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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1905.

WANT THE METRIC SYSTEM.

Representative Littauer has introduced a bill making the use of the metric system of weights and measures obligatory upon all departments of the government after a fixed date. While there are many persons who believe that the metric system should take the place of the one now in use in the United States, it is not at all likely that Mr. Littauer's bill will meet with the approval of even those who are in favor of the new system, as most of them will recognize that it is only a half-way measure and would make confusion worse confounded rather than meet the objections urged against the present system.

One of the reasons for the adoption of the metric system, and perhaps the one most widely used as an argument in favor of the project, is that the method of computing weights and measures on the decimal basis would make what is now a complicated task as simple as the "ten mills make one cent; ten cents make one dime; ten dimes make one dollar; ten dollars make one eagle," of our currency system. Then, too, it is urged that all countries with which Americans have commercial relations, except the United Kingdom, already have adopted the new system.

If the metric system will simplify the dealings between Americans and their foreign customers, let it come, but it should be inaugurated all over the country at one time. To adopt the Littauer bill would be to institute right here in the United States two systems of weights and of which complaint now is made in connection with the foreign trade of the United States. Let the old system remain or else make the new one universal throughout the country controlled by Uncle Sam.

WHERE THE REAL RESPONSIBILITY RESTS.

The esteemed New York Herald is finding fault with the Armstrong committee because it has not yet found out why all the rottenness in life insurance has existed for years without the fact becoming known to the New York State Insurance Department.

This is a matter which is well worthy of the earnest attention of the plain citizens who have been robbed by the insurance grafters. Is the Insurance Department an efficient public body designed to protect the life insurance funds of the State from harpies who do not hesitate to fatten upon the assets of the widow and orphan, or is it simply designed to furnish soft berths for more or less worthy workers in the ranks of the predominant party? It is a most interesting query and we

sincerely regret that the Armstrong committee has not taken up the subject in such a manner as to show just what the trouble is.

If the Insurance Department has been lax in its methods there should be a clean slate at the beginning of the new year. If it has not been lax there is something wrong in the laws under which it was organized and the exigencies of the case demand an immediate reorganization on a more efficient basis.

All the responsibility for lawlessness in high places does not rest upon the lawbreaker, but frequently upon lukewarm and inefficient officials who are too careless to find out what the law requires and who would not enforce it if they did for fear of losing soft jobs and of being forced to earn their livings by the sweat of their brows.

A despairing appeal from one Burton, of Kansas and the United States Senate: "Dear Santa Claus: Please send me a technicality on which I may escape the results of my 'grafting' inadvertencies.

It is reported that the big insurance men of New York regard the New Jersey 'grafting' officials as petty pickpockets. They should give the Jersey amateurs time. The world wasn't built in a day.

Those far-sighted persons who already have done their Christmas shopping are in position to regard the situation with more or less philosophy.

The Secretary of War is asking Mr. Santa Claus Congress to do something nice for the old soldiers down at Hampton.

WARSHIP MODELS.

One is Made For Each New Vessel That Uncle Sam Plans.

Whenever Uncle Sam plans a new warship a miniature copy of it is made in advance exactly like the great vessel in all respects, but only five to eight feet long. This is done in order to find out exactly what the battleship or cruiser will look like when it is finished, for if any change seems advisable the fact may thus be ascertained before it is too late.

The little vessels are built in what is called the ship house in the navy yard at Washington from the original plans and drawings from the original plant. Every detail is reproduced on a scale of a quarter of an inch to the foot. They cost several thousand dollars apiece, and when they are finished they are gravely and anxiously inspected by a board of naval officers, who discuss them from every point of view, making criticisms and suggestions.

Every ship now in our navy has made its first appearance in this miniature shape. Even the guns, artistically carved out of wood, are represented, frowning from their ports, and all of the minor accessories down to the anchors, battle hatches, skylights, steering wheels and even lanterns are reproduced in a metal composition called nickel silver. One man does all the work with the assistance of a couple of "down east whittlers."—New York Herald.

MIRABEAU AND DANTON.

Their Deaths Were Courageous, but Rather Too Theatrical.

Mirabeau and Danton between them tend to dwarf most of the other figures of the revolution. They belong to "cosmical humanity," a fact which neither was slow to recognize or admit. We are here reminded of Mirabeau's boast to Frochet near the end of his life: "Yes, support this head, the greatest in France. I wish I could bequeath it to you." It may recall Danton's words to the headman: "Thou wilt show my head to the people. It is worth showing." Both died full of self-consciousness, Mirabeau with at least as keen an eye to effect as Mary, queen of Scots, herself. "My abode will soon be annihilation," exclaimed Danton at his trial, "but I shall live in the pantheon of history." "Have we Achilles' funerals already?" asked Mirabeau when from his deathbed he hears the sound of cannon. A "connoisseur of courageous deaths" could have no fault to find with Mirabeau or Danton on the score of cowardice, but they are rather too theatrical for English taste. We prefer the silent head shake of Marie Antoinette when she is asked if she has anything to say against the sentence of death passed upon her and her absence next day when she means the scaffold.—London Standard.

Luck or Good Management.

"I heard Crable say he had never had such luck in his business as he's having now, but I didn't understand whether it was good luck or bad."

"Oh, he meant bad luck, of course; if it were good luck he wouldn't speak of it as 'luck' at all."—Philadelphia Ledger.

He Didn't Travel.

Warden—Now, we try to give our prisoners work of the kind they are accustomed to. Prisoner—That suits me, I was a traveling salesman.—Cleveland Leader.

Most people when they buy experience don't get a bargain.—Somerville Journal.

One hundred cards neatly printed and perfectly sealed, two hundred sheets memorandum paper and one flexible leather cover, all for \$1.00. WARWICK PRINTING CO.

ODELL AFTER ROOSEVELT

Former Governor of New York Makes the Fur Fly.

HE GOES FOR MR. HIGGINS TOO

Republicans in New York State are Having a Warm Fight and the Would-Be Boss Attacks the President for Interference.

(By Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 21.—Former Governor Odell, chairman of the Republican State committee, made a statement today in which he charged Theodore Roosevelt and Governor Higgins with a deliberate attempt to wreck the republican party in this state for their own personal ambitions. He declared that if disaster resulted the president will be responsible.

Mr. Odell's accusations were part of his comment on the situation growing out of the contest in the republican party in this state for the speakership of the New York state assembly. Mr. Odell announced himself in favor of E. A. Merriess, Jr., several days ago. On Monday Governor Higgins came out in favor of J. W. Wadsworth, Jr. Governor Odell said: "I charge President Roosevelt and Governor Higgins with injecting their personalities into the speakership contest. They will be to blame if disaster results, and my friends have not made a fight, but now we are for harmony and we will have it if we have to fight for it."

"I charge President Roosevelt and Governor Higgins with a deliberate attempt to wreck the republican party in this state for their own personal ambitions." Referring to Governor Higgins, Mr. Odell said: "So far as gratitude is concerned, Governor Higgins certainly owed me something. Instead of putting out the hand of friendship, he chooses to throw stones at those who have been his friends."

CHRISTMAS BEER SEIZED.

"Wet Goods" Belonging to Soldier Boys Taken by Maine Officials.

(By Associated Press.) Portland, Me., Dec. 21.—Over 2,500 of Uncle Sam's soldiers will go without a part of their Christmas celebration on account of a raid made by Liquor Deputy Clifford, who captured 1,500 bottles of beer consigned to the 75th and 107th companies, United States Coast Artillery, stationed at Fort Preble.

The beer was seized by the deputy just as the post commissary was about to load it in his wagon at the freight sheds of the Eastern Steamship company. A wrothy war followed, but the deputy kept the stuff.

Gas Stove Causes Two Deaths.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—A leak in a kitchen gas stove caused the deaths of William N. Busch and Oscar Boehrich last night, and so overcome Miss Christina Busch that she is expected to die.

Certain Results

Many a Newport News Citizen Knows How Sure They Are.

Nothing uncertain about the work of Doan's Kidney Pills in Newport News. There is plenty of positive proof of this in the testimony of citizens. Such evidence should convince the most skeptical doubter. Read the following statement:

W. F. Hopkins, grocer, corner of Jefferson avenue and Twenty-fifth St., says: "I have the best of reasons for forming a high opinion of Doan's Kidney Pills. They were recommended very highly for backache in a newspaper I read and I went to Stearns' drug store for a box and commenced the treatment. It was very satisfactory and very quickly and thoroughly stopped the dull aching in the small of my back which had annoyed me for some time. I consider this remedy one upon which the public can depend."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50c Foster-McBarn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other. J. W. CHANDLER, J. P. GAYLE, Prest. Treas. & Genl. Mgr.

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TORTURE AND HUMILIATION

For Fifteen Years Face and Body Mass of Itching Sores—Could Not Express Suffering—Doctors Failed—Had Lost Hope

CURED BY CUTICURA AT COST OF \$1.25

"My head was one mass of scabs, my forehead was covered down almost to my eyebrows, and I had to wear my hat all the time. My body was covered with spots in size from a pin-head to as large as a silver dollar. A white, crusty scab would form and itch, and words cannot express the torture and humiliation I suffered for fifteen years. I tried many doctors, and all kinds of treatments, but could get no help, and I thought there was no hope for me. A friend told me to get Cuticura. I did, and in three days my head was as clear as ever. I applied the Ointment night and morning, also taking a hot bath three times a week, and using the Ointment freely after the bath. After using one cake of Soap and two boxes of Ointment I was completely cured, without mark or blemish. I was so pleased I felt like running down the street to tell every one I met what Cuticura had done for me. If any one is in doubt about this, they may write to me, (signed) H. B. Franklin, 717 Washington St., Allegheny, Pa."

COMPLETE TREATMENT For Every Humour \$1

Complete external and internal treatment for every humour, consisting of Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Pills, may now be had for one dollar. A single set is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, and scaly humours, eczemas, rashes, and irritations, from infancy to age, when all else fails.



A Merry Christmas

Is our wish for one and all, and we are doing our best to make it so by having the best stock of wines and liquors the Holiday season can offer. Our wines are of the finest vintage known. Our whiskies are the purest made, and our liquors and cordials are excelled by none.

Newport News Wine and Liquor Co. 2416 WASHINGTON AVE. (Corner 25th St.) Bell Phone, 2. Citizens' Phone, 122.

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has been reached in the equipment of our new saloon—up-to-date in every respect. Many a time, no doubt, you would like to have had a cool glass of beer or a palatable drink of liquor, but the environment of the ordinary saloon was such that the desire was not gratified. Here a drink can be enjoyed to the fullest extent, where sanitation and service reign supreme.

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...For The Holidays... Most every family, if at no other time, has its Christmas Whiskey, and usually every one wants the best. We have an exceptionally good line of foreign and domestic family WINES and LIQUORS FOR YOU TO SELECT FROM AND THE PRICE IS CERTAINLY MODERATE FOR FIRST-CLASS GOODS. Old Point Maryland Rye... \$1.00 per gal. Pemberton... 3.00 per gal. Bumgardner... 3.00 per gal. Paul Jones... 3.00 per gal. Old Jasper... 2.50 per gal. Log Cabin... 2.00 per gal. Monongahela... 1.50 per gal. Cabinet... 2.25 per gal. Smithfield Apple Brandy... 3.50 per gal. Gin, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00 and \$3.50. THESE TWO BRANDS ARE SOLD ONLY BY US Old Charter Whiskey, bottled in bond, \$1.00 per qt. Fine Old Kentucky Taylor Whiskey, \$1.00 per qt. Special Attention Given to Mail Orders. B. R. COFER, 210 Twenty-fourth St., Newport News, Va. Bell Phone, 269. Citizen Phone, 459.

Buckskin Gold Mining Company's holding of 100 acres is in the heart of the Goldfield, Nev., district The Richest Gold Bearing Area Yet Discovered in the World. Capital stock 1,500,000 shares of par value \$1.00 full paid, non-assessable. 250,000 shares have been placed in the treasury for development purposes at 6c per share cash and 6 1-2 cents per share on easy payment plan. There is only a small quantity of this stock left. Application blanks to be had at Daily Press business office, or of T. E. PEARSE, City Engineer's Office.