and the forward to the country movement among the members of the race. Statistics were presented to show that the negro is crowding into the large cities, to the detriment of his material advancement and health. Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York were mentioned as having an excess negro population measured by the opportunities the colored man has in those cities.

The coal production of the Transvaal for 1912 showed an increase over the previous year, the figures being 4,751,850 tons, valued at \$5,085,424, compared with 4,343,660 tons, of \$4,966,453 value in 1911.

Many worked-out coal mines in Pennsylvania are being filled in with sand and other waste material to prevent their surfaces caving and damaging valuable property.

Any individual rejoicing in the name of Mr. Earwig may be proud in the fact that originally the name meant the "boar of battle."

According to the Canadian Forestry association 59 per cent of Canada is capable of growing nothing but timber crops.

The entire 1912-13 opium crop of European and Asiatic Turkey is placed at 7,000 cases of 150 pounds net each.

In Lyons, France, all perambulating signs are subject to the traffic regulations.

Rome gave away corn to the poor, but that did not save her from destruction.

Massachusetts now has nearly 61,000 registered automobiles.

First and foremost, I call the attention of the race through this league to the fact that there are at least 200,000-444 acres of unused and unoccupied land in the southern states. This means a territory as large as Australia, France, Germany, Italy and Spain. I am glad to say that we already own and occupy 20,000,000 acres, but this is only about two acres for each individual. All this means one thing: That the time has come when this business league and other organizations should send forth a voice which can be heard everywhere and can not be misunderstood, for a larger proportion of our race to leave the towns and cities and plant themselves in the country districts on the soil before it is too late. Verily it is true that here in the United States the words of the prophet of old are fulfilled, when he said there was a land awaiting the occupation of the people, that was "flowing with milk and honey." In our case as a race, the milk will come from our own Jersey cows and the honey from our own well kept bees. Forward to the land; should be our motto everywhere. Instead of owning 20,000,000 acres, we should within the next quarter of a century own 40,000,000 acres. To the man or the race who owns the soil all good things come in time. Let us leave the fleeting and often deceiving life of the cities and get on God's green earth. I want to see members of my race that are now in too large numbers flocking to the cities, join the great world movement "back to the land," or better still, "forward to the land."—Booker Washington

Such institutions as those at Tuskegee, Hampton and Prairie View are sending out thousands of young men and women imbued with good purposes and well equipped to render incalculable service to the negro people. These men and women live wholesome lives and set wholesome examples that are bringing joy by a heavy fruitage in the way of enlightenment and encouragement. As vast as is the problem here in the south, and as tremendous the mass to be won to honesty, virtue, self-reliance and thrift, there is no reason for discouragement anywhere. Everywhere throughout the south there can be seen among the whites a constantly growing sympathy for and interest in the negro population, and that sympathy and encouragement are accomplishing great things. We can see from the progress of the present how much better the future is going to be, and we have every reason to hope that the problem will be divested of its complexities as intelligence is disseminated among the negroes and as the white people more fully realize that their own welfare depends upon making the negro a more intelligent and useful factor in our economic life. We believe the lynching record will continue to diminish until this blot will be forever eradicated. The negro himself can help the good work along by abstaining from all forms of lawlessness and by ceasing to give shelter to those who commit crimes. A healthy public sentiment will accomplish the rest.—Houston (Texas) Post.

The cotton industry of Italy has 4,575,000 spindles and 134,350 power looms, 48 per cent in Lombardy, 24 per cent in Piedmont and the remainder in Venetia, Liguria, and, in lesser degree, in central and southern Italy. The industry employs 207,112 operatives.

The first session of the Chautauque at Lincoln, Md., was opened by Bishop John Hurst, the president. J. C. Napier in his address paid a tribute to the state of Maryland, which produced a Frederick Douglass. He said that the colored people are often referred to as a burden to the country, but how like the state of Adam and Eve would be that of the people of this country were it not for the three-fourths of the cotton of the world that is raised by the colored people of the south. Permanent organization of a state negro fraternal league was effected, with the following officers: C. C. Fitzgerald, president; H. T. Pratt, vice president; Daniel H. Murphy, secretary, and J. F. Fessenden, treasurer.

Consul David J. D. Myers reports that banana exports to the United States from Puerto Cortes, Honduras, during the first five months of 1913 aggregated 1,460,000 bunches.

Dipsomanias are treated with bread soaked in wine in Sweden. At the end of a week the patient revivifies at the taste of liquor.

Andrew Kline of Dillsburg, Pa., has a barrel which, instead of being made of wood, is made of plaited straw, and in such way that it is perfectly watertight. Barrels of this kind were frequently used in revolutionary times.

France has spent \$35,000,000 in planting trees on the watersheds of important streams.

There are fewer suicides among miners than among the other class of workmen.

People who grumble at a thirty-minute sermon will line up uncomplainingly a block from the ticket window.

To be a broker you first speculate in stocks and then on what became of your money.

As a rule, tears do not accompany a baby's cries until it is three months old.

British postoffices handle 15,000,000 letters and 250,000 telegrams a day.

FOR WINDOW DRAPERY

TIME TO GIVE THOUGHT TO CURTAINS IS NOW.

Material Desired May Be Bought Cheaper at This Season Than Later—Suggestions as to the Best Color Schemes.

Now that autumn is approaching it is time to think of new curtains. They may be purchased now at small cost.

For a living or dining room nothing could be prettier than the green and yellow scheme. If the walls are green, brown or gray, have soft yellow next the window and green to cover the woodwork.

Soft yellow silk muslin hemstitched to beautiful, but the same delicate shade of cheesecloth will give exactly the same effect. Cheesecloth may sound rather poor, but when hanging at a window with the light back of it nothing could be prettier, and certainly nothing less expensive. Make the curtains perfectly straight with a wide hem. Put them on a brass rod and they will hang softly, giving a peculiar light that is unusually suggestive of mellow sunlight.

Over the window frame a heavier material is necessary. For all living rooms cretonne or English chintz in yellow and brown tones is pretty but cotton poplin is no more expensive and much more elegant and artistic. Poplin can be purchased in all shades of green, brown or red, and is a good substitute for velours in winter, as it looks quite as warm, and, unlike velours, it need not be made by an expert to look well.

Outside drapes should be cut straight, the same as those next the window, using a width for each side. Hem across the bottom and attach the other end to a rod, or tack to either side of the window frame, as they will not be drawn, but left to hang plain at the sides. Across the top of the window a valance is good. Cut the poplin in half lengthwise, making a casing, with heading, and have it twice as wide as the window. Run the rod through the casing.

For a bedroom white cheesecloth is advantageous. Cheesecloth washes like linen, always looks fresh, apparently never wears out and in colors never seems to fade. Pink in a delicate shade is also pretty for a bedroom, as the light has a way of shining through it which is very alluring, almost like a sunset glow.

Inside curtains of cretonne may be made of a width of the material less than the width that is taken off for the heading. Make box pleats about two inches wide and the same distance apart, stitch and put around the sides and bottom of curtains, also on the valance. Hang them the same as the other curtains.

The best quality of cheesecloth in all colors can be bought for ten cents a yard, and silk muslin and cotton poplin at 25 cents.

Golden Dream Cake.

Separate the yolks and whites of four eggs, beat the whites with an egg-beater until you can turn the bowl wrong side up and the egg whites will hold its position softly. Then with the egg-beater beat the yolks for five minutes when they will be thick and creamy. Then beating all the time with beater, gradually pour in one cup granulated sugar. Beat until sugar and eggs form a cream, light and foamy. Then add one-half teaspoonful of lemon or vanilla. Last of all add one cup of pastry flour, sifted three times, with saltspoon of salt in it. Fold in the flour very carefully with a spoon. Turn into a buttered and well-floured tin and bake a pretty golden brown. In cutting for the table crease each piece deeply and then break. To cut sponge cake spoils the grain and makes it seem heavy. There is no rising in this cake except the eggs. But you will find it all right and most delicious cake.

Blueberry Pudding.

Mix and sift two cupsful of flour, four spoonfuls of baking powder (level measurement) and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Work in two table-spoonfuls of butter, using the tips of the fingers, then add one cupful of milk, gradually, mixing with a knife. Pick over blueberries; there should be one cupful. Roll in one and one-half table-spoonfuls of flour and add to first mixture. Turn into a buttered mold (having mold not more than two-thirds full), and tie on a buttered cover. Place mold on a trivet in kettle containing boiling water, allowing water to come up half way around mold. Cover closely and steam one and one-half hours, adding more boiling water as necessary, always being sure that water does not reach a lower temperature than the boiling point. Serve with sea-foam sauce.—Woman's Home Companion.

Washing Net Curtains.

To wash net curtains soak them in an earthenware bowl or porcelain tub over night in suds of white soap. First wash them through one soapy water to remove the surface dust. Then put them in the suds made of shaved white soap, boiling water and borax—two table-spoonfuls of borax to four quarts of water; in the morning wash the curtains gently until they are clean and then rinse them in clear water until all trace of soap has disappeared. Blue, starch and dry them.

Move the Carpet.

Every now and then, instead of allowing the stair carpet to remain in exactly the same position as first placed, the trend of the carpet should be moved a couple of inches or so either up or down. This has the effect of keeping the pile of the carpet in a uniform condition, and, besides retaining the fresh appearance of the carpet, it helps it to last much longer than it would if left exactly as laid. It costs nothing to do this, yet saves much.

To Clear Soup.

Many housewives dislike to strain soup. This discovery may make it easier: Pour the soup, while hot, through a muslin cloth which has just been wrung out of ice water. When it has all been strained, heat again and serve.

BASEBALL

J. Franklin Baker is still there with the wallop.

The hottest race now, says McGraw, is for second place in the American league.

All of the Nap players claim that Christy Mathewson is the king of them all.

Weak pitching is the cause of the Dodgers' poor showing, says Al Bridwell of the Cubs.

Gus Dondon, the old White Sox second baseman, is on the pay roll of the Chicago Feds.

The Naps have purchased Pitcher Bowman from the Grand Rapids club of the Central league.

McGraw says he believes "Jett" Terreau will be the big factor in the coming world's series.

Bob McAllister is said to be one of the first fighters to take up golf as a part of his training.

Chappell has rounded into shape so that he is able to deliver some of that \$18,000 paid for him.

Those Cardinals are low in the race, but they are usually able to make the Giants sit up and take notice.

Horace Fogel says he has lined up Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York for the Federal league next year.

The White Sox and the Giants are to play on a field that will accommodate 25,000 people at Nice, France.

Pitcher Charley Rice of Houston won ten straight games, then had to lose to the tallend Besumont team.

McGraw had a chance to get young Fred Kommer, who is starting in the Pirates outfield, but passed him up.

George Paskert of the Phillies has joined the "barber-shop herd." George has had his hair cut close to his head.

Somehow or other, a man like Sailer, who lets his bat do most of his talking, is rather popular among real fans.

Manager McGraw says that the Giants are displaying more speed right now than they did last season.

There is not likely to be any great popular movement for the abolition of baseball slavery, but something should be done.

Morning practice has been ordered for the Giants by McGraw again in hopes that he will keep them from slumping.

Bob Connery, scout for the Cards, says the trouble with the team now is that it has only one pitcher in trim, Slim Sallee.

President McAleer of the Red Sox has purchased Cooney, the new England league team.

Clyde Milan, the Washington outfielder and greatest base burglar in captivity, is leading the major leagues in base stealing.

Nappy Felch, the outfielder from Fond du Lac signed by the Brooklyn club, is said to be a second Ty Cobb on the bases and with the bat.

Chance is injecting a lot of ginger into the Yankees, according to the New York papers, if that's true he has earned his year's salary already.

Everyone is willing to admit that George McBride would be an ideal man to head the Red Sox next year. He is the right kind of man for the place.

Davy Jones, Jay Kirke and Charley Jones, ex-big leaguers, now with Toledo, are one, two, three in the American association batting averages.

The Highlanders and the Dodgers are going to be some ball teams next year, if half of the youngsters now being gathered in by the scouts are any good.

Bill Carrigan believes that Scott, the youngster he has secured from the St. Paul team, will be a better player than Donnie Bush or Heine Wagner ever was.

Christy Mathewson is now twirling in his thirteenth consecutive season for the Giants, but is able to show up every young pitcher in the National league at that.

Umpire Rigler agrees with Connie Mack that St. Louis will never have a winning ball club because the heat there is too severe to allow the players to do their best.

Tinker is eager to obtain Charley Herzog from McGraw, but there is no likelihood of the fighting third sacker passing to the Reds. He fills a niche in a pinch that few fielders can.

Birds of a feather do not always flock together. George Browne, one of the most ancient figures in the game, recently jumped right in Scran-ton's right garden, vice Harry Lumley, also remembered by those who sounded lead in the Flood.

Larry Chappell, the new high priced outfield acquisition of the White Sox, looks the part of a sure qualifier as a White Sox regular in 1914, but this big fellow will be handicapped this season by a lame leg and too much publicity.

FIVE ABLE YOUNG CATCHERS



Ray Schalk of the White Sox.

Five young catchers of ability have been developed in the American league within the last twelve months, all of them being the regular backstops on their teams at present. Dick Gossett of the New Yorks is probably the best catcher pure and simple in the flock, although Will Schang of the Athletics, Ray Schalk of the White Sox, Sam Agnew of the Browns and Red McKee of Detroit, may hit the ball a trifle harder.

Hughie Jennings says that Ty Cobb is not dissatisfied.

The funniest things in baseball happen in the midnight league.

Otto Hesa says that the easiest team for him to lick is the Cards.

Harry Covaleski, former Giant killer, has been signed by the Tigers for next year.

Norman Elberfeld will hold his job at Chattanooga next year, according to Mogul Andrews.

Chance has promised to give the Highlanders a thorough shaking up, and he is keeping his promise.

Mike Mitchell waited until he was at safe distance and then opened a tirade on Johnny Evers of the Cubs.

Maisel is rather undersized, but he makes up for what he lacks in height by his speed. He is only twenty-one years old.

The Highlanders are crawling up in the list pretty fast these days, and the smile on the face of Frank Chance is increasing in breadth.

Clark Griffith has been quoted as denying the deal with Boston involving McBride, but Jimmy McAleer has never denied he would take McBride if he could get him.

A report has it that Manager Clymer can't agree with hotel proprietors after the Bisons have had a losing streak and that he declared a boycott on one New York hostelry.

SPORTING WORLD

November 23 has been selected as the date for the annual army-navy football game this year.

The United States Lawn Tennis association received \$18,000 as its share of the Davis cup matches.

The English style of rowing will not be abandoned at Yale, despite the reverses of this year's crew.

Freddie Welsh is said to be about the wealthiest boxer in the game. His fortune is estimated at \$100,000.

Charles Webb Murphy has taken to golf because he can forget his troubles better that way than any other.

Efforts to resurrect its athletic reputation, especially in football, will be made at Northwestern university this fall.

Warren K. Wood won the Western Amateur Golf association championship from Ned Allis of Milwaukee, at Homewood, Ill.

Bob Deady, a well-known manager of boxers, is about to quit the squared circle and will have charge of a Philadelphia theater.

Announcement is made that a match has been arranged between Al Falzer and Carpenter, the French heavyweight champion.

Lincoln Prescott, of Phillips Andover academy, cleared 23 feet 6 1/2 inches in the broad jump at the recent New England championships.

An announcement has been made by P. T. Powers at a meeting of the American Racing Cyclists' union, that a circuit is planned for the six-day riders for next winter.

James M. Roseberger, of the Irish-American A. C. and Homer Baker, of the N. Y. A. C., will represent the eastern section of the United States on the All-American team which will go to Australia next fall.

Harry Tuttle, Tiger trainer, who is to quit baseball temporarily so as to take up his work as football trainer at West Point, thinks Hoge, the West Point captain, will make a wonder of a leader.

After an exciting finish in the open championship tournament of the Metropolitan Golf association at the Saltbury links, Alce Smith, the Wyckoff Golf club's professional, won the title by a margin of one stroke from Tom McNamara of Boston, who won the championship honors a year ago.

PIPETTE

Pretty Model's Brief Hours of Sunshine Dearly Paid For, as She Had Foreseen.

Marcel Dupres, the artist, was in search of inspiration when chance led him to the Moulin de la Galette. He was sitting over a glass of bock and watching the dancers through a trellis of painted green woodwork entwined with faded artificial wisteria, when the face of Pipette smiled out at him from the whirling crowd. It was a vivid, haunting smile, one which could not easily be forgotten, and before the night was old it flashed at him over the rim of a wine glass which she held gaily to her scarlet, curling lips.

One day as they wandered, with arms entwined, among the long avenues of emerald-tinted trees, Pipette made a confession.

"Of course, I don't love him any more. I don't think I ever did love him—really," she faltered in conclusion, a pink blush dyeing the tip of an averted chin. "I thought when he went away that he had gone forever, that he would never come back—and I was glad. I wanted to be free. He was so violent he frightened me. And now he is in Paris again. I saw him this morning on the Pont Neuf. Oh, I am afraid—afraid he will somehow take me away from you. And I love you so, I love you so! Don't let him take me away, Marcel!"

She clung to him hysterically, her fingers tightening upon his arm, tears filling her lashes with quivering liquid crystals.

"Hush, hush, my love," he whispered back soothingly. "No one shall take you from me—that I swear!" And bending his head he tilted her face to kiss the glistening drops from her troubled eyes.

"The Brink of Folly" was receiving the final touches of the brush by the fading light of a September afternoon.

Suddenly the sound of a step along the passage outside sent Pipette springing to her feet, the soft sunset dreams of the past half hour dropping about her like the folds of a gossamer veil.

"What was that?"

The thumping of a flat upon the wooden panels, accompanied by a demand for entrance in a man's hoarse, drunken voice, broke sharply in upon them.

"It's he—Paul. What shall I do? What can I do?" she pleaded wildly, an agony of fear in her voice, her eyes raised beseechingly to those of her lover.

For one long paralyzing moment they stood facing each other in silence. Then, lifting her bodily in his arms, the man carried her across the room to where the now finished canvas stood propped against the easel.

"Hide, quickly—behind the picture!" he commanded and stepped hurriedly back.

The next instant the frail lock of the door gave way beneath the pressure of a heavy, lurching shoulder, and the tall figure of a man reeled unsteadily into the room.

"I've got you now, my pretty one. You'll not escape me this time—you and your precious lover," he muttered thickly as he stumbled forward over the uneven floor, a sinister gleam flashing from some object which he held clasped in his right hand. Then, catching sight of the painted lifelike portrait of Pipette smiling whimsically across the darkened room, he halted abruptly as though hypnotized.

The next moment he had sprung forward with the snarl of a wild beast and struck savagely at the canvas with the sharp blade of a stiletto.

There was a shrill, terrified shriek as the hidden girl sank wounded to the ground, one little white arm flung out upon the floor beyond the edge of the mutilated picture.

For a while it lay quivering in a pool of pink sunlight, the same little arm that Marcel had so often kissed. Then the fingers curled up like the petals of a rose, and were still.—Chicago American.

Muscle's Misfortune.

One of the most notable cases of sudden loss of musical memory related is that of Emile Prudent. One day, in a concert, while playing his own concerto with orchestra, he lost all consciousness of the connection between the notes, and from that time he had music only as confused sounds; neither from his own playing nor from that of the orchestra could he gain a distinct idea, and found that he had completely lost the ability to read the notes. From this attack, however, he soon recovered; the gravest symptoms disappeared the next day, but from that time he could play only from notes.

Successful Phonograph-Clock.

A phonograph-clock has been perfected by Max Marcus, a German, after many years of labor. He is confident that his invention will come into general use. It not only keeps time to the second, but tells the time in a clear baritone voice. "Four o'clock!" and "Four-thirty!" says the clock in loud, distinct, but very pleasantly modulated tones, and the half and full hours may be repeated at will by the pressing of a button. The quarters are not spoken.

Low Down.

Baker—is he a man of plebeian habits? Barker—Yes. He is willing to be seen in a New York church during the summer months.—Life.

Sure Sign.

Mr. Subbubs—I'm afraid our garden is going to be a failure. Mr. Subbubs—Why do you think so? Mr. Subbubs—Even the neighbors' chickens don't seem to take any interest in it.—Judge.

Speaking for Himself.

Rankin—What do you think of the styles in women's dresses these days? Fyle—O, I rail at them—and admire them immensely, just as other men do, I suppose.

HAS ITS DARK SIDE

Life of Opera Singer Not Always a Rose-Strewn Path.

Some Earn Small Fortunes, But the Financial Demands Made Upon Them Are Many and Little Can Be Laid Away.

What becomes of the big salaries paid grand opera singers? Surely, the fortunate warblers must find it difficult to dispose of even a small fraction of their enormous incomes. At least that's the way it looks to ordinary folks. But it is perfectly clear to the star himself, or herself, just where, how and why the money goes. One big singer's explanation is particularly illuminative: "You hear," she says, "of this great tenor or that superb soprano receiving a thousand dollars a night, but you are not told how few performances a star gives at this rate. Take a season at the Metropolitan, for example; if a star sings at 40 performances, which is the usual number, that completed the contract, unless the her director is disposed to give one additional work. The gross result with 40 performances at \$1,000 each is \$40,000 for an American season. This covers a period of five months. Deduct from this living expenses which will average \$300 per week (for an opera star must keep up appearances) and you have \$6,000. Another \$2,000 goes to coaches and accompanists. The throat specialist gets another thousand. Still another thousand is distributed around the theater to the working staff and attaches. Society women with few pretensions must be placated and away goes a couple of thousand more. Another thousand goes to the musical journals and magazines for advertising.

"Ten per cent of the star's salary goes to the musical agency or agents who placed her and that means \$4,000. With steamship fares and other expenses back to Europe, away goes another thousand. Madame must have a press agent—for no opera star would dare to get along without one—and he contrives to separate her from \$2,000 a year. Her maid and her secretary in five months get another thousand and so on until when madame strikes a balance she finds that for her entire American season she has the net sum of less than \$400 a week for her work. She then goes to Europe where operative salaries are less than 50 per cent, of what they are in America. From Paris to Rome, to Milan, to Berlin, St. Petersburg, London, Amsterdam and a few more of the music centers, if a singer can pick up \$10,000 gross for her European tour, she is doing well. And even at this amount she finds that her European appearances were made at a net loss, although it is called back to America as one grand triumph.

"There is no money in grand opera except for the very few. It takes 10 years to get in. There are 10 years of golden opportunities, 10 years of genteel decadence and then the end. The opera star spends her last years trying to make out an existence teaching vocal culture or playing accompaniments for ambitious young sisters. Sometimes in some obscure seminary she receives a pittance teaching French and Italian. Some of the most successful boarding houses in Paris are conducted by famous singers of long ago."

Machine-Made Houses.

Two projects of building houses in a day or two by pouring concrete into forms so set up as to make a mold for the entire building is now being realized both in this country and in Europe. The Popular Science Magazine says:

"These poured concrete houses can be built quickly, the average time for the construction of each dwelling in one group of forty having been five days. In any locality where the materials for concrete are readily available, they cost less than houses built by any other substantial method of construction. They are fireproof, have no cracks or crevices to harbor germs, are easily cleaned by removing the furniture and washing down with a hose, and therefore, more sanitary than buildings constructed with plaster walls and wooden floors and trim."

Gold Bricks Out of Styia.

The latest kind in gold smelting is to cast the gold in conical shapes instead of bars and bricks, with the express purpose of making it difficult for a thief to walk away with a cone.