

that Louis Fazzo, one of quartet who escaped from Marion county jail, arrested when he tried to enlist.

Laredo, Tex.—Reported federal soldiers from Nuevo Laredo seized San Enrique ranch. Holding Otto Winter and family, Americans, prisoners.

Pittsburgh.—Wm. Schmutzer, said to be one of convicts who recently escaped from prison at Indianapolis, probably fatally shot in running fight with detectives.

Mexico City.—Charge O'Shaughnessy said President Wilson is convinced that rebels, if left alone, will win out in long run and thus solve Huerta's elimination.

Indianapolis.—Sheriff practically admitted Fred Schmidt, jailbird who was shot and captured in Pittsburgh, had paid employe of local jail \$400 to aid in jail delivery last week.

Milwaukee, Wis.—Walter Dorow, charged with having killed Mrs. Emily Will with piece of lead pipe, will deny connection with crime.

Boston.—Netter Sunflower, out of Gloucester, reported missing with 5 men.

Milwaukee.—Bartholomew Coughlin, 50, suicided in river. Out of work, despondent.

Waterloo, Ia.—Fire damaged Waterloo Hotel. Loss \$30,000.

DIARY OF FATHER TIME—ON ALMANACS

I notice that the old-fashioned idea of issuing almanacs at the beginning of every year is still in vogue. The first almanac I remember having seen was compiled by Appius Claudius about the year 300 B. C. and exhibited on white tablets in the forum. From this time tablets containing the calendar, the festivals, astronomical phenomena and historical notices were fairly common. Almanacs of a ruder kind, known as "clogg almanacs," were in use in some parts of England as late as the end of the seventeenth century. The "cloggs" were square blocks of wood, about

eight inches in length, with notches along the four angles corresponding to the days of the year, while along the sides were marked the saints days and festivals.

The influence of the stars on the conditions and affairs of men has been believed in from the remotest times and great prominence was given to omens and predictions in the early almanacs. From Stationer's Hall in London once issued all the almanacs that were published in England, with all the trash and superstition they kept alive.

The most famous of all the Stationer's Company's predicting almanacs was the Vox Stellarum of Francis Moore, first published in 1680 and which appears to this day under the title of Old Moore's Almanac.

An amusing incident occurred when Benjamin Franklin started his "Poor Richard's Almanac," nearly 200 years ago. In the first issue he prophesied the death of one Dart, who set the pace at that time as almanac-maker in America. The man was to expire October 17, 1733, at 3:29 p. m. Dart, being somewhat of a joker himself, came out with the announcement that he, too, had consulted the oracle and found he would live until October 26 and possibly longer. On October 18 Franklin announced Dart's death and explained that he passed quietly away on time all as prophesied.

Yet Dart lived to publish many almanacs, but Franklin got his advertisement, and many staid Philadelphians smiled who had never smiled before—not only smiled but subscribed.

—O—O— WAS HE RIGHT?

Johnny Jones, the office boy, had been detected in a lie. It was not one of the ordinary prevarications of the every-day world, and, moreover, to make the crime the more grievous, he had persisted in adhering to his original mendacious statement.

"Do you know, my lad," asked a