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will quicken. Ambition again will fire you. The joy of living will throb in your veins once more, and you will more honor and glory those whom you mourn than if your eyes turned to rivers of tears and you had refused to be comforted.

The Business Resumption.

The demand for workers is the best index of business conditions. Some months ago Secretary Straus, of Commerce and Labor, started the interesting innovation of a bureau to study industrial and labor conditions, and assist employers and employees in search of each other in getting together.

Some folks disposed to criticize the appearance of the Government as a bureau of information, an employment bureau; but the plan was soon working so well and pleasing so many people with its practical results that criticism was dismissed. Down to about October 1 it did a land office business; then there came a notable slackening. People out of jobs became more plentiful, but people wanting to hire them didn't come forward, and the bureau found difficulty getting results.

It was, of course, the result of the sudden money panic, and not even the reports of bankers to the Comptroller, it is said, provided a more accurate barometer by which to judge the developments and progress of the financial storm as it moved across the country from East to West.

Now comes from Chief Powderly, of this particular bureau of employment, the cheering information that there is suddenly a renewed demand for labor once more. The newspapers have been telling of resumption of operations in mills and factories, and Mr. Powderly finds himself crowded with demands once more for working people.

Naturally, there has been some disarrangement of the balance of things. A good many people who were thrown suddenly out of employment have moved away, and now that their old employers want them, are not to be found. Then a very large number of laborers have left the country—immigrants returning to their old homes. It is not impossible, therefore, that with a sharp and quick resumption of industrial activity, such as now seems to be fairly afoot, there may be serious difficulty getting the workers and the work together so fast as conditions demand.

That Standard Oil Fine Again.

After waiting a long time to think it over, the Bureau of Corporations, which worked up the evidence against the Standard Oil Company on which conviction and the \$29,000,000 fine were secured, has issued an answer to the complaints and explanations made by President Moffet, of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana.

The discussion between President Moffet and Commissioner Smith is the discussion in which everybody else has more or less engaged heretofore: the discussion of whether in truth the Standard Oil Company was guilty, and if so whether it was guilty enough to deserve such a big penalty. President Moffet took the ground that the Standard had not been proved guilty; that it did not know the 6-cent rate to East St. Louis was anything like a secret rate; and that there was nothing in the nature of a rebate about it.

Commissioner Smith's statement puts strongly the position of the Government. There has been a good deal of maudlin worrying about the fearful menace of huge fines recklessly imposed for technical violations of dubious statutes. The notion has been industriously propagated that this particular fine had much to do with breaking down business confidence, and tossing the country into the midst of panicky conditions. Now, this same worrying is done largely by people who a few months earlier were demanding that somebody be locked up. It was declared that fining a great corporation was no way of enforcing the law. The corporation could afford to pay a snug fine on those rare occasions when it was caught, because of the profits of lawbreaking in the great majority of cases when it got away unscathed. The argument seemed rather good, too. The National Administration got the notion that it would be good business to put a few distinguished malefactors in jail, and if none was thus treated it was rather because of inability to accomplish the desired result than from any feeling of delicacy on the part of the authorities.

Everybody was convinced that fines wouldn't reform offenders. The men who had to do with enforcing the laws knew that locking up men of business was just about impossible. Then came the Standard fine. This served the most useful purpose of convincing the richest of all corporations that a fine could be made to have its terrors even for a right well-to-do concern. The Standard's guilt in this Alton case seems to be clearly proved. The real question is whether it is

a cruel and unusual punishment to exact \$29,000,000 fine from it. The answer seems to be that the Standard by reason of enjoying that 6-cent rate to the exclusion of others, not only riveted its monopoly upon the great Southwest, but was actually able to project its absolute control into that region in the face of the immense oil development there; that the Standard took into its own coffers about all the benefits of that development; that the people who discovered the oil and owned the land, and bored the wells, got little out of it; that the people who ought to have been benefited by cheaper oil were not benefited; that the Standard's railroad rate preferences were sufficient to enable it to absorb to itself practically all the benefits that should have gone to the developers of this field and to the public. Is not that a sufficient answer to the argument that the fine was cruel and unusual?

Adjutant General Thirt ordered Captain Kulp, Company B, Thirty-fourth Regiment, to stop a prize fight. The captain failed to do so, and, by order of the court-martial, was reprimanded. How did the captain have the power to withstand the order? Now, then, all together: Because thrift made Kulp able. Maps and diagrams furnished upon application.

Who's namin' this here tucker, anyway, Congress or the White House? Why should Congress butt into everything? When a Pacific coast city wants to set itself up as important it claims to have discovered that Japanese spies have obtained "accurate" maps of its streets and alleys, showing the location of the "opery" house, fire engine house No. 1, and town hall, and the home of the town constable. But whatever it is, the officials of the city always insist that it is "accurate."

Senator Scott says all the members of the House are personal friends of Speaker Cannon. At any rate they had better put up a strong bluff to that effect.

Everything comes to him who waits. To appreciate this just wait at the new Union Station. You get all that's coming to you there—grip, pneumonia, chills, blains, corns, cold feet, back ache, "that rotten feeling," heat under the collar, brain storm, dementia Americana, and information as to how much later the late train will really arrive.

Dun and Bradstreet both report that the holiday trade was very heavy "the last few days before Christmas." When did all these Early Holiday Shopping Clubs do their buying, anyway?

Charles E. Blaney, one of the Napoleons of melodrama, says stage villains are deteriorating. Few of them win the kisses of the audience. What you want to do, Mr. Blaney, is to put on a few heavy trust officials and then look out for a riot.

Senator Davis was really conservative. He put only two of his children in office. He has eight.

It is understood that the governors of Missouri and Mississippi have, as peace commissioners, signed a protocol good for the rest of the season. This is very disappointing to the lovers of the manly art.

Mr. Wallace of Arkansas is said to be putting in the time of the holiday recess in preparing speeches on the inland waterways, forestry, and the Appalachian park system. They will appear in serial form in the Record. He has decided it a waste of ammunition to publish all in one number.

There is talk of a tunnel from the Capitol to the White House. It would be a God-send to Senators and Representatives whose names we absolutely refuse to disclose.

Judging from the pictures of Senator Scott, as they appear in the West Virginia papers, he is a handsome young man, not over thirty-five, mildness and benevolence beaming in every lineament. Can't it be that the Senator has any idea of coming out as a "Favorite Son"?

There is a woman in Richmond whose hair is so red that every time she passes a fire-engine house the gong sounds.

Governor Wilson, of Kentucky, is a song-bird of some reputation. Any man who can be elected governor of that State on the Republican ticket is necessarily a bird of some sort.

A Kentucky editor has been made labor inspector. What does a Kentucky editor know about labor? Now, if it was mint inspector, feud supervisor, or horse-race superintendent! But labor inspector! It is almost an insult.

Newark, N. J., has barred the Netherlands kiss from the billboards as immoral. The actress expects to play to S. R. O. in that town hereafter.

San Francisco has a butcher who married his sister's daughter. This makes him the son of his sister, the uncle of his wife, and the uncle of himself. If these mix-ups keep on some man will finally become his own husband and his own mother-in-law at the same time.

It costs \$61 to be arraigned in police court in Cincinnati. Law-breakers who have Cincinnati in their eyes need not be deterred on that account, however. The city pays.

If Governor Sparks calls out the whole population, Nevada ought to be able to scare up quite a squad of militia.

China seems to be getting ready to have a douma of its own.

DEGREES OF SANCTITY. Three spirits stood at heaven's gate To clear themselves of sin, And each one, in its private way, Why he should be let in.

The first declared, "Upon the earth I was a milk-andre; The benefactions which I gave Were great beyond compare."

PLAN RECEIVED FOR EVANS FLEET AT RIO JANEIRO

RIO JANEIRO, Dec. 29.—Elaborate preparations are being made here for the entertainment of the American fleet, now steaming toward Rio Janeiro from that stopping place, Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Word has been received that the armada left Port of Spain at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and is traveling the 2,900 knots between that port and this at a ten-knot rate. The United States collier Caesar arrived yesterday afternoon at the American fleet, and the minister of marine has ordered the hospital ship Carl Frederick to report to Admiral Evans for service as soon as the American war vessels enter port.

Fleet Is Cheered In Trinidad Port On Its Departure

Followed by the eyes of thousands of wives, the American battleship fleet, under command of Admiral Evans, weighed anchor at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon and steamed from Port of Spain, the harbor of Trinidad, for Rio de Janeiro. The start was similar in every instance to that at Hampton Roads, and taking advantage of every possible means, the population watched the vessels with straining eyes until they passed out of sight through the grand Boca.

The impression made upon the people by the greatest fleet of war vessels they had ever seen was added to by the starting maneuvers that brought every vessel to her place in the four columns, with the Connecticut leading, and the supply ship Cutcoo, and the refrigerating ship Glacier bringing up the rear.

According to advices received by the Navy Department, announcing the departure of the fleet, long before the hour set for sailing a myriad of small craft, launches and steam yachts moved up and down along the long line of anchored vessels, the merry parties aboard shouting farewell to the departing visitors. Thousands of residents lined the shore, and many thousands more went to the small islands in the gulf to catch the last glimpse of the ships as they sailed through the grand Boca.

Navy Department officials are elated at the visit at Trinidad and the exemplary behavior of the American seaman. The people and newspapers are free in their praise, and there were entire entertainments on top of entertainments, on shore and then aboard ship, and the visitors continued to stream on the vessels of the fleet until the very last minute before sailing, and there were many expressions of astonishment at so great a display of recreation.

It was intended to start at 8 o'clock Sunday morning, but the hour was delayed to wait for the Maine, which had not finished coaling.

COAST TO COAST AFOOT, IS GOTHAM GIRL'S FEAT

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 29.—With only \$200 in pocket and a revolver to protect her, Miss Ollie Granston, a graceful young woman of twenty-two years, has walked all the way from New York to Seattle and is preparing to continue her journey to San Francisco, thence to New Orleans and back to New York. Only the fact that it is impossible to walk upon the waves, she asserts, prevents her from attempting to cross the Pacific to the Philippines. She believes, however, when she returns to her home in New York she will have traveled farther afoot than any other young woman in America.

Miss Granston says she was formerly employed as a bookkeeper in a wholesale house in New York and had, through lack of exercise and a limited amount of fresh air, lost the bloom from her cheeks. She was the sole support of a widowed mother and could not visit abroad as she wished, but unexpectedly a relative died and left her family a considerable fortune. She then quit her job and sought means to recuperate.

She had read of men and women in the early days in Europe walking through Italy, Germany, France, and Belgium as a means of recreation, and she thought she would try it and see how it worked in America. About six weeks ago she left New York, put her face toward the West and never once looked back. In some sections of the country where the roads were good she had a horse and buggy, but in mud and slush impeded her progress she decided to "count ties."

GURZON A CANDIDATE FOR HOUSE OF LORDS

LONDON, Dec. 29.—Lord Curzon of Kedleston, chancellor of Oxford University, has agreed to become a candidate for a vacancy among the representative Irish peers in the house of lords, caused by the death of Lord Kilmaree.

Lord Curzon said that he had intended re-entering the house of commons, but his health prevented. Lord Curzon, whose late wife was Mrs. Levi Z. Leiter, the daughter of Mrs. Levi Z. Leiter, of Chicago and Washington, intimates that he wanted to be created an English peer when he resigned as viceroy of India, but the premier refused.

PIN CUT FROM WOMAN IN HER BODY 23 YEARS

BRYAN, Ohio, Dec. 29.—Swallowing a hairpin when she was eighteen years of age, and having it taken from her side twenty-three years later was the peculiar experience of Mrs. John Shook, living near here. The hairpin gave her little trouble until last year, when she had an almost constant pain in her right side.

An X-ray examination disclosed the pin, which almost had been forgotten by the woman. It was found an inch beneath the skin just above the hip, and was easily removed by a doctor.

Gem Used For Columbus In 492 Sold at Auction

Queen Isabella's Diamond Goes to Pay Debt of Mrs. Taber, Widow of Former Colorado Millionaire, Now Living in Cabin.

DENVER, Col., Dec. 29.—The recent sale at auction of the famous Isabella diamond, alleged to be one of the original gems pawned by the Queen of Spain to pay for the voyage of Columbus which resulted in the discovery of America, has brought to light some interesting details of the history of this and other gems. It was sold in this city to satisfy a note given by Elizabeth Taber, widow of Senator H. A. W. Taber, who was one of the most picturesque characters of the West.

The jewel, valued at \$25,000, was one of a collection that has figured in Western courts more than any single lot in existence. The entire assortment, estimated to be worth possibly \$50,000, was sold to John Mason, of this city, the only bidder, for \$8,750.

Mrs. Taber was the second wife of a man whose career reads like a page from some romance. Once a prospector for gold, he discovered the Matchless mine, near Leadville, which made him many millions. He built fine business blocks in Denver, including the Taber block, the Taber Grand Opera House block, and other fine buildings. He was an idol of the people. He was elected to the United States Senate and took a prominent place in the affairs of the West.

From Idanson to Cabin. Then reverses came. He lost his fortune. His wife died and he married again, and then, when he reached the depths, he passed away. His second wife, with the estate all gone, the jewels pawned and sold and nothing left of the former splendor, now lives with her only daughter in a log cabin near Leadville, close to the famous mine which made the Senator's wealth.

The collection of jewels, which has passed out of the hands of the Taber estate, was part of the gifts made by the Senator to his second wife. The Isabella diamond, the most valuable in the collection. It was brought to Denver from New York with official papers which authenticated its history, and was transferred to the Taber collection through a local jewelry house.

That was twenty years ago. Since then it has been the subject of almost constant litigation. Among the jewelry in the collection was a belt, valued at \$5,000, which was the only one of the kind in the world. It was made in almost perfect imitation of a big snake and was of 18-karat gold.

The collection was pawned with the First National Bank of this city, through Herman Powell, to secure a note for \$25,000 owing Powell by the Taber estate. It was sold by Powell to satisfy the note and in that way got into the vaults of the bank. Efforts were made to sell the gems privately through a commission appointed for that purpose. This resulted in suits being brought in court to have them sold at auction.

Driven to Penury. The Taber estate at that time was considerably in debt and the widow was making up the deficit of the reverses which finally completely engulfed her. The popularity of the late Senator caused steps to be taken by his friends three years ago to settle the claims. Mrs. Taber was enabled to retain the jewels. One year ago she was in want and she pawned them with the Continental Trust Company to secure a loan of \$8,550. This loan she was unable to take up, and the present sale followed.

A pitiful climax to the tragedies of the Taber family was presented when the sale was over. An elderly gray-haired woman, who declined to give her name or reveal the other details, said that she was a close personal friend of Mrs. Taber was present to watch the disposal of the gems. The conclusion of the sale she mentioned the purchase to one side and with a quivering voice asked him not to sell the smallest gem in the collection for a while. It was Mrs. Taber's engagement ring, which had gone with the others, and she wanted an opportunity to save it, if possible.

Mason, who bought the collection, will give part of the jewels to his wife and the balance to other relatives. The Isabella diamond, the most valuable in the collection, shows the effect of age, and to restore its brilliancy it will have to be recut. The danger of injuring the gem through that process has detracted from its speculative value.

ST. GAUDEN'S COIN SOUGHT; HIGH PREMIUMS ARE PAID

The Treasury Department is swamped with demands for the new \$20 gold piece of the design in which it was first minted. Coin collectors of all sorts are in quest of the piece, and a premium is being paid for it. It is unusual for a new coin to be in such demand as to be worth more than its face value, but already as much as \$35 has been paid in New York for one of these double eagles. A premium of \$5 upon it is common.

The particular coin in demand is the piece as it was designed by St. Gaudens, but which had been minted but a short time when it was found to be impracticable and unsatisfactory. The rim was found to be raised so high that the coins would suffer easily from abrasion.

LADY WILKINSON TO TOUR AMERICA

LONDON, Dec. 29.—In order that she may own and edit a newspaper of her own, the Countess of Warwick has announced that she would make a lecture tour of America next year. "The proceeds of this tour, as well as the earnings from the sale of my memoirs, which I am now writing," said the countess, "will be devoted to realizing my life's ambition to become the untrammelled proprietor of a daily journal."

PLANTS NEAR BUFFALO RESUMING FULL FORCES

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 29.—It is believed the first week in January will see the large industrial plants of Buffalo and vicinity resume operations with their full working force. The Snow Steam Pump Works is now within 200 men of its full working force, and it is expected, these men will be added to the other plants in the near future. The managers of the Lackawanna Steel Plant have been holding daily conferences this week and expect to place another portion of the plant in commission early in January. Since forces were reduced three months ago this extensive plant, which under normal conditions, gives employment to 10,000 workmen, has been thoroughly repaired.

MAN SPANKS HIS WIFE.

SEAFORD, Del., Dec. 29.—Spanking his wife because she talked back to neighbor, J. W. Knowles, of this town, was held under \$1,000 bail for court. Knowles objected to his wife quarrelling, and she told in Magistrate Park's court last evening that she spanked her so hard that it brought back memories of her childhood.

CRATER IN DESERT MYSIFIES SCIENCE

Hole Is 600 Feet Deep and Nearly a Mile Wide.

Extinct Volcano or Result of Mammoth Meteor's Striking?

A huge crater-form depression in the desert near Canyon Diablo, Ariz., has attracted widespread attention among scientists, and Prof. George P. Merrill, of the National Museum, believes it to be akin to an eighth wonder of the world. While there are many who aver that the crater-form depression is an extinct volcano, there is an equal number who hold tenaciously to the theory that it was made by a mammoth meteor which struck the earth centuries ago.

Six Hundred Feet Deep. Dr. Merrill was permitted to study the crater-form with particular reference to its geologic origin by a grant from the Smithsonian Institution, and recently returned to Washington to write a paper on its wonders. It is nearly three-quarters of a mile across and about 600 feet deep.

Since it was brought to the notice of men of science this great hole has caused much discussion. Prof. Merrill is inclined toward the meteor theory. In speaking of his conclusion, Prof. Merrill says: "The crater could not have been formed by any volcanic action, for all the phenomena have a superficial nature. Some 200 feet of overlying limestones and 500 feet of sandstones have been thoroughly shattered as though by some powerful blow, and the quartz particles in the sandstone in part fused, indicating a very high degree of heat. Underlying sandstone is entirely unchanged. This, of course, absolutely precludes the formation of a crater by any deep-seated agency, and I have been forced to consider an origin by impact of a stellar body.

Without Comparison. "An exhaustive study of known meteoric falls shows that there is no record of any fall comparable with this. The largest known meteorites, such as that brought by Commander Peary from Cape York, Greenland, or the enormous irons from Oregon, having fallen with so little force as to scarcely bury themselves. The nearest approach to the Canyon Diablo occurrence happened at Knysna, Hungary, in 1866, when a 600-pound stone penetrated the ground to a depth of eleven feet.

"No meteoric mass of sufficient size to have made this enormous crater has been brought to light, but there still remains the probability of its having become entirely dissipated through the heat developed by its impact while traveling at a speed of many miles a second."

In his report on the investigation, now in press, Prof. Merrill goes very thoroughly into details. He has secured many specimens of the meteoric irons and their associations from the locality, which are now on exhibition in the National Museum.

LABOR LEADERS CALL ON MAGOON

HAVANA, Dec. 29.—Representatives of twenty-three labor unions waited on Governor General Magoon today to warn him that the striking masons' demands must be complied with or there will be a general sympathetic walk-out, tying up nearly every industry in Havana.

The labor representatives say they do not wish to proceed to extremities without giving the governor an opportunity to use his influence toward arbitration of the differences between the masons and their employers. The governor general promised to do his utmost in the interest of peace, and, in his turn, gave warning that violence no further would be rigorously suppressed, and that labor leaders will serve their cause by exerting themselves to the utmost to prevent repetitions of the disorders which have occurred intermittently since the industrial struggle began.

The employers have already repeatedly announced that they will negotiate no further with the masons, and enough masons are at work to supply present needs and to insure the gradual dying out of the strike. The support the masons are pledged from the other unions makes the former's position, however, very strong.

The most important of the masons' demands is for an eight-hour day without a decrease in wages.

SAVIOUR'S PICTURE AS CURE FOR INSANE

MASSILLON, Ohio, Dec. 29.—The physicians at the State Hospital for the insane have tried the experiment of exhibiting to the patients a big painting of Christ illumined by electric lights. It is believed that by thus concentrating the attention of the insane upon this picture a beneficial therapeutic effect will be produced and may result in their recovery.

The experiment was made today at the religious services. A big picture entitled, "Christ Knocking at the Door," a copy of Hofmann's masterpiece, was placed in the chapel with a battery of electric lights ready to be concentrated upon it. After some religious music of an impressive character the lights were suddenly turned on to the painting. The insane were evidently impressed. They stared at the picture long. The lights were then turned out and after more music the process was repeated. The physicians at the hospital were well satisfied with the experiment.