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HOW NOT TO BUILD UP A CAPITAL

The recent pronouncement of Chairman Cannon to the effect that he is not willing that the Government should go any faster in the improvement of the National Capital than the people of Washington are able to do with the amount of revenue gathered from taxation, opens up several avenues of more or less interesting speculation and calculation.

Permanent improvement, something like one hundred and forty years will have passed before present plans can be carried out, even approximately. A delightful prospect!

POST CHECK CURRENCY TO SUPPLANT MONEY ORDERS

Five-dollar bills printed so they are both money and check.

By C. W. POST, Manager Post Check Currency Bureau.

ANYONE can understand the pressing need for postal currency by recalling the times without number when he himself has been desirous of sending a small sum of money through the mails.

exist as currency, and has been transformed into a check on the United States Government, having all the safety of any bank check, and ready for enclosure in his letter.

The McCulloch-Gardner post check currency bill, now before Congress, provides for printing the one, two, and five-dollar bills in future with blank spaces on the face.

The paid check finally reaches the Treasury Department, and is replaced by a new one with the spaces unfilled. This completes the circulation in part.

SUCCESS MEASURED BY ACHIEVEMENTS

THERE are, perhaps, few more mooted questions than "What constitutes success?" and it may not be amiss for one who can lay claim to no great measure of what is commonly so-called, to moot it some more.

osophic principles. Now we are getting warm. A part of the truth is far better than no truth at all. He who achieves succeeds, but his success is measurable only by the motives which prompted him to action.

Statues in the Paris Streets.

It is not the Londoner only who grumbles at the lack of beauty in the statues adorning the streets and squares of his city. The Frenchman just now makes a point of grumbling quite as loudly at the "almost unanimous" ugliness of the modern statues "encumbering" Paris.

Mr. Roosevelt's Jack o' All Trades.

Benjamin Colbert, a United States marshal in the Indian Territory, and a half-breed Indian, is, in the opinion of President Roosevelt, the most versatile individual on the Government's extensive pay roll.

THE DRAMA IN GOTHAM

New York, April 3. "A Modern Magdalen," Haddon Chambers' first play with the scenes laid in this country, seems to be a success at the Bijou Theatre, where it was given its first performance last Saturday night.

The strongest scene in the piece shows a supper given by the heroine, who has become a music hall singer. There Lindsey, a man-about-town, receives a message from his wife which tells him that his liaison with the actress is known to her.

At this dinner there is present also a moralist and reformer. His hypocrisy is revealed and so disgusts the heroine with the world that she attempts to end the struggle. She is saved by a disinterested friend, and in the end drifts away as a nurse in the Spanish-American war with Cuba.

"Soldiers of Fortune" has established Robert Edison as a star and broken the records of the Savoy Theatre for receipts. It has also brought to the front Henry B. Harris as a manager of ability and judgment.

A telegram from Seattle brings the information that "By Right of Sword," a dramatization by Mrs. Dr. Doremus of the city of Marchmont's novel, was successfully produced on Monday night of this week by Ralph Stuart.

WORK AND PAY OF THE MEN WHO SAVE LIFE FROM WRECKS

By CHARLES A. HARBAUGH, of the Life-Saving Bureau, Treasury Department.

REFERRING to your editorial tribute to Uncle Sam's life-savers "by the sea," in which you appeal for adequate Government recognition of their achievements in the form of better compensation, and provision for those who become incapacitated for duty, I trust you will permit me to call your attention to what amounts to an error with respect to your statement as to their period of annual service, and money allowances to them and their families in the form of pensions.

Your statement that during the winter they are laid off, is true only of life-saving crews on the lakes. The period of annual employment of crews is known as the "active season."

SERENADE.

The day is done and silently The twinkling stars on high Have tipped from their hiding place Somewhere beyond the sky.

MAY REFUSE LICENSES

May 1 promises to bring some lively hustling for several managers of this city, for on that date they are obliged to take out a yearly license. Since the advent of the reform administration the fire department has almost daily notified the owners and lessees of playhouses that "no standees must be allowed."

work to obtain it. I have a pretty sure tip that at least four places of amusement will not be allowed to do business after May 1.

After all is said and done, William Collier's new play, "The Diplomat," is winning favor at the Madison Square, and promises to make money for the "quaint comedian" and his manager. Of course, the piece is Collier under another name, and it is safe to say that the brightest lines in it are his, and not the work of Martha Morton, whose name appears on the programme as the author.

Kyrle Bellew ends his long engagement at Wallack's Theatre on Saturday night, April 12, after which he takes "A Gentleman of France" on the road for a five weeks' tour. At the last Saturday matinee the hall company scene from "Romeo and Juliet" will be presented, with Mr. Bellew as Romeo and Eleanor Robson as Juliet.

Manager J. Wesley Rosequest reads me word that on September 1, for its seventh season, he will make a "greater" production of "The Village Postmaster," sending it on the road with a new and elaborate equipment of scenery and costumes, and a cast much stronger than has ever before appeared in the play.

Wagenhals and Kemper announce that the tour of Madame Modjeska and Louis James in "Henry VIII" is so profitable that they have extended it five weeks, after which the famous Polish actress will go to Europe, probably never to return.



MISS GRACE GEORGE, Who is Starring Very Successfully in "Under Southern Skies."

ARE MEN COMPETENT JURORS WHEN ACCUSED IS A WOMAN?

If a young and handsome man were tried for murder, his jurors being women, he would undoubtedly be acquitted.

By JAMES M. FITZSIMONS, Judge of the New York City Court.

THE question of women jurors has been so prominently brought before the public during a famous trial just concluded that everyone is more or less interested.

Human nature is among the most potent factors in life. Since Adam and Eve were first installed in the Garden of Eden human nature has held on her inescapable path. All the mechanical powers known to mankind cannot alter her, nor can they change the even tone of her way.

Probably the leading feature of nature is the mutual attraction of the sexes, and to interfere with such attraction were as difficult as to prevent a well-balanced magnet from pointing to the magnetic pole.

It is typical of manhood to pity feminine distress; no man with a heart in his body can help doing so, and it requires more than an ordinary effort of will to make judgment triumph over sympathy.

Many things influence a jury to a considerable extent. Aged parents, children, romantic episodes, all have an influential bearing upon a jury's decision; but nothing affects a jury so much as a pair of beautiful eyes used with discretion.

A man has no knowledge of the inner workings of a feminine mind; he cannot fathom the deep-down machinations of the lovely woman; he only knows that the state is a woman's honor, a woman's freedom, and he acts accordingly. It takes a woman to understand a woman, to know her temptations and her weaknesses and her motives.

What may seem to a man as of small importance in the weight of evidence strikes a woman as being vital. She understands all the sentiments of womanhood; she knows the temptations that beset a woman, and she knows the struggle to overcome them.

It is often said that a woman has no sympathy for a woman. But let us pause and ask the question: "Is it sympathy or sentimentality that sways a man?"

I am inclined to the belief that it is pure sentiment.

We are wont to associate woman with all that is best and purest in human nature, and surely if a woman falls so short of her divine mission in this world as to commit a cruel or dastardly crime, it is justice, and justice only, that she be punished.

I am convinced that if a young and handsome man were tried for murder, his jurors being women, he would undoubtedly be acquitted. His personality would appeal to them.

This is much more true when a woman is tried by men. They cannot bring themselves without a mighty effort to send a young and it may be beautiful woman to her doom. Thoughts of mother and sisters rise in their hearts and outweigh the evidence and prevent justice.

The law states that a suspected criminal shall be tried and convicted, if guilty, by the judgment of his peers, and this means, if it has any meaning, those who experience the same trials and troubles, joys, sorrows, and temptations as the accused.

NAVAL OFFICERS' WIVES HAVE NO ABIDING PLACE

By Mrs. A. S. BARKER, Wife of Rear Admiral Barker.

THE women of the navy have no homes. If a navy woman follows her husband when he is ordered to the other side of the world, she is a rover, living aboard ship or in some lodging house at the port nearest the vessel whose name occupies in her thought the place which the word "home" has in the heart of any other woman.

If she does not follow him, it need hardly be said that she certainly does not regard the place in which she lives while he is gone as home. Wherever it is, it is simply a place to wait until he comes back.

Hardly any woman in the navy follows her husband wherever he is ordered. Most women go, perhaps, once to China or Egypt or Greece and stay at home during the other cruises.

Those who go, of course, are obliged to follow on a steamer. Then they take passage and travel just like any one else, paying all their own expenses and being shown no more consideration than the other passengers. The fact that a cabin passenger is the wife of a naval officer does not in any way single her out for attention or special courtesy.

When she arrives at the port where the vessel is to lie she takes lodging somewhere, earning about \$2 a month in Kasan, about the time when Gorki in the same district was a cobbler's apprentice.

The two youths often saw each other in Kasan, but were not acquainted. Nor did they know each other five years later when the nineteen-year-old Schalljapin was singing in a church choir in Tiflis and his senior in years Gorki was employed in a railroad shop in the same town.

It was at a private theatrical in Tiflis, gotten up for the benefit of the poor, that Gorki heard Schalljapin sing and act for the first time. An introduction followed. The two men from that time on took lodgings together. After the hard day's work these children of the people studied, wrote, sang, and preached to their hearts' content, and to the disgust of their fellow-lodgers whose sleep was badly disturbed.

Schalljapin finally obtained an engagement in a subordinate capacity at the opera house in Moscow. Gorki just about this time began to be known in the Russian literary and journalistic world by his quiet, picturesque way of narrating commonplace occurrences in the lower strata of society. This was changed soon into more inflammatory essays, which dared to lay bare the horrors of the Russian underworld and to arraign the wicked selfishness of the aristocratic classes in no uncertain tone.—Henry Chevalier in Chicago Chronicle.

TWO RUSSIAN POPULAR IDOLS

With the exception of Tolstoy the most popular men in Russia today are Maxim Gorki and Fedor Schalljapin.

Both are offsprings from the proletarian class, and there exists a deep friendship between the "tramp" author and the star of the Imperial opera house at Moscow.

Schalljapin, the brilliant singer and comedian, has raised himself by his own power to the top of the ladder in his profession. It is his cardinal principle that all his song and humor shall teach a lesson and tend to better mankind morally. For the low, suggestive jokes, so prevalent on the modern stage, he has nothing but disdain.

Successful historic artists with few exceptions are men and women who have enjoyed the advantages of a collegiate training. Schalljapin was a baker's apprentice, earning about \$2 a month in Kasan, about the time when Gorki in the same district was a cobbler's apprentice.

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AT KERF HAWAR.

At Kerf Hawar, at Kerf Hawar, We watched the lustrous evening star, When day had sunk to sudden doom, Flower like a lotus bloom afar.

Ancient Damascus.

The most ancient centre of trade in the world, and one which still retains its mercantile current, is Damascus. The caravan comes and goes as it did 1,000 years ago, there the sheik, the ass and the water wheel, the merchants of the Euphrates and of the Mediterranean, still occupy with the multitude their wares.

Smoking a Costly Luxury.

How badly a man may want tobacco when he has not got it is illustrated in the story of a British soldier in South Africa who, having captured a steel unknown to his superior officers, exchanged the same for a Turkish cigarette, worth perhaps a quarter of a cent. It must be remembered, however, that the "Tommy" had not tasted tobacco for weeks.

A Song to April.

Sweetheart, comes laughing April now To right the winter's wrong; And back to the forsaken bough The bluebird comes with song;

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