PROBLEMS FOR "SUN" READERS TO SOLVE

Only Two Bridge Experts Left on the Twenty-second Honor List.

CAN'T MAKE LEAD FLOAT

Newcomer in the Checker Field —Here's a Puzzle for Painters.

Bridge problem No. 222, with eight cards, had all the marks of the Bergholt school; a clean cut proposition with a straightforward road to the solution, and not the slightest chance that there was any way of doing it but the one that the author intended.

It naturally follows that such problems are not especially difficult, but they are always interesting and instructive, which probably accounts for the large number of correct solutions, many of them by newcomers in the race for the present honor list. One excellent point about any of Bergholt's problems is that the position is always a natural one, such as might arise in any end game. Here is the distribution in No. 222:

♡ Q 10 9 8
♣ J 5 4
◇ Q
♠ -----

♡ J 5
♣ K Q
◇ 10 6 3
♠ 10

Y / A B / Z

♡ 7 6
♣ 9 7 6 3
◇ -----
♠ 9 8

♡ A
♣ A 10 6
◇ 7 6
♠ K Q

Clubs are trumps and Z is in the lead. Y and Z want seven tricks out of the eight against any defence.

The solution is for Z to lead the ace of hearts, upon which all play small, and then to follow with a spade, which Y trumps, so as to get the lead and play the queen of hearts, exhausting that suit as between A and B. On this trick Z discards one of his losing diamonds.

Now Y leads the five of trumps, which Z wins with the ace, to prevent A from giving B a ruff in diamonds. The next lead is a spade, and the solution hinges upon what A does with it, as Y will discard the queen of diamonds in any case.

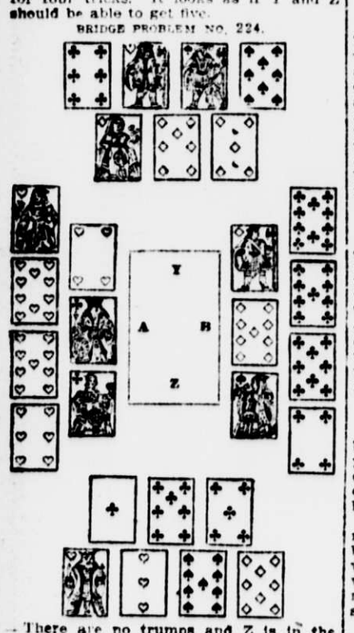
If A trumps the spade, Y is ready to shut out B by ruffing the diamond with the jack and leading to Z's major tenace in trumps, ten and eight over B's nine and seven. If A refuses to trump the spade, it wins the trick and Z leads the diamond, which Y ruffs with the jack, leading a heart through B, who must trump, Z overtrumping whatever B plays, and the high trump in A's hand makes then or later.

Correct solutions from:

C. F. Darling, W. B. Brush, Paul Lippert, H. K. Thaw, O. C. Richardson, B. G. Braine, F. L. Bates, M. A. Hunt, Frank H. Young, M. R. Maynard, H. T. Stockton, J. A. Bell, Rosie Merkall, H. J. Heller, W. S. Hickox, Charles M. Root, C. M. Carlton, C. H. Gerry, L. S. Hart, Jr., Joseph L. McKay, C. S. Harcourt, J. C. Hume, Agnes Drew, M. Potter, P. R. Kerr, F. A. Weaver, D. A. W., E. H. Cullis, R. G., C. H. Le Mon, J. C. Snellman, Warren Banner, C. F. Johnson, R. E. Bagley, John P. Sylvester, W. J. Oakes, W. E. H., C. G. Spotswood, James V. Collins, Burton D. Blair, Henry Robertson, E. H. Russell, George B. Glover, T. J. Cline, H. C. Kennedy, O. H. Boston, Julian Baker, H. W. Starr, Emma C. Davis, A. J. Schmutz, James Steen, Henry C. Atkins, F. Seely, Henry Andresen, Anna Gage, W. B. Matthews, J. W. Wortz, Walker McMartin, Ed Wheeler, F. C. Crane, William C. Eaton, Charles Sauer, W. E. Williams, A. I. Strasburger, J. B., James Hunter, W. P. W., E. M. Frost, M. A. T., Mrs. Forsythe, Lawrence Daw, J. W. Miller, D. Perry, C. L. Lynn and James E. Cox.

Here is a seven carder sent from the West, which a correspondent says is good for four tricks. It looks as if Y and Z should be able to get five.

BRIDGE PROBLEM NO. 224.



There are no trumps and Z is in the lead; Y and Z want five tricks against any defence.

THE TWENTY-SECOND HONOR LIST.

The four problems selected from the last series of ten were Nos. 216, 217, 218 and 219. It was originally intended to make No. 211 one of the four, but owing to the fact that a double solution was discovered by the experts on THE SUN'S honor list, although it had escaped the attention of every one else for three years, it had to be rejected. Had it not been for this defect it would have been an excellent test, as very few found the best defence.

No. 216 was by Harry Boardman, and while not as intricate as some of his earlier compositions it proved a severe test of solving ability to cover all the lines of defence. Walker McMartin's No. 217 was one of the best for some time, and by far the best he has given us, the apparently sound club opening catching a great many of the cracks. No. 218, by C. S. Kinsey, was probably the easiest of the four, but No. 219, by Jay Reed, who always gives us something good, made a fitting finish for the series.

The result of the competition to date leaves only two experts on the list, Miss E. M. Frost* of Washington and Jay Reed** of Prescott, Ariz., both of whom have solved all the problems in the last four series since September. Pressure of business engagements has compelled Walker McMartin to withdraw from the competition for the time being, but he hopes to give some more of his fascinating problems before long. The two names above are the only ones entitled to three stars.

Those entitled to two stars, having missed only one honor list, are B. G. Braine** of New York; A. J. Strasburger,** Washington; W. P. W.,** Elizabeth, N. J.; Frank H. Young,** Broken Bow, Neb., and D. A. W.,** Fort Plain, N. Y.

Those entitled to one star, having reached one previous honor list, are J. W. Miller,* South Bethlehem, Pa., and Charles M. Root,* Elizabeth; while C. F. Darling, Newbury, Vt., and L. S. Hart, Jr., Duncannon, Pa., are newcomers.

For the benefit of those who are not familiar with the conditions it may be explained that out of each series of ten problems four are selected, usually on account of their difficulty, and those who have solved all four go upon the honor list. Those who get upon a second honor list get a star after their names for the first one, and those who keep on the honor list all the time are ranked as experts. As soon as only one expert remains, a new series of honor lists begins. So far no two persons have been able to hold the premier position for more than four honor lists. Problem No. 221 began the present series of ten, from which four will be selected.

CHECKER ENDINGS.

Problem No. 222, by Grundy, was an excellent illustration of the manner in which an inferior force can sometimes hold a superior force down to a drawn game if the position is properly handled, even if there is no opportunity to win a man and equalize matters that way.

The distribution was: Black men on 16, 19, 20; king on 31. White man on 28; kings on 8 and 18. White to play and draw. Here are the moves that solve:

White.	Black.
18—22	A31—27
22—26	27—23
26—22	20—24
8—12	16—20
12—16	24—27
22—26	23—30
16—32	30—25
32—27	

A. Black may vary his first move so as to hold all his men, but the game is then even shorter, as we get this:

18—22	20—24
8—12	B 24—27
28—24	19—28
12—19	27—32
19—23	31—27
26—18	

In this variation white must be careful to play 8—12, and not 8—11, or black wins by this line of play:

8—11	31—27
11—20	27—32
20—27	32—23

In the second variation given, black may vary his play at B by moving 31—27, which gives us this ending:

22—26	27—32
26—31	32—27
31—26	27—23
26—22	

After a careful examination of all the solutions sent in for this problem THE SUN is unable to find a single one that is correct, but in order to be sure of the matter all the solutions have been sent to the composer, whose decision will be given next week.

The majority of those that sent in solutions tossed off No. 222 as if it were too easy. The leader among the three remaining on the honor list, John H. Auerbach, giving this, for instance:

8—11	31—27
18—15	19—23
15—19	

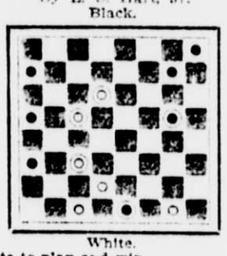
But there is no necessity for black to commit suicide by moving 19—23 when he has a won game in his fingers by moving 27—23, which gives us this:

15—24	20—27
11—20	27—31
28—24	23—27

If instead of 28—24 white plays 20—16 black's reply is 31—27.

THE SUN is always anxious to encourage new composers, especially such as develop from the ranks of the solvers, and it takes pleasure in presenting the following problem, which may not be particularly difficult, but is pleasing and effective. It presents one excellent feature in a beginner's composition; the inferior strength of the winning side making the odds against it apparently insurmountable.

PROBLEM NO. 224. CHECKERS.
By L. S. Hart, Jr.
Black.



White.
White to play and win.

THAT FLOATING LEAD.

When Mr. Jacobs suggested this problem to THE SUN it was not of course in the shape in which it appeared two weeks ago, but the idea was there. That he was quite correct in imagining it would keep some of the mathematical sharps busy for a few minutes is evident from the fact that not a single correct solution has so far reached THE SUN office; this in spite of the fact that some of the answers to hand are from engineers, college professors and even constructors in the United States navy.

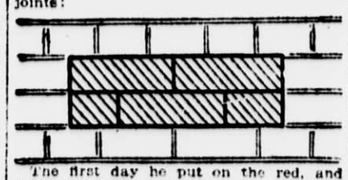
John Beattie of Fall River, whose solutions of all kinds of problems used to come from Leete Island, Conn., and whom readers may remember as the solver who rigged up a rope and pulley for a monkey to climb and sent a photograph of it to THE SUN to demonstrate the correctness of his solution of that famous puzzle, comes nearer to the right answer to the floating lead than any other, but he does not quite get it. How about two weeks more to figure on it?

THE PAINTED WALL.

Here is something that the older members of the family may turn over to the youngsters, in case they find they cannot discover the solution of the puzzle without assistance. It is easy when you know how.

Patsey Cronin was a painter who was reputed to be particularly skilful with the brush. He could make a perfect circle with one stroke, and you could never tell where he had started and finished it. As might be supposed, he was not averse to showing off a bit on occasion.

One day he was sent by his boss to paint a little patch of five bricks that had been built into a hole in a wall, something like this, the shaded portions being the new bricks and the dark lines the new joints:



The first day he put on the red, and during the process was annoyed at the remarks of the owner, who thought the shade did not match the old bricks. Patsey told him it would dry out lighter. The next day Patsey went to put in the white stripes for the joints, and finding the owner still doubtful of his skill Patsey offered to bet him a pint of beer that he could put in all the white joints with three strokes of the brush; that is, he would lift his brush only twice from the line and would never go over the same line twice.

Was this a bluff, or could he do it?

Finds Wedding Ring 9 Years Lost.

From the York Transcript.

Mrs. Michael McKenna is rejoicing ove the recovery of her wedding ring, lost about nine years ago. Frank Donnell, while launching a boat Sunday, noticed something shiny in the marsh mud, and picking it out found that he had a ring. Upon inquiry it proved to be the lost wedding ring, for which Mrs. McKenna and the family had made a long search. Just how the ring happened to be in the mud is a mystery. It is apparently none the worse for its long submersion.

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One Stopper in an Adverse Suit Not Sufficient in All Cases.

PUSHING THE BIDS TOO FAR

Declarations in Actual Games Reviewed—The Element of Luck.

One of the problems of bidding is to know when it is safe to go no-trumps after a suit has been declared against you. If you have a no-trumper it may be a question if it is good for nine tricks and there is always the choice between playing the hand yourself and trying to set the contract in the declared suit. The modern idea seems to be to try for the game all the time and to pay less and less attention to the possibility of penalties.

Some players argue that one stopper in the adverse suit is sufficient, provided the rest of the hand is good for the contract, while the more conservative insist on two stoppers unless there is a solid suit to be run down the moment the no-trumper gets into the lead. As usually formulated the rule is to require two stoppers if the suit on which the no-trumper is depending may want a lead to clear it, while one stopper is enough if the suit is solid. Many persons prefer to set the contract if they have two stoppers and no reasonable chance to go game.

A number of hands have been sent to THE SUN from various sources, with requests for opinions upon the bidding under the circumstances, and it is worthy of remark that there seems to be more of the element of luck in deals of this order than in any other class of hands. One peculiarity seems to be that the adversaries are often afraid to go on with a suit after a no-trumper has been declared against it.

Here is a deal in which the argument was that one stopper in the adverse suit was not enough to protect a no-trumper when there was no great suit to play for in the rest of the hand:

♡ 10 7
♣ 10 9 5
◇ J 7 4 3 2
♠ 9 8 2

♡ K 9
♣ A 8 6 3
◇ A 9 8
♠ K Q 10 6

Y / A B / Z

♡ 6 5 3 2
♣ J 2
◇ Q 10
♠ A J 7 5 3

♡ A Q J 8 4
♣ K Q 7 4
◇ K 6 5
♠ 4

Z dealt and bid a heart. The player who held A's cards writes that with two stoppers in hearts he would have gone no-trumps, but having only one and no long suit to run off when he got in he passed, hoping to set the contract and being reasonably sure of saving the game. Why he should overlook the alternative of a royal is not clear, but he seems to have had in mind a no-trumper or nothing.

Y passed, and B did not see any reason to bid a royal with eight losing cards in his hand and no encouragement from his partner, so the hand was played at one heart. A led the king of spades and followed with the six. Z could not see any way to get dummy in to lead trumps for a finesse, as both ace and jack of clubs were against him, so he gave that up and led two rounds of trumps at once, ace first.

The student should observe that there is no hurry about the trumps. Z has no suit to defend, and the right line of play would have been to coax a lead up to his king of diamonds, without which his contract is improbable, to say the least. If A will not lead the diamond the trump lead makes no difference, but the normal way to play the hand would seem to have been to lead the king of clubs and then refuse to ruff the third spade, compelling A to shift. If A leads a diamond the king makes. If he leads a club the ten of trumps makes, as B must lead a trump after ruffing the third club. Z puts on the ace and forces Y with a club.

As the play actually went A won the second round of trumps and forced Z with another spade. Z tried to drop the trumps and failed. The king of clubs went to the ace and another spade from A allowed B to make two tricks in that suit, the long trump and the ace of diamonds winning two more, so that the contract was set for 50 points.

Had A risked the no-trumper he would have made two by cards; one heart, five spades, and two aces in the other suits. At royals, strong as the hands seem, two by cards is the limit, but in that declaration A would have had five honors to score. By setting the heart suit he is only 18 to the good. At no-trumps he would have won 50 in all, and at royals 63.

Here is a hand in which the rather uncommon circumstance of bidding on every suit is shown to be quite natural if we except the first bid of all, which is rather of the old school, that tried to show winners regardless of length.

♡ Q J 10 9 3 2
♣ 8 5
◇ A 7
♠ 9 5 4

♡ K 7 6
♣ A 10 3
◇ K Q J 8 4
♣ J 10

Y / A B / Z

♡ 4
♣ J 7 6 4 3
◇ 5 3 2
♠ A Q 7 2

♡ A 8 5
♣ K Q 9
◇ 10 9 6
♠ K 8 6 3

Z dealt and bid a club, not feeling quite up to a no-trumper, especially as he was a game in. His idea, as he explains, was to show a trick in the cheaper suit first, and something on the outside, enough to support a no-trumper from his partner. A has one sure and one possible stopper in clubs and bids no trumps. Y said two hearts and B, who could not stop the hearts, bid two royals, his long club suit having been shown against him by Z.

Z did not see much use in pursuing the hearts against the adversaries' bidding, so he passed. A did not like the idea of the heart suit being led while he had only one stopper in it and the clubs all declared against him, apparently, so in order to show his partner what he was hoping for in his no-trumper he bid three diamonds. He knew this made it look as if he had no protection in hearts and did not want to play the hand at royals, but it looked safer that way.

Y, depending on his partner's clubs, went three hearts, and although B could ruff that suit he did not care to go as far as four diamonds nor to return to the royals after his partner had refused to support them, so he passed and the hand was played at three hearts.

B led the diamond and Y took the first trick with the ace. The appearance of dummy's club suit must have been a trifle disappointing to Y, but he led the nine of trumps and passed it up. A won with the king and two more diamond leads forced Y. He led trumps twice more, leaving himself in to lead the clubs. A led another diamond, which Y trumped, leading spades this time, which made the king, but the contract was set for 50 points, from which Y got 32 in honors as an offset.

At diamonds A could have made three by cards, even if Y gets a ruff on the third club, because that sets up the suit for A. Unless Z makes his ace of hearts early he may carry it home with him, as A can discard all his hearts on the spades and clubs as soon as the trumps are gone. At royals B would have lost the odd trick, and the same thing would happen at no trumps because of A's inability to stop the heart suit twice.

Sometimes going no trumps with only one stopper in the adversaries' suit will result in encouraging your partner to take you out with a winning suit. Here is an example of this development:

♡ 7
♣ 8 6 4
◇ A 10 9 6 4 3
♠ J 8 5

♡ A 10 6 4
♣ A 9 7
◇ K Q
♠ A 9 6 3

Y / A B / Z

♡ K J 9 3 2
♣ J 2
◇ 8 5 3
♠ K 10

♡ Q 8 5
♣ K Q 10 5 3
◇ J 7
♠ Q 4 2

Z dealt and bid a club. A went no trumps on the strength of having three actual aces and the equivalent of a fourth. Y did not quite see five by cards in diamonds against a no-trumper, but thought they might save the game if they fell well for him, so he passed. B took his partner out with two hearts, which Z passed.

Now Y has to bid three diamonds, hoping for the club support, but A overcalled with three hearts and Z would not assist the diamonds.

Y led two rounds of diamonds, leaving A to lead clubs up to Z. A put B in with a small spade and took a ruff on the third round of diamonds, Z discarding a club. This marked Y with the three remaining diamonds, which became very inoprtant later. A then led spade ace and another, throwing the lead into Z's hand.

When Z led the club king A let it hold, hoping to make ace and jack, but Z went on with the queen, bringing the ace and jack down together. Then B ruffed a third club. This leaves only four cards to play and three of Y's are known to be diamonds, so B leads the king of trumps to find out what the unknown card is.

As soon as the seven of trumps fell the queen and eight could be placed with Z, so that the finesse of the ten on the second round of trumps gave B four by cards and the game. At no-trumps he would not have done as well, because even if he is lucky enough to take the finesse in hearts the right way all he makes is two by cards. Y would lead a small diamond originally, as he has no reentry.

If A should try to drop the queen of hearts in two leads at a no-trumper, or took the finesse the wrong way, he would get nothing but the odd trick out of it, as the heart and five diamonds would score against him.

In bidding no-trumps there is always the danger that the partner will get an exaggerated idea of the strength of the hand and will carry the contract beyond the point of safety. But if he is a good player the fear of overbidding should not prevent a legitimate bid of no-trumps over a suit declaration by an adversary. The trouble comes when the first declaration is stretching things a bit, and the partner stretches them a bit more, not knowing the extent of the tension on the first bid. Here is a case in point:

♡ Q 9 7
♣ 7
◇ 8 4 2
♠ Q J 8 6 4 3

♡ A J 10
♣ J 10 6 4 3
◇ K Q J 3
♠ 2

Y / A B / Z

♡ 8 6 3 2
♣ Q 9
◇ A 10 9 7 5
♠ K 5

♡ K 5 4
♣ A K 8 5 2
◇ 3
♠ A 10 9 7

Z dealt on the rubber game and bid a club, which was rather a backward declaration on such cards, his hand being quite strong enough for an original no trumper. As it was A took a chance on a no trumper, figuring that he had the clubs stopped and two good suits on the side. If any one had the royals against him they would probably be heard from. They were. Y bid two royals.

Now B takes his turn at stretching things. Taking it for granted that Y had the ace of spades and that his king was a stopper, B bid two no trumps. It has been repeatedly pointed out that no good player should make such a bid. If he has the suit stopped twice he should double, letting his partner decide about going two no trumps. If he cannot stop the suit twice he should pass or else declare a suit of his own if he has one worth while.

Z supported Y with three royals and A breathed more freely again, congratulating himself on being out of a tight place. When it got to B, who attached too much importance to his queen of clubs and his long diamond suit with his supposed stopper in spades, he went three no trumps.

As Z had told his partner what to lead and had the ace of spades over B's alleged stoppers, it looked like a safe double, and neither A nor B cared to risk five diamonds to get out of it.

A's no trumper having announced a stopper in clubs and Y being able to lead that suit but once, he thought it better to start his own spade suit and led the fourth best. Dummy played small and Z figured it out by the eleven rule that the seven was big enough to hold the trick. Then he led the ace and dropped the king. Why the king was not put on the first trick is not explained. That was the only chance.

For fear Y had no clubs Z made his ace and king at once and then returned the spades. This gave Y and Z eight tricks against a contract to make nine and cost A and B 400 points in penalties.

Had Y been left to play the hands at royals he would have made five by cards, as the two red aces are the only possible tricks for A and B. Y can ruff out the club suit and Z can ruff two diamonds. Had B overcalled the two royals with three diamonds, that contract could have been made. Even had they gone as far as four diamonds to overcall three royals it is unlikely that it would have been doubled and equally improbable that Y or Z would have gone as far as four royals against an alleged no trumper in A's hand.

One is often tempted to try a rather sporty no trumper as fourth hand when the dealer has bid a spade and second hand has passed, even if the third hand has taken the dealer out of the spade with a suit. The assumption is, of course, that the second hand has passed on fairly good cards, waiting for something to develop. But it sometimes happens that it is the third hand that holds the good cards and is waiting to hear from the adversaries. Here is a curious illustration of this situation.

♡ K 9
♣ A K Q
◇ A Q J 9 8 6
♠ Q 2

♡ 10 8 4 2
♣ 10 9 8 6
◇ 3
♠ 8 7 5 3

Y / A B / Z

♡ A Q J 3
♣ J 4 3
◇ K 10 7 4
♠ A 4

♡ 7 6 5
♣ 7 5 2
◇ 5 2
♠ K J 10 9 6

Z dealt and bid a spade, having neither tops nor side cards to justify a royal. A passed and Y took his partner out with a diamond, just to keep the bidding going until he got a line on the situation. B had two stoppers in diamonds, and the hand looked good enough for a no trumper, which every one passed.

This is very weak bidding, because on the second round Z should certainly show his royals, if for nothing else to encourage his partner to go on with the diamonds or to drop them and support the royals. By passing Z leaves Y under the impression that he has a worthless hand.

Fortunately for Z he did not lead a diamond, but started his own suit with the fourth best, which happened to be a nine. Y took this to be the top of nothing and passed it up. Much to his astonishment the nine held the trick. When Z followed with the six the queen forced the ace.

With such a miserable dummy on the table B did not know just what to do, but concluded to take a dash at the heart suit, leading the ace first. Y won the second round and then showed his club ace by leading the king. The next move he made was to try to get his partner into the lead with those established spades.

With this object in view he led the six of diamonds, hoping it would slip through the king, which he knew B must hold to justify his no trumper. But B was too much afraid of the spade suit to let Z get in with anything smaller than an ace, so he put the king right on. When the king held B made his three heart tricks, leaving A in at the end to lead a club through Y's ace, and Y made all the rest of the tricks.

Although B has two stoppers in diamonds his no trump bid is too forward, but it is very lucky, as Y and Z could easily have gone game in royals. The right thing for B would seem to be to bid a heart, or to pass and wait to hear from A, as there is no fear of Y's going game in diamonds against B's cards. A heart bid would have been more likely to prevent Z from bidding royals than to pass, as it would mark Z with three losing cards.

Those who use the new system of transfer bids would, of course, have called four spades with Z's hand on the opening bid. This would have given Y the key to support him by declaring royals, and with the hearts shown on his left and his king to be led up to Y would probably have gone as far as three royals without much coaxing.

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If you want a choice of style in untrimmed shapes, at actually less than the cost of material, here is your opportunity. We reserve the right to restrict the number sold to a customer. In black, burnt, navy, king, brown and Nell rose only. Of some styles there are but one or two.

A Show of Beautiful Curves in Ostrich Plumes.

$5.00 French Plumes, full heads, new wide curl, excellent quality, some two-tone, others plain coloring, at $2.95
$2.48 Ostrich Bands, black, white and colors; smartest thing shown in millinery, at $1.25

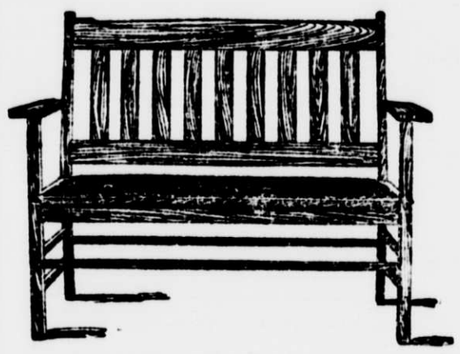
Fine Brilliant Cut Glass. Savings 1/3 to 1/2.

These Prices for Monday Only.

$2.50 8-inch Berry Bowl	$1.49	$3.50 Sugar and Cream Set	$2.49
$4.00 Tall-footed Comport	2.98	$4.50 Tall Shape Claret Jug	2.98
$4.50 Oval Orange Bowl	2.98	$7.50 Footed Punch Bowl	4.49
$3.50 Mayonnaise Bowl and Plate	2.59	$1.75 Bonbon Dish, with handle	98c
$4.00 Footed Sandwich Tray	2.79	$7.50 dozen fine cut Water Tumblers, at	39c
$4.50 Large size Fruit Bowl	3.10	$2.00 dozen fine cut thin Water Tumblers	10c

Spring and Summer Curtain Stuff

20c. and 30c. Cretonne, 14c. and 19c. yard	20c. and 30c. Nottingham Curtain Nets ..... 12½c. and 19c. yard
60c. and 75c. Imported Cretonne, 35c. and 45c. yard	50c. Scotch Madras, white and ecru, 35c. yard
$1.25 Imported Cretonne, 50 in., 98c. yard	$1.50 Scrim Curtains ..... 95c. pair
12c. figured Silkoline ..... 9½c. yard	$4.00 Marie Antoinette Lace Curtains ..... $1.65 pair
15c. block Curtain Scrim, ivory and Arabe ..... 10c. yard	$5.00 Renaissance lace Bed Sets, $3.98
30c. fancy border Curtain Scrim, ivory and Arabe ..... 19c. yard	Washable Covers for the summer couch $1.79



Three Piece Living Room Suite (this style), including Arm Chair and Rocker, finished in fumed oak, upholstered in Spanish Art leather at $12.98—just $3 less than the suite is usually sold.

Complete stocks of Beds, Bedding, Cots, etc., for Summer homes.

See the display of Refrigerators, ice and food economizers, at the lowest prices ever quoted.

It is uncomfortable to feel that you cannot laugh when you want to on account of having poor teeth. Do not have poor teeth. There is absolutely no reason for it. Come to us and we will show you how your teeth can be made perfect and how little it will cost you.

DR. L. J. HOYT, DENTIST
455 Fulton St., near Jay or Smith St., Bklyn.
Do not mistake the number.
Beautiful artificial gum sets of teeth, $5, $7, $10 a set and upward, extracting included. Partial sets $3.50 per tooth upward. Teeth extracted painlessly. Filled, $1 up. Estimates given.
ALL WORK GUARANTEED.

CROP WATCHERS OF CHINA.

Guards in Towers, Who Protect Growing Grain From Thieves.

In China the fields are not protected by hedges or fences; the country lies quite open and is everywhere easily accessible. This is not to be interpreted as an indication of the peculiar honesty of the people or of their exceptional respect for their neighbors' property.

As a matter of fact, thieving abounds. Large numbers of the people are very poor, and this class in order to subsist have frequent recourse to stealing. As the time of harvest approaches and the fruits and cereals are ripening orchards and fields are never safe from the unwelcome visitations of predatory bands. The farmer knows this, and hence everybody is obliged to stand guard over everything. Almost every field has its watch tower, says a writer in the *Wide World Magazine*, and these frail tenements are never deserted, night or day, until the harvest has been fully reaped.

In some districts "crop watching societies" exist, whose sole business is to provide professional "crop watchers" where and whenever they may be required. Fields of kaoliang, or giant millet, are watched by a professional "crop watcher." This stalwart plant grows to a height of ten to fifteen feet and a field of it is a veritable jungle for density and impenetrability. This accounts for the height of the watch tower—a light wooden structure.

The watcher must, if his vigil is to be of any use, be higher than the crops he is looking after. Even so it is exceedingly difficult to detect the thieves, they are so effectually hidden by the tall and dense growth of the kaoliang. The object of the thieves is to possess themselves of the millet heads of the plants, and this they can very easily accomplish. All that is necessary are a sharp knife and a quick hand.

Where Manon Wrote to Des Grieux.

Paris correspondence London Standard.

The prison of St. Lazare is going to be pulled down and rebuilt, and with it will disappear a curious little relic of old Paris, a tiny shop in which the last public letter writer in France plied his trade. In olden times, before education had become general, the public letter writer did a thriving trade and the one just outside St. Lazare had many customers of note.

Among them was, if rumor and the present proprietor of the little shop may be believed, the world famous Manon Lascaut, who dictated her love letters to Des Grieux there, where the only customers now are illiterate servant girls, who write home to their friends in Brittany. So rare has the necessity for vicarious letter writing become that the present proprietor of the place has added another more profitable trade to his programme and acts as an informal lawyer and man of business to many of the prisoners in St. Lazare.