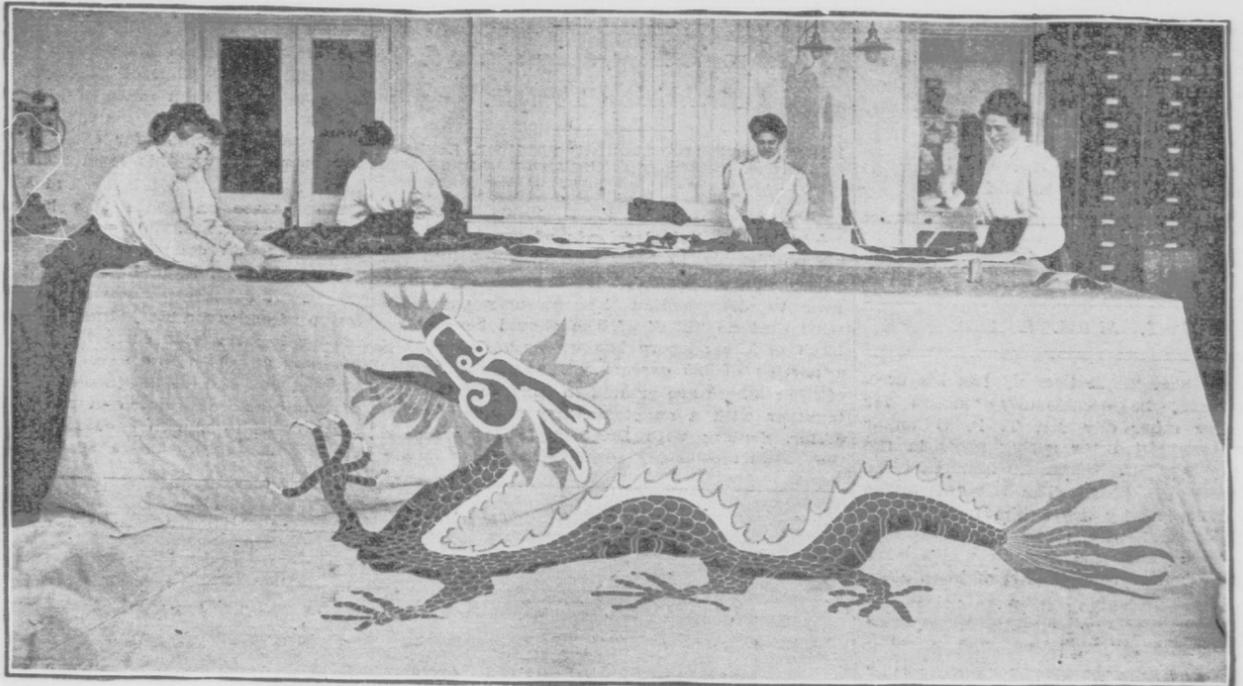




FLAG OUTFIT OF THE U. S. S. CONNECTICUT. Flag of Siam (the white elephant) in background.



FINISHING THE GREAT DRAGON FLAG OF CHINA. Fourteen days are required to make it, at a cost of \$51.75.



S FLAG. than any other.

plies the time of one woman sixteen days to complete the San Salvador design. The cost of making the Costa Rican flag is \$45; that of San Salvador \$52.50, the most expensive foreign emblem made. The flag of Siam, containing the big white elephant, costs \$38.

Another record breaker in point of trouble to make is the dragon flag of China. This huge mythological monster is the prominent feature of the Chinese standard, and its fantastic scaled body, with claws and open mouth, is worked out on a yellow ground in blue, green and white. Over one hundred separate pieces form the grotesque figure, ten feet long. Twelve to fourteen days are taken to finish this flag, which costs \$51.75. The cheapest foreign flag made is the Moorish, which costs \$21. Each ship is entitled to a new supply of flags every three years, though some wear out in less time.

ALL WRONG.

Captain William Ellinger, the noted oyster grower of Chesapeake Bay, said recently: "Once I dined with an English farmer. We had ham for dinner, a very delicious ham, baked. The farmer's son soon finished his portion and passed his plate again.

"More 'am, father,' he said.
 "The farmer frowned.
 "'Don't say 'am, my son,' he said, 'say 'am.'
 "'I did say 'am,' the lad protested, in an injured tone.
 "'You said 'am,' cried the father fiercely.
 "'Am's what it should be. 'Am, not 'am.'
 "'In the midst of the squabble the farmer's wife turned to me with a little deprecatory laugh, and said:
 "'They both think they're saying 'am.'"

IT PAYS TO TIP.

Jean Gerardy, the well known cellist, at a dinner in Philadelphia praised American wit. "You are all witty," he said. "From your millionaire down to your gamin you are quick, nimble and sparkling in retort.

"Your gamins' wit is sometimes cruel. It caused a friend of mine to flush and mutter an oath one day last week in New-York.
 "My friend, in a hurry to catch a train, ran out of his hotel toward a cab, and a ragged little boy opened the cab door for him and handed in his valise.
 "He gave the boy nothing. In his hurry, you see, he forgot.
 "The disappointed urchin smiled sourly, and called this order to the driver:
 "'Nearest poorhouse, cabby.'"

SERVANTS HARD TO GET.

Some Amusing Things Heard and Read at Employment Bureaus.

A Boston dispatch printed in The Tribune recently contained the information that a number of houses in Brookline had been closed, as it was impossible to secure servants. Apparently the servant girl problem is growing more serious than ever. There are servants who may be employed, as a representative of The Tribune, who a short time ago spent a morning in one of the employment bureaus, found, but, judging from what was seen and overheard, there was no reason to disagree with the opinions of others that satisfactory servants are difficult to obtain. A large proportion of the women at this bureau were old and almost toothless. They appeared to be better fitted for service as hotel chambermaids or outside laundresses than as house servants.

A novel point of view of social conditions may be secured in these bureaus. It may be termed the "backstairs" point of view. There is no shielding of reputations, no glossing over of the faults of employers. The sounds which come from the waiting room for the women suggest a sewing bee. Hour after hour, without cessation, one could hear the purring and snarling of the old grimalkins assembled in the warm, steam heated room, awaiting employment. It was in many keys and accents, but the Irish brogue and the broken English of the German seemed to predominate. Some had met before, it was evident, for they greeted one another familiarly. The tie of other days spent together in waiting bound them. For some doubtless it was a reunion.

All sorts of topics were discussed. One who evidently was a nurse began to hum a song, of which the refrain contained the words, "Baby mine." The rhythm was accented by the tapping of her heel on the bare floor as she "trotted" her knee up and down. Then she began to hum an Irish jig, and the tapping became more pronounced. "Jig that now," some one said, and in an instant several feet could be heard keeping time to the tune. Then another voice said, "Dance a breakdown. Go on, dance a breakdown." The tune changed in sound until

one was reminded of bagpipes, and the dancing was unmistakably that of a clog dance. Finally, after the "Irish Washerwoman" had been called for and hummed by the human "kazoo," the dancing ceased.

One may obtain an interesting view also of the servant question at the free employment bureau for immigrants at the Barge Office. It is not a complete view, for it confines its operations to immigrants. Many letters asking for "greenhorns" are received. Here men rather than women are asked for. There are applications for butchers, watchmakers, tinsmiths, carpenters, cooks, waiters, etc., but the greatest demand is for farmhands. Frequently the applicants specify the nationality that they desire, which has an interesting bearing on the study of the capacities of the different classes of immigrants who flock to this country. Swedes, Germans and English seemed to be the choice as to nationality of most of the applicants. Nearly every applicant emphasized some characteristic which must be possessed by the man or woman selected in order, to satisfy him. One Pennsylvania farmer, who wrote as follows, did not seem to be so particular in this respect as about the character of the man:

Dear Sir: The people here have not had any favorable experience with Labor Bureaus. If you are in the U. S. Service & conducting the immigration office under direction of the U. S. Government that would give everybody confidence in your work. Your card gives no information whatever about the men whom you can send. In the meantime the need for workmen to gather in the crops continues & there are no more to fill the vacancies. I need two men & others around here need men. I want two sober, godfearing men, single men, prefer English speaking men of good habits. Now, if you can furnish the men, with some aptness for farm work, the sooner they come the better. The pay is from \$7 to \$20, according to the man and the work.

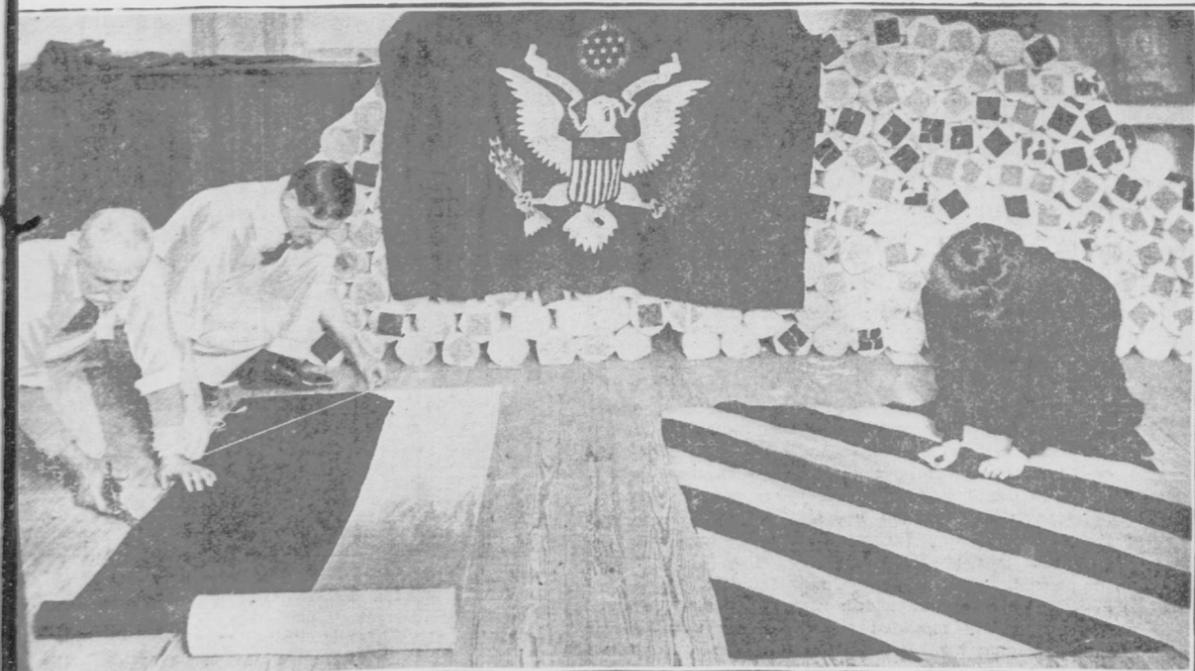
As compared with the wages offered by others, his offer was a fairly good one.

A butcher wrote: "Kindly send a Butcher or Bologna maker to-morrow or Saturday Wages \$5 per week Board & Lodge Now please do not send a man which looks Dissipated."

"Reasonable good sence" was the characteristic on which an Oklahoma woman who wished a German girl laid stress.

If one might judge from some of the letters,

Continued on eighth page.



CUTTING OUT THE PATTERNS ON THE FLOOR.



FLAG OF SAN SALVADOR. Most expensive of all foreign flags to make. It costs \$52.50.