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THE NEW YORK HERALD was founded by James Gordon Bennett in 1835. It remained the sole property of its founder until his death, in 1872, when his son, also James Gordon Bennett, succeeded to the ownership of the paper, which remained in his hands until his death, in 1918. THE HERALD became the property of Frank A. Munsey, its present owner, in 1920.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1922

Great Britain and the Caliphate.

The flight of MOHAMMED VI. from Constantinople to Malta aboard a British warship places for the first time in history the person of the Caliph, the spiritual head of Islam, under the protection of a Christian Power. The significant facts in the situation are that this Power is the British Empire, whose rule extends over more than 100,000,000 Moslems, and that Mohammed asked this protection [illegible] Islam because he believed his life and liberty were in peril from the Kemalists, now the dominant party in Turkey.

By their deposition of MOHAMMED as Sultan and their plans to overthrow him as Caliph KEMAL and his followers have done the thing which their radical Asiatic adherents declared Great Britain was attempting to do, and while they may dispose of the Sultanate as a purely national affair they will find the question of the Caliphate, which concerns the whole Moslem world, a much more difficult matter. For years, in fact ever since the manifestation of the weakness of the old Ottoman Empire, the fate of the Caliphate has been discussed by the European Powers which rule over large Mohammedan populations. The question, though, has been handled with extreme care, for it was always considered by non-Moslem peoples to be full of serious complications and perplexities.

Strictly speaking the Caliph should be of the tribe of Koreish, to which the Prophet belonged, yet the Caliphate has been held by the Ottoman Sultans, without any apparent opposition from Islam, since early in the sixteenth century. At that time it was usurped by SELIM I. The Caliph is the keeper of the holy places of Islam and of the holy relics of the Prophet, his cloak, standard and hairs from his beard. These relics SELIM is said to have obtained from a descendant of the last of the Abbassides.

The right of the Ottoman Sultans to the Caliphate has frequently been questioned. The matter was gone over thoroughly by Moslem jurists when Sultan MURAD was deposed because he did not possess proper physical and moral qualifications and when ABDUL HAMID was deprived of the office by order of the Sheik-ul-Islam. When a suggestion was made by Sir GEORGE BIRDWOOD as late as 1880 that a descendant of the Abbassides, whom he believed entitled to the office, was living in obscurity in Cairo, the man was very soon afterward assassinated. The Ottoman Sultans so successfully obscured the issues involved that they were never ousted. Even the Kemalists would retain the Caliphate in the Ottoman family though they would take away from it the Sultanate.

When in the world war it became evident that Turkish power was failing there were three different men brought forward as possible candidates for the Caliphate. French statesmen advocated the candidacy of MAULY YUSUF, Sultan of Morocco, and Russian diplomacy of the old régime favored the Amir of Afghanistan. Great Britain, it was reported, intended to bring forward the Sultan of Egypt as its candidate. Russia has dropped out of the contest and it is doubtful if either France or Great Britain would now favor the candidates whose interests they once advanced.

This does not mean, however, that either nation has lost its interest in the Caliphate, for to the Moslems of both France and Great Britain the question is of vital importance. The matter, it is said, may come up for discussion at Lausanne; but its settlement by that conference is very improbable. The choice of a Caliph is a matter for Mohammedans. The Moslem world would not accept a European settlement. In fact, Great Britain has been endeavoring to impress upon Islam that it does not wish to interfere in matters concerning the Caliphate. The position which the Empire assumes is expressed in a recent semi-official statement that "the British Empire, as a great Mohammedan Power, owes to itself and to Moslems everywhere that it should proclaim itself in solemn terms a trustee of the rights and claims of Islam."

The protection the British Empire has given to MOHAMMED VI. may be construed to be an act in this trusteeship. The Moslems of India have not approved the high handed methods of the Kemalists, and they have especially resented KEMAL's course regarding the Caliphate. With the Caliph now under British protection MOHAMMED's future rests with Islam. Will he be reseated as Caliph in India or Arabia or Egypt, and will the Caliphate be permanently removed from Constantinople? Should this course be taken it would be a severe blow to Turkey. Its power would be merely temporal and its sway over Islam limited to its own borders.

The DeForest Gift.

Such generosity as Mr. and Mrs. ROBERT W. DEFOREST show in presenting to the Metropolitan Museum of Art a wing to be devoted to American decorative art in all its forms is not only deserving of admiration for its proof of genuine and deep interest in the institution of which Mr. DEFOREST is the president. In making possible this extension of the Museum's field Mr. DEFOREST has also emphasized a new and national tendency in the art museums of this country.

American decorative art has interested the museums of this country only a few years. Not long ago it would have been difficult to find a specimen of American Colonial furniture or of the more elaborate furniture of the Revolutionary period in an art museum. Laymen might collect and grow enthusiastic over their specimens of what native cabinet makers or architects had done, but for a long time the directors of museums were blind to the relation between the products of early American artists in decoration and the aims of an art museum.

In accentuating the importance of what our earlier workers in this field accomplished the Metropolitan Museum of Art led the other institutions of the country. So great has been the growth of interest in the achievements of designers and artificers, however, that all museums have acquired as many specimens as they could. It happens that our own institution, since it began earlier to accumulate these treasures, now possesses a wealth of material worthy to be placed in the noble quarters that the liberality of Mr. and Mrs. DEFOREST has provided.

So the work of the American cabinet makers, architects and decorators in the broader sense of the word will not long stand in any museum in the place of a neglected stepdaughter of the other arts. Housed so appropriately at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the American exhibits of the kind for which Mr. DEFOREST's generosity has provided will be on an equal footing with what comes from the other countries. The American section will be just as important as any other section of the museum. This example will not be lost on other similar foundations, so the effect of Mr. and Mrs. DEFOREST's liberality and vision will be far reaching in its national influence.

Roosevelt's "Recklessness."

In one of the late FRANKLIN K. LANE's letters, written in 1909, there is something about THEODORE ROOSEVELT which, although not exact in its description, is illuminating:

> "The thing, I find, that hangs over all Presidents and other public men here to terrify them is the fear of bad times. The greatness of ROOSEVELT lay, in a sense, in his recklessness."

What sometimes seemed to be recklessness in ROOSEVELT was really a great and useful courage.

ROOSEVELT stepped forward to meet issues just as a great batter steps forward to meet the ball.

Whenever an issue, real or artificial, came up ROOSEVELT was ready for it. It was never too delicate for him to handle. He did not dodge a discussion because it involved religion, race, trades unionism or any other of the "delicate" issues.

If it was a wrong issue ROOSEVELT thought that it was his duty to tackle it before it grew so big that the whole nation had to tackle it. If it was a good issue he wanted to help it.

This was not recklessness. It was the man's refusal to pretend that issues could be hidden or avoided.

Jail Birds for Hire.

President HARDING has ordered an investigation to find out whether it is a common practice for men convicted of crime to hire substitutes to serve Federal prison sentences. The inquiry grew out of the case of a Cleveland jeweler who paid money to a bootlegger to hire a substitute to serve a workhouse sentence. The jeweler was convicted of conspiracy and the President was asked to pardon him.

It has been reported before that this practice is a well organized part of the bootlegging system. Every bootlegging ring that does business on a big scale is linked in a feudal chain. It is not easy to track down the liege lord of the ring, as Government agents know. If the lord of the ring is faithfully served by his vassals he extends his protection to them. If they have to go to jail for him their families do not suffer.

Possibly this practice extends to other offenses against the Federal statutes. If it is permitted to go unchecked in its present phases the practice may be carried further. There was a time when the privilege of a free man to pay for a crime committed by him, no matter how serious, was legally recognized and freely used. Murder was a luxury open to all who were able to pay for it. Justice has fortunately passed that stage in its evolution.

Obviously the scandal of substituted prisoners is serious, and the Department of Justice should vigorously prosecute those in and out of office who are involved in it.

Young Men Afraid of Hard Work

THOMAS A. EDISON tells the Princeton College undergraduates through the *Daily Princetonian* that he "does not approve the present day college graduate, for as a rule the right kind of men do not go to college." The chief fault Mr. EDISON finds with the college graduate is that he objects to work.

Far from disagreeing with Mr. EDISON as to the unsatisfactory quality of much of the college product of to-day THE NEW YORK HERALD believes not that too many men go to college but that among their numbers are too many that do not get out of college what men ought to get out of college. The blame for this belongs in part to the American parent and in part to the American college.

Parents are prone to delude themselves into thinking that college can get more out of men than the men themselves are willing to get out of themselves—get more out of them, in fact, than there is in them to get out. Colleges as a rule are too tolerant of the indifferent work of undergraduates who after graduation are going to be a credit neither to themselves as college men nor to their alma mater as the maker of college men.

In a situation like this it is not merely a question of how much of the boy's time and of his parents' money is wasted on putting him through college when he is doing nothing worth while there; it is a question of how much time, room and educational effort is wasted by the college. More than that, it is a question of the demoralizing effect on the whole spirit and motive of the college thus engaged in footless performances.

Nevertheless, aimless purpose, if not indolence, is a besetting sin in too many American youth of to-day, out of college as well as in college. Mr. EDISON's own experience and warnings prove this to be the fact. He says:

> "There are plenty of openings for ambitious men in this country. Why is it that we have so few $10,000 a year men? It is not that there is a lack of such positions but that rather there is a scarcity of men of sufficient caliber to fill these openings."

Clearly, then, the young men that go from the grammar school or the high school to work are not qualifying to fill these openings any more satisfactorily than the college men are. And as there are dozens of young men not going to college for every one young man that does go to college their failure to make good for the places waiting for the right men to fill them is certainly no less marked than the failure of the college graduates. The reason is the attitude of American youth toward his job.

When all is said and done what the modern American youth needs to learn and what the colleges and the whole country need to teach the modern American youth is the gospel of hard work. College, as Mr. EDISON admits, is a good place for the man who has something in him and wants to work. But is anywhere else on God's green footstool a good place for the man who has nothing in him and does not want to work?

Reforming a Train Robber.

When a southern Missouri Sheriff a few days ago killed JACK KENNEDY in the act of robbing a mail train he brought to an end the long career of one of the most notorious of Western bandits and broke a link in train robbery between the present and the days of the Jameses, the Fords and QUANTRILL. KENNEDY was a product of the Cracker Neck district in which the Jameses and their gang often operated and where they usually found a safe hiding place. The Jameses were KENNEDY's heroes, but he excelled them in the number of his daring robberies, and he died, as most of them did not, with his boots on and a gun in each hand.

KENNEDY did not have the peculiar reason for his outlawry which his heroes had as members of QUANTRILL's band. He was too young to participate in the robbery and burning of Kansas towns under the guise of border warfare. He had their faculty, however, for escaping conviction. He never failed of an alibi.

He was not a man to hide his light under a bushel. The robberies of which he was cleared he frequently afterward boasted of committing. He liked to tell of others for which he was not arrested, emphasizing his own cleverness in contests of wits with county officials and railroad detectives. Early in 1898, when there had not been a train holdup in the Blue Cut for months, he gave warning that something big was going to take place. A few mornings afterward KENNEDY was found unconscious on the street, having been thrown from his horse. A red flag, false whiskers, a dark lantern, a rifle, two revolvers and a supply of ammunition were taken from him by a policeman, who asked what they meant. "Just going out for a quail hunt," KENNEDY replied. He got off. His outfit is still preserved in the Kansas City police museum.

Of the thirteen train robberies for which he was tried he was convicted of only one. He would have the whole underworld of Jackson and Clay counties to prove an alibi for him. "This poor, innocent boy of Cracker Neck," pleaded the lawyer for his defense, "a victim of heartless corporations, a child oppressed by the power and wealth of the mighty." Eloquence and alibi failed with a hard headed jury of a county where KENNEDY was unknown and he served twelve years in prison.

Like most Western train robbers KENNEDY went through a period of professed reformation. The members of the James, Ford and other gangs all reformed when they were too old for the game. HARRY STARR was considered crime proof until he was killed in a raid on an Arkansas bank. KENNEDY lectured on crime with himself as a terrible example, took to the stage and played in motion pictures. He is reformed and harmless, said the Kansas City police on the last visit he made to that city. A month afterward he was killed while engaged in the biggest attempt at train robbery of the last five years. KENNEDY, like STARR, was too young to reform.

When PAT GARRETT shot the notorious Arizona desperado BILLY the Kid twelve years ago he said, "There will never be another. The line's run out." When deputies found BILLY's notorious successor, Red Whisker BURNETT, dead they remarked "He's the last." Oklahoma said the line was broken when HARRY STARR was killed. The West will say with the passing of KENNEDY "He is really the last." But is he?

The Bowery Theaters.

The Bowery theaters have ceased to possess more than historical interest for most New Yorkers, who hear of them nowadays only as a result of some occurrence like the fire which damaged the old Miner's Theater recently. Many years have passed since they played in the city's dramatic life the part that made them famous and now only a neighborhood circle of playgoers is concerned in them.

Miner's Bowery Theater, which it is expected will be restored to its artistic uses, is rich in historic interest. It was the first which HENRY C. MINER—known in those days as HARRY MINER—built and managed. Subsequently he converted the old Volks Garden into the People's in which combination companies, then coming into popularity, acted successful dramas from the Broadway theaters. Later he added the Eighth Avenue Theater to his list. Here also variety was presented.

Another fact to add its special interest to this house was the quality of the programs, which contained the names of the most famous vaudeville players on the stage. Here MAGGIE CLINE, BARRY and FAY, PAT ROONEY, the French Twin Sisters, the Kernells, CHARLES DIAMOND, GUS WILLIAMS and the popular variety performers of the day helped to build up the reputation and the prosperity which ultimately landed H. C. MINER in charge of the destinies of the Fifth Avenue Theater.

Two of the popular comedians of that day had, however, just come into control of their own professional home, HARRIGAN and HART took over in 1876, the same year that H. C. MINER opened his Bowery Theater, the old New York Theater, which had been under the management of the Worrell Sisters. The two actors called this first home the Theater Comique and there they remained until they advanced to the uptown houses with which one or both were ultimately associated.

It is significant that the appearance of GIOVANNI GRASSO last winter at what was once a conspicuous temple of the Bowery drama recalled after many years serious theatrical interest to that region. The Italian made no attempt to conquer the uptown theater world, but settled from the first among his compatriots, who are the most recent occupants of the Bowery stages. They succeeded the companies that acted the Yiddish dramas with such prosperity that they built playhouses of their own.

Formerly theaters, after they had seen their best days, usually went into what used to be called variety before trade finally closed over them and the struggle for art ceased. Now the cinema usually supplants vaudeville as the final tenant of an old theater. Most of the Bowery playhouses, however, came to an end too early for this fate. They yielded after the muse of our own theater had departed to the actors of foreign stages. German companies were always at home there. Then came the Yiddish, and the latest of the speaking players have been Italian.

A thousand taxi chauffeurs have struck, one of their complaints being based on the allegation that under a newly proposed pay schedule they would be obliged to drive so fast as to endanger pedestrians. Perhaps this explains some of the taxi driving that contributes liberally to the excitement of life in New York city.

The Leaf.

It lay upon the frozen road
A half a mile from town
Beneath a wind stripped maple tree,
A leaf of withered brown,
Just like an empty pocketbook
A careless hand threw down.

Lo! it was filled not long before
With glinting yellow gold
Of morning sun and goldenrod
And shining silver cold
Of moon and stars and gleaming frost—
As much as it could hold.

But spendthrift autumn, wild young blade
In coat of scarlet gay,
Soon squandered it on gaudy clothes
And prodigal display,
And when it all was spent he flung
His empty purse away.

MINNA IRVING.

Montana.

Airy spaces—
Rich savannah—
Copper races—
Buttes—Montana!

Buttes—Cone, Church, Twin, East, Hay stack.
Buttes—Bald, Burning, Tower, Black.
Buttes—Wolf, Rosebud, Turret, West, Red, Church, Piney, Saddle—rest!

Gunsight Pass,
Teton, Missoula,
Wibaux, Sweet Grass,
Lamedeer, Sula.

Drowning Man Rapids, Organ Pipes,
Fort Assiniboine, Tibet—cripes!
Bozeman, Boulder, Bowler, Bean,
Cœur d'Alene—inspiring scene!

Rivulet,
Trask, Silver Bow,
Roy, De Smet,
Saltese, Como.

Roundup, Stemple, Wolf Creek, Redrock,
Anaconda, Lou Lou, Red Rock,
Pipe Stone Springs, Dupuyer, Clancy,
Absarokee, Blackfoot—dancy!

Combination,
Kip, Tuscor,
Smash, Stone Station,
Tokna, Horr.

Pompeys Pillar, Boice, Choteau,
Virginia City, Butte, Saypo,
Big Hole Pass, Alzada, Kohrs,
Flatwillow, Hasmark, Bearmouth—roars!

Cataract,
Flint, Musselshell,
Parrot, Yakt,
Kinsyre, Dell.

Little Big Horn, Pony, Custer,
Garryowen—final muster!
Antelope, Tunta, Amazon,
Adobetown, Basinski—done!

MAURICE MORRIS.

The Right of Way.

Attitude of Some Chauffeurs Toward So-Called Jaywalkers.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Not long ago there was a large display of lithographs showing the jaywalker bobbing up from nowhere right in the path of moving automobiles every one of which was doubtless obeying the traffic regulations in every particular. The designer's intention was evidently to put the blame upon the pedestrian while the angels at the various steering wheels were moving heaven and earth to save the victim from his own folly. There was nothing to indicate that the jaywalker might have been forced out of his direct path, as is often the case, by an automobile.

It is imperative that the man in the automobile should reach his destination without delay, and it is consequently the duty of all on foot to allow moving automobiles to have the right of way at street corners and elsewhere or to jump for their lives. There are some honorable exceptions among motor car operators, but they are not many. I wonder if the police officer who was killed on Manhattan Bridge a few days ago might not have been considered a jaywalker by the man who struck him with force enough to pitch his body into the air. J. H. H.

NEW YORK, November 18.

Safety Zones Invaded.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: The traffic regulations in upper Broadway should be so adjusted that pedestrians waiting for cars shall not be in constant danger of being run down by the endless stream of automobiles.

Why should intending passengers be obliged to endanger their lives or limbs by waiting in the middle of the street when they could enter or leave on the park side as they did in former years?

I have frequently seen automobiles driven inside the safety zone in disregard of the rules when no policeman was in sight. A. DALE.

NEW YORK, November 18.

John Ireland's Old Place.

The Free and Easy in Lispenard Street Fifty Years Ago.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: As I recall John Ireland's free and easy in Lispenard street fifty or sixty years ago, one large room was set apart for those who desired to play billiards, while another large room was set apart for those whose predilections were to listen to good singing and quaff their tobies of ale.

The Fifth Ward then contained many boarding houses whose occupants were chiefly salesmen and clerks in the then numerous wholesale dry goods houses in that vicinity. These were the men who nightly visited John Ireland's free and easy. It was an orderly and respectable assemblage.

There was one singer there among others who was in great demand every night. He had a beautiful tenor voice, but when talking he stuttered more than anybody I ever heard since or before. Yet, strange to say, when singing no one could detect the slightest vestige of stuttering. He was Jerry Barrington and was born in Dublin. It could be said of him as was said of Oliver Goldsmith: "He sang like an angel and talked like poor Poll."

B. M. FARLEY.

BROOKLYN, November 18.

Relics of Jumbo.

His Skeleton Is in Washington, His Skin at Tufts College.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Referring to C. C. Palmer's letter "The Oldest Circus Ring" I am under the impression that the skeleton of the famous elephant Jumbo is now in the Barnum Museum at Tufts College. For years I lived close to the campus and often went into the museum with friends who as children saw Jumbo in parades.

The skin of Jumbo may be in the Museum of Natural History in New York, but the frame is mounted at Tufts.

L. T. INGRAM.

FALL RIVER, Mass., November 18.

Jumbo's skeleton is in the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. His skin, mounted, is in the Barnum Museum of Natural History at Tufts College.

Passports in Italy.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: I should greatly appreciate it if you would kindly advise your readers that British subjects traveling through Italy in transit to Egypt do not need the Italian visé. They have only to produce their passports, as a document of identity, when entering and leaving Italy.

TEMISTOCLE BERNARDI,
Royal Consul-General of Italy.

NEW YORK, November 18.

Story of the Death Rates

Conquest of Tuberculosis Goes On, Cancer Figures Are Puzzling, Few Die of Old Age.

By JACQUES W. REDWAY, F. R. G. S.

It requires rather more than a year for Uncle Sam to gather and to tabulate the mortality statistics of the country; errors have to be eliminated, doubtful figures proved and duplications squeezed out. Moreover, a comparison with the mortality statistics of other countries is one of the best methods of determining the value of our own system—and Uncle Sam's system is one of the most complete in existence.

That the death rate of 1920 would be slightly higher than that of the preceding year was expected, inasmuch as the rate of 1919, following an epidemic, was lower than the normal. A comparison of twenty years presents an interesting story, for in that time the death rate to the 1,000 of population declined from 19.8 to 13.1. It was lowest in 1919. It was highest in 1918, when influenza and pneumonia took half a million lives. Otherwise the graph drawn from year to year is almost an evenly descending line.

The rate of 1920 is high in the Northeastern States and in States where negro population is congested; it is low in the States of the Northwest. That it is highest in Vermont, 15.7, does not indicate the prevalence of disease but rather the presence of a great many persons past the meridian of life. In the congested centers of negro population, on the other hand, it indicates unwholesome conditions of living.

The decrease in mortality rates includes every age group from birth up. It is most notable as regards young children. The rate for the registration area dropped from 131 to 97 in 1,000 births. In New York city during a period of fifty years the infant death rate dropped from 241 to 71 in 1,000 births.

For 1920 the death rate for cities was 14.1, in rural communities it was 11.9. In the past ten years this proportion has not varied greatly. Four registration States, New Hampshire, New York, Delaware and Massachusetts, are exceptions to the higher death rate of urban communities. The disproportion is greatest in New York, the rate being 13.4 for cities and 15.2 for rural communities.

Among the 189 causes which constitute the international list organic diseases of the heart have held first place for many years. In general the mortality from this cause is higher in the northern half of the country than in the southern half, but there are exceptions. The rate in Minnesota and in Washington is low, but it is increasing more rapidly in those States than elsewhere. The rate is materially higher in cities than in rural communities, 157.3 against 123.2 to the 100,000.

In Southern cities it is generally lower than in Northern cities, and the rate is higher among negroes than among whites. Among States, Vermont is highest and Montana lowest, with rates respectively of 228.5 and 76.7 to the 100,000 of population. Inasmuch as organic diseases of the heart pertain chiefly to middle and old age both the high and the low rate should be considered in connection with age distribution.

Tuberculosis in its various forms stands second with a rate of 114.2 to the 100,000 of population, a drop from 159.2 in ten years. That is, the greatest scourge of modern times is conquerable and is being suppressed. For the past ten years the death rate has been greatest in Western resorts. Colorado has long been a resort for consumptives, and its rate in 1920 was 225.4 to the 100,000. That of Utah was 39.1 and of Kansas 48.2. The rate in cities, 118.5, is materially higher than in rural communities, 103.1.

Negroes are highly susceptible to tuberculosis, and the rate among them is from two to three times as high as among whites. In Dallas, Texas, it is nearly five times as great. New York city has a rate of 127.8, which is about that of London and materially greater than that of Philadelphia and of Chicago; but the rates of Denver and San Antonio, health resorts, are more than twice as great as that of New York city and about four times that of Salt Lake City.

Cancer is third on the list of fatal ailments. To say that in two decades the death rate from cancer has increased 32 per cent. is to give an erroneous impression. From 1914 to 1919 inclusive a slight lowering of the rate occurred. In 1920 an increase over the preceding year is manifest. Increases of the sort are common and are not a cause for alarm.

Medical science is still discussing whether or not cancer is an old age ailment, a disorder due to improper nutrition or a germ disease. A study of statistics as related to the geographic distribution of deaths therefrom offers a fine field of investigation.

An important thing to be noted is the great difference in mortality between city and country—99.8 and 68 to the 100,000. In other words, the death rate in cities is nearly 50 per cent. greater than in rural communities. The highest rate is in New York and the New England States, where it ranges from 99.7 to 126, figures which are in strong contrast with those of the Southern States, where the rates are about one-half as great. In South Carolina the rate is only 32.9, in North Carolina within a few years the rate has dropped from 59.4 to 39.5, and in no State south of the fortieth parallel, Maryland excepted, is the rate materially higher than 56.

The cities present puzzling statistics. Thus San Francisco, next to the highest in the list, has a rate of 151.2, and Oakland, a rifle shot distant across the bay, has a rate of 99.7. Los Angeles, famous for its good sanitation, is high in the list at 135.3. Within its political limits Boston has a rate of 129.8; Cambridge is far ahead, with figures at 164. Akron, Ohio, is at the bottom of the list at 40.9. Cincinnati is well toward the top at 132.6. At Trenton, N. J., the rate is 76.3; at Albany it is 144. When the cause or causes of these differences has been explained humanity will be well along in the knowledge of the etiology of cancer.

Color is a factor in cancer. In general the mortality among negroes is a little more than two-thirds that among whites. Thus in South Carolina the rate among negroes is 25.3; among whites 40.9. All these figures suggest certain conclusions; they likewise present the possibility of various eliminations; but they do not solve the problem.

One might ask if the character of the food is a factor. Perhaps; but it is hardly conceivable that this would explain the difference between the rates of San Francisco and Oakland or of Boston and Cambridge. Pathologists have long suspected that the character of the food might explain the nature and origin of cancer, and although one theory after another has proved untenable research in this direction is abundantly justifiable.

There is also the possibility that soil character and content may be a factor. This might explain the difference between the rates of Albany and Trenton, and between localities in the glaciated and the sedentary soils. But it would not explain the difference between the rates of Maryland and Virginia, a matter of 38 points. Inasmuch as cancer is most prevalent after the age of 45, it follows that age distribution will be a factor in determining the death rate. Sex also is a factor; the proportion of deaths male and female is 58 to 42. These facts in part explain the high rates in the Northeastern States.

Bright's disease is fourth in the mortality list. From the beginning of the century to 1917 the rate increased steadily to a possible peak of 107.9; since that time it has fallen to 89.4. In nearly half the States the rate of 1917 has been maintained or has increased. On the whole, the rate is now lower than for many years. Physicians have suspected that a more wholesome and reasonable diet resulting from war regulations explains the cause of the lower rate.

Pneumonia has been with us from the beginning. The years of influenza prevalence excepted, the rate has changed little. The rate of 137.4 has increased about four points in ten years. It is highest in Pennsylvania and Delaware; it is lowest in Florida and Minnesota. The range among States is from 79 to 181.7; among cities it is from 84.1 in Los Angeles to 341.3 in Pittsburgh. Two features are worth notice: The rate in cities is about 60 per cent. greater than in rural communities; the rate among negroes is 60 per cent. greater than among whites.

Apoplexy, sixth in the list of mortal ailments, with a rate of 80.9, has shown a great increase in ten years. It is slightly more prevalent in rural than in urban communities; it is about twice as fatal among whites as among negroes.

Deaths from violence number 77,656, of which 62,492 are noted as accidental, leaving a pretty large remainder due to homicide and suicide. A campaign of safety first has not been without its results; for in ten years the rate decreased from 106.2 to 88.8. This, however, does not apply to motor car killings, which have increased by leaps and bounds.

As a rule the highest death rate occurs in January. The year 1922 will be an exception. The years 1920 and 1921 were also exceptions. In these years the death toll was materially higher in February. In each year the rate of the lowest month, usually a midsummer month, is less than half that of the highest winter month. An examination of the figures shows that in 1920 the high February rate was due to pneumonia and influenza.

Within the registration area the death toll of 1920 was 1,143,558. Of this number only 12,459 died of old age. One fact, therefore, is obvious: Very few people die from the only cause which is not preventable; they kill themselves, possibly, by their own indiscretions.

Shadows.

How from the morning to the vesper star
The ever shifting shadows busy are,
Finding at night upon the quiet breast
Of the compassionate earth a dreamless rest!

We are as shadows—through life's active day
Pursuing each his own unceasing way,
Then when the long night closes dark and deep
Finding on Mother Earth untroubled sleep.

CLINTON SCOLLARD.

Let Actors Speak Up.

Less Repression Demanded by a Voice From the Gallery.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Referring to your editorial article on theater ticket speculators let me add my word to it that Marc Klaw is right in asking that the actors speak out so that not only those sitting near the stage can hear but those who occupy seats in the balcony.

There have been comments in your paper recently regarding the falling off of patronage in the balcony, and as one of those who must, due to finances, occupy a seat in that part of the house I can tell you that many times it is impossible to hear enough of the play to make it intelligible. A little less repression, please, and more expression.

BALCONITE.

NEW YORK, November 18.

Arkansas Joys.

From the Magnolia News.

Well, possum, taters and cane chewing is with us again.

So the Earth Quaked.

Suspicions Pointed to the Action of the Planet Neptune.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: When the earth is being squeezed it causes volcanoes; when the squeezing ceases it causes earthquakes.

The earth, accompanied by its repelling force and advancing rapidly in its path around the sun, encountered the repelling force of Neptune at quadrature position November 11, an invisible planet equal to several hundred earths, and began raising the weight of that giant planet upward from the sun.

The moving of the planet upward from the sun and earth relieved the tremendous pressure upon the earth's crust, which instantly began to contract. This resulted in an extraordinary contraction of invisible systems of the earth's crust in one locality, or the Antofagasta earthquake in Chile.

The contraction also resulted in atmospheric contractions throughout the world, or increased rainfall, and this was followed by contractions or wintry spells of weather in many localities by November 13 caused by the earth glancing outward from the sun and Neptune, as predicted in THE NEW YORK HERALD on September 16.

D. A. N. GROVER.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., November 18.

The American Bayards.

The Record of the Family in This Country a Sufficient Pedigree.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: In this epoch of rampant materialism and exaggerated egoism your editorial article on the illustrious Bayard family is very timely. I am not of their political party, but I ardently wish there were many more such aristocrats in the ideal sense of the word in our public life.

I have only one criticism to make on your article and that is regarding the desire to link the pedigree of our Bayards to a "French Huguenot strain." The American pedigree of the Bayards is so admirable it needs no embellishment from foreign sources.

The implied descent of the American Bayards from Pierre du Terrail Bayard, the famous chevalier sans peur et sans reproche, is erroneous, inasmuch as that great soldier died as a bachelor, not leaving legitimate children.

There were no other celebrated French Bayards in recent history, except perhaps Jean François Alfred Bayard, a dramatist; but he was a boy yet when one of the American Bayards, the great-grandfather of the Senator-elect, played an important rôle in our national history as a friend of Jefferson, Senator of the United States, &c.

The first of the American Bayards who achieved and deserved a national reputation was a self-made man, raised from the common people, and since that time that "fine American family" achieved such a record that they do not need to trace their origin to a French Huguenot strain to be interesting to their contemporaries. EUGENE SEZGER.

NEW YORK, November 18.

In Business 118 Years.

Methodist Book Concern Opened Its Store Here in 1804.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: The list of one hundred year old business firms or corporations as first prepared by the Merchants Association and printed in your paper is open to correction at one point, for it omits the Methodist Book Concern, which has been engaged in the sale of books in this city since the year 1804.

The decision to establish a publishing house was reached by a Methodist conference meeting in John Street Church, New York city, in 1789. The business was at first located in Philadelphia, but in 1804 by resolution of the conference it was removed to New York city.

Its first appearance in the New York city directory is in 1805, when the entry is "Methodist Book Store, 249 Pearl street." It has been continued without interruption under the same denominational control to the present time and is, I believe, the oldest book publishing house in the United States.

Prior to 1822 its printing and binding were done by outside firms such as John C. Totten, J. & J. Harper, Myers & Smith and Abraham Paul. In 1822 a bindery was opened in the basement of the old Wesleyan Seminary building on the west side of Crosby street between Howard and Grand. Two years later presses were purchased and since that time the business has had great expansion. JAMES R. JOY.

NEW YORK, November 18.

The Old Scythe Tree.

Decided to Be Historically the Most Important Tree in the State.

From the Tannersville Times-Record.

The picture prize contest for the most important historical tree in the State of New York, conducted by the New York State College of Forestry, has been decided and the prize won by Alva H. Pulver of Sodus, N. Y.

The tree is located on the farm of Clarence Schaeffer in Seneca county. It is a Balm of Gilead tree and is known in the neighborhood as "the old scythe tree." The story in connection with the tree follows:

"In 1861, when he learned Fort Sumter had been fired on, James Wyburn Johnson of the town of Waterloo, N. Y., came in from the field bringing his scythe, which was placed in a small Balm of Gilead tree near the house. With the final remark 'Leave the scythe in the tree until I return,' he enlisted in the Union service.

"The parents of young Johnson for a time heard from their boy and then a silence came, extending from month to month. The war records show that the young man was mortally wounded in North Carolina, dying in a hospital there, and was buried in the South in 1864. In the years of the war the scythe was religiously confined to the tree and it was some time afterward before the family finally learned of their son's fate. In the meantime the six inch sapling began to grow about the blade of the scythe. It finally held the scythe securely and the inroads of the elements loosened the handle, which dropped away. At the present time only about six inches of the blade protrudes from the side of the tree."

The G. A. R. Post of Waterloo maintains a flag on the tree in memory of Johnson from year to year. As soon as one is frayed it is replaced by a new one. Each Memorial Day the post conducts its annual services under the spreading branches of the tree, which now has a span of about 90 feet and is fully 100 feet high.

Rhode Island's Vote.

Latest Figures Elect Flynn, Democrat, Governor by 6,811.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: What was the majority received by the Democratic candidate for Governor of Rhode Island at the recent election over the Republican candidate? G. DE W.

PEEKSKILL, November 18.

The official count of the vote for Governor in Rhode Island will not be completed for several weeks. The latest unofficial figures give William S. Flynn (D.) 81,812, Harold J. Gross (R.) 74,971; Flynn's plurality 6,841.

An Egyptian Doll.

Two thousand years ago a mother gave
This plaything to a little dark eyed girl,
And still its stiffly carven wooden curl
And wond'ring stare a tender notice crave,
Since it was found in an Egyptian grave
Curled up against the little mummied hand
Of her who would not enter death's dark land
Unless she had her doll to keep her brave.

I wonder if its nearness comforted
A wistful whisper breaking through the night
From all the endless wrappings of the dead
That kept her innocence in bondage tight,
Who, century on crowding century,
Remains a child for all eternity.

CHARLOTTE BECKER.

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