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of course ridiculous to attempt to strike a balance after three weeks experience. The railway must run year in and year out, and profit or loss must be figured on general results, not on the financial outcome of a brief period of time.

Something to Blush For.

The American people, who are anything but cheap, must grow red in the face when they read certain details of the business of bringing back the three naval Lieutenants whose balloon carried them to Canada.

When the head of the adventuring party, Lieutenant KLOON, telegraphed to the Rockaway naval air station for \$400 to pay the expenses of the return by rail, the men of the station were compelled to pass the hat among themselves to get the money!

The Navy Department, it was explained, can reimburse the balloonists only to the extent of eight cents a mile from the railroad point nearest which they land to their home station. The Secretary of the Navy has a contingent fund, but the men of the air station evidently did not believe that this could be depended upon for quick, if any, action.

The Navy had appropriations of nearly half a billion in the present fiscal year, and yet its employees, on official business, must borrow from their friends or take a chance of staying in the snows of a foreign country!

It was easy for the Government to get and pay out money in the recent jamboree of extravagance and graft. It made its financial methods flexible enough then. But they stiffen up when merely the pride and safety of official service men are at hazard.

How the Canadians must laugh at an Administration which can squander billions but cannot find \$400 in its pocket to bring its aeromats home from the wilderness!

Davy James on the Job.

DAVY JAMES lives and works in Clearwater county, Pennsylvania. DAVY is a coal miner. DAVY is 51 years old. But DAVY-JAMES is able to lift out of his pay envelope from \$55 to \$90 a week.

DAVY JAMES'S \$85 or \$90 a week doesn't come by accident. It doesn't happen only occasionally. Right straight along through all last summer and autumn DAVY'S pay envelope yielded his \$55 or \$90 a week like clockwork. And DAVY still keeps on bringing home the bacon.

It's everybody's secret in Clearwater county how DAVY gets away with it. DAVY earns it. And he doesn't try to earn it by taking numerous mornings or afternoons off to go fishing or fill a seat on the bleachers. DAVY doesn't spend any working hours going around the town haranguing his fellow men on the way to get money without working for it and be happy without deserving it. DAVY doesn't lend himself to any strikes.

DAVY JAMES, both a Welshman, landed here a coal miner, a steady worker ever since in the coal pits of Pennsylvania and always on the job, is an Al American success.

Psychic Laboratory Work.

Dr. HENRY CABRINGTON has opened an interesting field for discussion and speculation with his statement that a laboratory properly equipped with physical apparatus, principally electrical and photographic devices, for intensive study of psychic and mediumistic phenomena would enable American scientists to reach some definite conclusions within ten years as to the possibility of communication with the dead. Certainly it must be admitted, regardless of one's belief or disbelief in spiritism or the phenomena generally associated with it, that the possibilities of such investigations are as boundless as they are fascinating.

In this matter of investigating psychic and occult phenomena the United States has been leisurely. It is true that JOSEPH REX has for many years been a thorn in the flesh of the mediums, but he is not interested in the possible presence of unknown forces and powers. Mr. REX goes to séances to prove that no ghosts are present, and so far, to the utter disgust of the mediums, he has proved it. But, with the exception of Dr. CABRINGTON—and recently THOMAS A. EDISON—there is no notable person in the United States, since the death of WILLIAM JAMES, Professor HYALOP and Dr. RICHARD HODGSON, who is studying the subject from a purely scientific point of view.

In Europe, where the war gave a tremendous impetus to the study of psychic phenomena and where millions are hoping that there may be some means of communicating with the millions who died on the battlefields, psychic phenomena are being investigated by men of great scientific learning and repute, such as Dr. IMODA, Professor MOSSO and Dr. PAUL JOBE. At the time of his death Professor CURIE was busy devising an instrument which would register and direct psychic power liberated from the body of a medium in trance. In France, England, Poland, Spain, Italy and even Japan there exist to-day well endowed societies which are establishing and equipping laboratories as fast as the proper instruments and machines are invented.

Initial studies have been made by scientists under the direction of the Paris Psychological Institute. To the layman perhaps the most interesting and suggestive of these is an experiment made by Dr. JACOBI in the dis-

charge of an electroscope by means of rays emanating from the body of a medium. As a result of these experiments Dr. JACOBI has concluded that the radiations of radium, the cathode radiations of the Crookes tubes and the radiations from the body of the medium are fundamentally the same. In view of these conclusions, reached by a reputable scientist, the possibility naturally arises that radium may be the means of communication with the spirit world, and important experiments to determine more clearly the similarity between the radiations of radium and mediumistic radiations are being carried out, with the promise of important results.

A Memorial to Frank Forester.

A bronze tablet, fittingly commemorating the affection in which HENRY WILLIAM HEBBERT, novelist, historian and nature lover, popularly known as "Frank Forester," is held by sportsmen in all parts of the United States, has been placed on a huge boulder in Warwick, Orange county, largely through the efforts of HENRY WOLFE SMITH of North Grafton, Massachusetts, and FRED E. FOND, who, under his pen name, "Will Wildwood," is familiar to all who love the out of doors life. In this monument is brought to a conclusion a project which first took shape soon after HENRY'S death in 1858, but which for various reasons was not carried out until now.

The grave of HENRY is in Newark, New Jersey. In 1876 the Frank Forester Memorial Fund Association was organized to erect "a memorial work of art to be placed in Central Park," but the necessary money could not then be raised. Later HEBBERT'S admirers made an unsuccessful attempt to get money for a monument near Greenwood Lake. Now the scene of the author's "Warwick Woodlands" is the site of a tablet recalling the man who without affectation might be called the American sportsman's sportsman.

It was in 1831 that HEBBERT visited Warwick and there met THOMAS WARD ("Tom Draw") and enjoyed the sport of quail shooting. Warwick, the "loveliest village of the vale," made such an impression on him that he wrote of it:

"May blessings be about you, beautiful vale of Warwick; may your fields and forests be as green, your waters as bright, the cattle on your hundred hills as fruitful as the days of old, when my yet youthful foot pressed their greenward, my youthful lungs drew life from the inspiration of your clear mountain breezes; may independence, innocence and plenty be the inheritance of your sons, the dowry of your daughters; may you be, as nature only can, of all the works of God, forever beautiful, unchanging and young; and so farewell, fair vale of Warwick."

A true lover of nature, HEBBERT gloried in sport and wrote with authority on it. Before his tragic death in the old Stevens House on lower Broadway he said concerning his voluminous writings: "I have taught, I have inculcated, I have put forth nothing that I did believe to be false, or anything which I did not believe to be good and true. In all my writings I have written no line of which I am ashamed—no words which I desire to blot."

His writings have influenced multitudes to find health and happiness in the pursuit of many sports. He sang and wrote of nature and her works. HENRY WILLIAM HEBBERT deserves the bronze tablet placed on a boulder dropped ages ago in Warwick by some mighty glacier.

Exit the Vicious Circle.

We read in one news column that a big steel company has reduced wages from 10 to 20 per cent. But we see in another column that this company needs 1,250,000 new homes.

When steel and other materials used in the building of apartments and houses come down to a price which is attractive to the prospective investor or home owner, then the work of building the homes which are needed by five or six million people will get under way in earnest. The reduction in wages, while it may not be blessed to-day by the workmen affected, will be a blessing by and by. It will mean that lands can be kept at work and that homes can be built for all.

The old circle of ascending prices was rightly called vicious. The new circle, bringing down the cost of living, is benevolent.

Some of the motion picture men, after getting a close up of the business, are going to let extravagant dissolve out.

Swann's Little Revenge.

The statement issued by Senator THEODORE DOUGLASS ROBINSON and Assemblyman JOSE J. STEINBERG, calling the attention of the Legislature to evil conditions in this city, was put forth in the line of official duty.

Enraged by the legislators' reference to the miserable state of his office, District Attorney SWANN has subpoenaed the Senator and the Assemblyman to appear before the Grand Jury. No doubt they will appear, and they should have very little trouble to substantiate all that they said about SWANN'S office.

The incident is typical of Mr. SWANN. If the Robinson-Steinberg statement had been held until to-day and then made public in either house of the Legislature SWANN could not have subpoenaed the authors of it. We give him credit, with all his defects, for knowing the constitutional provision in this respect.

But the Senator and the Assemblyman, who were helping to arrange a legislative programme, naturally did not wait until their houses were actually in session. Thus SWANN has screamed, "or any one else who makes that kind of statement, will be brought before the Grand Jury."

A Rare Bird.

"I've travelled far and wide," one said, "and wondrous sights I've seen; On California's sunlit strand I've viewed a movie queen."

"I gazed at the pyramids, In India peaks of snow, And many strangely garbed pilgrims Who ceaseless come and go."

"I've wandered deep in Russian snows And felt the desert's breath; In hot, miasmic tropic lands, 'Tis true, I've seen a face, with death."

"But there's one sight I've never seen And maybe never will, And that's a Georgia mountaineer Who couldn't run a still!"

promptly." That's SWANN'S way of warning people to keep their mouths shut about his office. Perhaps he thinks that some legislators are unaware that he is powerless to annoy them for anything they may say about him or his office in legislative speeches and debates.

How more and more pleased the citizens of this county must be that Governor SMITH refused to put SWANN on the bench!

Hessians' First Fight.

Evidence That Three Brigades Were at the Battle of Long Island. To THE NEW YORK HERALD: AS to Hessians in the United States in August, 1776, and in the battle of Long Island, Bancroft says 8,600 Hessians arrived at New York August 15, and on August 22 men-of-war moved into Gravesend Bay to protect the landing of troops from Staten Island, the last brigade being Donop's Hessians. Cornwallis with the reserve two battalions of infantry and the corps of Germans advanced to Flatbush. On August 25 two more brigades of Hessians with Helzer came over and the next day reached Flatbush and increased the command of Howe on Long Island to "the largest British army which appeared in the field during the war," namely, 24,374 men, plus DeLancey's Loyalists.

Three "regiments" of "red and yellow" were stationed half a mile in front of Flatbush, in a line two deep, nearly a mile in length, to force the road to Brooklyn.

I conclude the Hessians did not take part in heavy fighting; this is evidenced by their loss of two killed and twenty-five wounded; "they fought only with bayonets."

The American losses of 250 killed and wounded and 750 prisoners must have occurred at points of greater action, Sullivan and Sciring losing most heavily by the nature of their fighting. In modern parlance the Hessians were moppers up. Undoubtedly there was violation of rules of war—there always are—and stories told about spitting men to trees and bayoneting prisoners are wilful exaggeration if stated as showing the rule and not the exception.

By the way, an ancestor of mine is reputed to have captured a musket from one of these Hessians in personal conflict. G. H. CLAPP. ROCHESTER, January 4.

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As to the British officer who described the butchery of the patriot soldiers at the battle of Long Island by the Hessians and the Scotch Highlanders Mr. Harris is referred to the following authorities: Appleton's "Cyclopaedia of American Biography," volume III, page 160; "Memoirs of the Long Island Historical Society," volume II, page 462; "American Archives," volume I, fifth series, folio 1259.

My statement that the jailer William Cunningham bore the "Scotch name of Cunningham" is correct. Cunningham is a Scotch name—Cunningham is Irish. "From his confession, published at the time of his death, he appears to have been a son of a Scotch immigrant born in the barracks in Dublin." (Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography, volume II, page 32.) From the above it is but fair to assume that Cunningham was the son of a Scotch musician temporarily garrisoned in Dublin, and was only Irish by accident of birth.

Punish Lawbreakers.

The Present Machinery of Justice Adequate if Rightly Used. To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Major Hyman must know as well as the Judges of the criminal courts that the granting or fixing of bail for a person accused of a crime and before trial is obligatory on the court, except in the case of murder or some like charge. He knows also that the bonding companies are permitted by law to present security for the prisoner's release and appearance when required in court and that their bond, properly executed, must be accepted by the court.

Mr. Hyman when on the bench was always accessible for bail applications. I never heard of a refusal of bail to a prisoner before trial. When he was a Magistrate he could always, at night, be found at the Twentieth Assembly District Democratic Club or at his home to accept bail for any person arrested or held in default of bail during the day. There was no trouble in getting him to sign a bail bond, provided it was good and properly executed.

What is required of our city is that persons charged with crime be speedily tried and fully punished. We have policemen enough and Judges enough and to spare. What the city wants from its officers is efficiency and courage to stand up against flippant sentiment when used to enable a scoundrel to escape punishment for an offence of which he has been convicted.

The Parole Board should be abolished. The prisons should be places of punishment, not places where lawbreakers are treated to social entertainments, opera, movies, baseball and other pleasures, many of which are denied thousands of honest, law-abiding citizens on the outside because they have not the money to indulge in them.

I do not say to punish criminals inhumanly, but they should be punished properly and not coddled. They should be deprived at least of the pleasures which belong only to honorable citizenship. DISCUSSED. BROOKLYN, January 4.

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