

The Washington Times

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING (INCLUDING SUNDAYS)
 BY THE WASHINGTON TIMES COMPANY,
 THE MUNSEY BUILDING, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.
 Frank A. Munsey, Pres. R. H. Titherington, Sec.
 Fred A. Walker, Treasurer and General Manager.
 ONE YEAR (INC. SUNDAYS) \$1.50 | 6 MO. \$1.15 | 3 MO. 70c
 Entered at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., as second class
 mail matter.

Washington, D. C., Thursday, March 27, 1913.

THE NATIONALS AT HOME.

This be the day and these the people. The Nationals of 1913 are on home soil. The heroes of a hundred battles yet to come are with us once again. Commander Griffith promises the best endeavors of his team. The public assures earnest and active support. It is a combination of conditions which should mean the greatest baseball season Washington has ever known.

SECRETARIES OF THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

Quietly, almost secretly, the ladies of the White House are interesting themselves in the problems of the poor of Washington. They have already visited some of the homes of the suffering and the unfortunate. They have announced their willingness and intention to share the responsibilities of organizations whose missions are uplifting and helpful, and their work is to be of the practical kind. This plan and these intentions ought to mean a good deal to Washington. The family "Cabinet meetings" ought to be productive of results, for the President will get a viewpoint of affairs and conditions untainted by personal interest or political advantage. To the secretaries of this home department The Times gives especial welcome and offers all its encouragement. May their work bring early and bountiful results.

INCOME TAX SOURCES.

Democrats in Congress are expressing surprise that a straight income tax levy, instead of a graduated tax, on incomes above \$5,000 will not produce the one hundred to one hundred and fifty millions of revenue that may be necessary to help out the tariff bill. But any Representative who is surprised to learn that there are not legions of men with big incomes can be surprised in that way only because he never stopped to think about the subject.

There appears to have been a popular notion that there were thousands of American citizens with incomes around and above a million dollars a year, and perhaps tens of thousands with incomes around or above a hundred thousand a year.

But the mathematical truth is, as the statisticians of the Treasury Department are showing, that if a very considerable part of the incomes of all the very rich men were taken away from them there wouldn't be anything like the yield that there could be from a small tax on incomes modest in each individual case, but aggregating in the grand total a huge volume of money flowing into hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of prosperous pockets.

There may be in the United States—indeed, some tax statisticians estimate that there are—a couple of hundred thousand individuals with incomes between \$5,000 and \$7,500, but if there are from two to three hundred thousand individuals with incomes ranging between \$5,000 and \$7,500 a year, how many more hundreds of thousands of individuals must there be with incomes ranging, say, from \$1,000 or \$2,000 or \$3,000 to \$5,000.

PANAMA TOLLS REASON.

Some of those who have been most bitter in their opposition to the exemption of American coastwise vessels from Panama Canal tolls are beginning to talk much better political sense than they were talking. They are dropping their arbitration demands and urging repeal legislation. This may get them somewhere on the road of their desires. If it were a legal possibility to nullify an act of Congress, right or wrong, by a decision of a court of arbitration or of a joint commission, it still would be political folly to attempt or to propose such a thing.

Probably there are tens of thousands of American citizens who do not approve the toll exemption yet who could never be led to agree with a theory that there could be nullification of the enacted laws of the United States by any outside influence or authority whatsoever. They don't think, some of them, that it was fair play for Congress to smuggle that provision into the canal law. Others, passing over the question of whether Congress was right or wrong to do this, feel—and undoubtedly this is true—that our coastwise vessels were in no need of exemption so far as competition with foreign carriers is concerned, for the reason that coastwise vessels are already protected by a discriminating differential that is prohibitive of foreign competition.

Still others, probably the greatest number of all, feel—and probably this also is true—that if tolls are remitted for our coastwise vessels they will neither maintain an industry already capable of maintaining itself by the existing discrimination nor give the benefit of the remitted tolls to American consumers. They will simply be stuck into the pockets of some shipping trust or some shipping companies acting in some sort of concert.

Apparently the majority of the people of the United States are not in favor of continuing the toll provision until actual traffic through the canal shall put the exemption clause into operation. Perhaps a very small minority of the people of the United States are in favor of that exemption.

But a still smaller minority is in favor of rescinding that exemption provision by any other method than an amendatory act of Congress. As only it and nobody else had the legal right to do, Congress made the law. As only it and nobody else has the right to do, Congress can amend or rescind the law.

This, very likely, American sentiment might over-

whelmingly approve. But it will never tolerate the suggestion that Congress cannot pass any law it wishes without the sanction of outside influence or power. It will never listen to the proposal that though the President of the United States shall have a veto power over the acts of Congress, subject to constitutional restrictions, some outside influence or authority shall have a veto power over both Congress and the President of the United States, subject to no constitutional limitations whatsoever.

THE PIPER'S BILL IN WAR.

With all the noise and spectacle of battle Adrianople has fallen and the bayonets of the Bulgars are triumphant. But what boots all the loss of life entailed in this last assault, to either Turks or allies? The Bulgarians have gained, with the capture of the town, a moral victory. But wars are not fought for that purpose. So far as strategical position is concerned, the time has passed when the actual possession of Adrianople could be of moment. Having it, the allies are no more likely to be able to coerce Europe into assent to their terms for peace than without it. Its loss to Turkey was assured, anyway; the case is one in which the pen of the Powers is every whit as potent as the allies' sword.

No doubt, Europe will now find the course of mediation a little more difficult. The allies are certain to press their points more vigorously, and, once face to face with the necessity of giving up the hope of obtaining Scutari, insist the more on the payment of an indemnity. But the cause of peace will have been given a serious blow if they are allowed one.

Indemnity to the victorious Power is a vicious system. Russian diplomacy served civilization well when it won against the Japanese demand for indemnity after Mukden. The Powers will now strengthen the precedent there established, if they refuse a cash payment to the allies, and especially if in doing so they frown upon the whole idea of money indemnities for war.

In an age which has gone military-mad despite that, better than any former age, it ought to realize the crime of militarism, the rule should be laid down that war shall no longer be a species of piracy, a privateering enterprise with plunder as its goal, an adventure and a speculation. Germany's huge indemnity from France was a demoralizing suggestion of the possibility of making the other fellow pay for our glory. The possibility of exacting a huge cash payment, at the close of a successful war, not only makes it easier for the military party in any country to secure a hearing for its demands, but tends to enlist the whole tax-ridden country in support of a war program which is imagined to contain the promise of victory and the exaction from a fallen foe of the money to recoup for sacrifices that were necessary in order to pay the cost of the conflict. Militarism invested with the possibilities of a successful business enterprise is militarism in its most dangerous form.

Not one of the great Powers now maintaining immense armies and competing to the extent of their resources in the expansion of navies can afford the sacrifices which this struggle imposes. Given the army and the navy and the possibility of using them to place a neighboring state under tribute, there is always the danger of national necessities backing up the demand for war. That is why indemnities ought not to be permitted. International law and custom should forbid them.

In the case of the Balkan allies, they probably have no serious expectation of getting an indemnity. They know Turkey could not pay it. To exact it would complete the bankruptcy of the nation. European investors owning Turkish stocks will be very sure to see that the Powers veto indemnity. The Balkans, more likely, are pressing their money-demand as a bluff; they will try to trade it off against the other demand, that they shall assume a proper proportion of the old Turkish debt in consideration of the Turkish territories they get.

THE CRIMINAL PUBLIC.

Following the Triangle factory fire, that cost 147 lives two years this month in New York city, there was much activity in that city to prevent repetition of such a horror.

An investigation just made of 3,000 factories in that city shows conditions just as bad as prior to the Triangle fire; the same conditions which made the loss of life at that time prevail.

Here are the same doors opening inward or with egress obstructed; emergency exits blocked; unsafe fire-escapes, and an overcrowding far above the emergency capacity.

Here are the unsafe stairways that increase the threat to all compelled to use them.

It proves once more how fatally short is the memory of a disaster such as wiped out 147 in one great firetrap, and what recklessness the landlord and employer takes in the heavy risk of manslaughter.

The menace is all the more cruel since in thousands of cases a minimum in wages and a minimum of safety are combined in a close knit barrier.

Continuance of these fire hazard conditions cannot remain to such extent in any community intent on giving the rights of humans the same regard as property rights.

Yet the public which is daily imperiled by these conditions goes on its indolent way, and will go on its criminally indolent way until an awful toll of death is counted.

Then it will rise up and curse employers, landlords, and public officials for doing just what the public gave them license and permission to do.

Every evil which the people endure, be it petty or be it grave, is that which they themselves invite and tolerate. No set of officials, no group of landlords, no aggregation of employers could withstand the pressure brought by a public which really demanded reform.

In this Government of ours we get just what we deserve, and we deserve just what we get.

THIS & THAT

With Sometimes a Little of the Other

IN ANTICIPATION OF HOT WEATHER.

The intention of these lines of feeble, puny verse is to kick about the weather summer brings; For the summer, like some more things in the universe, is responsible for quite a lot of things.

There's the gentleman who tells you not to drink of it When an ice-containing beverage is brought. And the one who sagely utters: "Not to think of it Is the only way to keep from being hot."

And as though these folk did not accomplish harm enough, There are others well equipped to get your goat: There's the idiot who asks you if it's warm enough And the man who wears a black alpaca coat.

But were these the summer's limits I'd say naught to it— To this Season of the Solitary Sheet—

For the principal objection that I've got to it Is the way the butter suffers from the heat.

As to "fashionable church"—somebody has raised the question—of course there's such a thing. And the people who attend it are the same who constitute the "brilliant audience" at a theatrical premiere.

Why Shouldn't They, Indeed?

G. S. K.—I, too, have a barber-shop complaint. It's this: By what terms can one convey one's wishes to a barber in the matter of a haircut? If I say "close" or "short," or an equivalent thereof, one man leaves it longer than ever and another is likely to shave my head. Why shouldn't the barber shops be standardized, like automobile parts and magazine poetry? C. C. L.

The suff-poll tax of March 3 had us won over completely to The Caws, but in a careless moment we read of the suffic activities planned for the seventh of April, and are now as squarely on the hedge as ever.

How Much Off the Bill?

G. S. K.—Don't you think you'd better print my name and address, in case some of your readers need a good dentist? YOUR DENTIST.

We shall be there with a whoop on the 10th of April, but the Cubistic baseball of the average exhibition game doesn't tempt us to the zeroth degree.

THE ULTIMATE.

I'm a pie-eyed reader of things in print: From top to bottom, before and after, I'll lamp each paragraph minus stint From politics to the latest grafter.

But while I'm soft in the hit and miss, I'm no blamed whale unto every Jonah: Each bloke has his limit, and mine is this.

AN INTERVIEW WITH A BASE-BALL OWNERSHIP.—GRANTLAND RICE, in The Times.

I, too, am a bug on the printed dope: I wade through the dullest contribution.

The recent news from Adrianople, and also of the U.-P. dissolution, I seep through many a tiresome bit, And many a piece that's dull and dreary;

But I have my limit and this is it: AN INTERVIEW WITH ONE A. CARNEGIE.

Note: Those calling it Carnegie can't possibly make the verse come out. Therefore pronounce it correctly.

PHAN-TOMS.

C. H. G.: "I am the fan who buys two score-cards on double-header days." "CURTIS: "I am the fan who has to cut his pennel in two for your correspondent of yesterday."

Hardly Ever.

G. S. K.: Did you ever hear a news-boy call it "Wuxtree?" as in the short stories and jokes? N.

What Did We Tell You Before? (This time from the Atlanta "Journal.") WANTED—Bright boys with wheels, about 15 years old. Apply M. Rich & Bros. Co., shipping department.

We might, of course, start running a Cubist column, which would have the same relation to a real column as has Cubistry to real art. But how do we know we're not? G. S. K.

IT CAN'T BE DONE!

By VIC



Marriage Customs in Many Countries

By Madison C. Peters

JAPAN.
 UNDER the influence of Western civilization the manners and customs of the Japanese in the large cities and among the middle classes are changing considerably, but those of the lower classes are not as yet affected to any extent.
 Women must obey men, and the younger members of the family are subject to the older, the rule of precedence being enforced and obeyed even in small matters. In Japan marriage signifies adoption, and a wife ranks only as an adopted child in her husband's family. The Japanese mother-in-law is an awful tyrant. But it is always the wife's mother-in-law.
 If the parents of the bridegroom are dead the ceremony takes place before their mortuary tablets. The right of marriage is free only to the head of the family. He can do as he pleases. All others must ask the parents' consent or that of the family council. Men under thirty and women under twenty-five cannot marry without the consent of the head of the family.
 The main feature of the wedding ceremony is the san-san-ku-do (three-three-three times). Both the bride and bridegroom drink rice wine three times out of each of three cups of different sizes.
 The marriageable age is seventeen full years for men and fifteen full years for women. The marriage is purely a social function, and takes effect when notice of the fact is given to a registrar by both parties with two witnesses. And here is where many Japanese Christians sometimes make a serious mistake, as without registration a marriage is not legal. The ceremony by a minister of the Gospel has no connection whatsoever with the law. A husband and wife are mutually bound to support each other.
 Divorce is effected either by arrangement in a similar way to marriage or by judicial divorce. But no divorce can be effected by persons under thirty years of age without consent of the person or persons by whose consent the marriage was effected.
 A missionary tells of a convert who wanted the Christian marriage ceremony modified.
 "Teacher," said he, "kindly condescend to deign that I be not compelled to stand side by side with a woman before spectators."
 He informed that he must stand beside his wife there and forever after, he pleaded:
 "Then at least deign to let it be so that I shall not have to touch her hand."
 He was informed that a Christian ceremony must be a Christian ceremony. And at the fateful words "Join your right hands," this martyred bridegroom actually clinched his teeth and shut his eyes fast and stuck out his hand as though to the stroke of an ax.

Why Is a \$10,000 Lap Dog?

By Clarence L. Cullen.

A WASHINGTON woman of the so-called social-elite is having the world dragged for a mate for her \$10,000 lap dog.
 The \$10,000 is not an imaginative figure. It is the value in dollars placed upon the present incumbent by experts at such appraisal. If a mate for her lap dog be found the Washington woman will pay \$10,000 spot cash for it. The mate must not weigh more than three pounds—\$2,500 per pound.
 A newspaper picture has been printed of the lap dog for which a companion is so desired; that the globe is to be scoured for it.
 The animal does not resemble a dog at all.
 It looks something between a dragon and a fussy when his mother took him down, and the green money at the Aquarium. It is an Italian dog, and it is proclaimed that its ancestry has been traced back to the era of the early Caesars. This probably accounts for the dog's lack of canine pulchritude.
 A regular dog—a dog that looks and acts like a dog; a dog worth, say, about \$25—still holds a well defined place in creation.
 Such a dog usually has acuteness, imagination, loyalty, social charm. Often this sort of a genuine doggy dog possesses all of these qualities in combination.
 If the time were ripe for the extinction of the dog of this type he would be defunct. For nature knows her business.
 But the time is not yet ripe. The average decently trained dog of indolent pedigree, or of no pedigree at all, makes good for his board and keep. If only through making us ashamed of our own follies by his sagacious and yet indulgent way of sizing us up out of the tail of his shrewd eye.
 But the intelligence of the lap dog never by any chance equals that of the starfish of real canine loyalty he has none. His affection is diluted and fraudulent.
 Then why is a lap dog? Not a \$10,000 lap dog particularly, but ANY kind of a lap dog.
 Ten thousand dollars is a considerable sum of money. There are some very pleasant places in California, Italy, Tripoli and so on where a human being can live very agreeably on the income of \$10,000. As a matter of fact, the income of \$10,000 at all times and a good deal smaller per cent supports tens of thousands of families.
 Many an innocent man is going to State's prison today who would not be going there if he had about one-tenth or even one-twentieth of \$10,000 wherewith to engage a trustworthy lawyer to get justice for him. Many a struggling business downed for all today or tomorrow could be shored up and saved permanently from failure with the aid of some of the \$10,000 that the Washington woman is going to pay for a mate for her lap dog. A bed in a hospital—for sick women, say—could be endowed for \$10,000.
 Why is a lap dog at \$10,000, or at any other price, when a real dog can be had for 50 cents or for nothing at all, and when the world is filled chock-a-block with struggling and suffering human beings?
 Not Long to Wait.
 LITTLE Max was so restless and fussy when his mother took him downtown that he caused her no end of bother. Finally the mother exclaimed impatiently: "Well, young man, it will be a cold day when I bring you downtown with me again."
 Looking up into her face with perfect innocence the youngster said: "tomorrow when the world is filled chock-a-block with struggling and suffering human beings?"
 "Pretty soon it will be winter, won't it?"
 "Yes, Youngster Telegram.

When Bad Luck Reaches Its Climax and Turns

By Sophie Irene Loeb

DO you believe in luck? If not, you must believe, at least that the unexpected sometimes happens.
 Mrs. Jennie Walsh, a widow, lived on a little farm near Bound Brook. While she was ill her landlord wrote her she would have to give up the farm on account of five months' unpaid rent. There seemed no possible way by which she could raise the money. And, lo! in the midst of her great despair a check came—seemingly out of the air itself.
 It seems that fifteen years before a man had borrowed a sum of money from her husband and was now returning it to the widow. The amount more than covered her encumbrances, and new hope was born. Yet they say the age of miracles is past!
 This is only ONE that has come to notice. But if such cases were often chronicled it would indeed be found that in every second of the day some UNEXPECTED thing happens to some one. And, contrary to the pessimist, most often it is a GOOD thing.
 Why? Because we anticipate the seeming triumphs. Verily, in the vernacular, "You never can tell."
 Thus the cackling of geese saved Rome. And who can possibly tell when a goose is going to cackle?—a neighbor.
 He Knew Better.
 IT was a bitter cold day, the snow was deep and the sidewalks frozen hard. A colored man, bundled up in a moth-eaten chinchilla coat, stood shivering against a building, trying to avoid the freezing blasts.
 Just then another darky, dressed in thin threadbare clothes, and with no overcoat, came out of a nearby barber shop and started up the street, whistling cheerily. Still whistling, he passed the colored man at the darky in the big chinchilla coat. The latter took one withering look at the passerby and yelled:
 "Say, nigger, you can whistle as loud as you please, but you can't make me believe in it."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

What's on the Program in Washington Today

The following Masonic organizations will meet tonight: Lodges—The New Jerusalem, No. 3, business and social; George C. Whiting, No. 22; Temple, No. 32; Royal Arch Chapter—Washington, No. 2, and M. E. Eastern Star—William F. Hunt Chapter, No. 16, grand visitation.
 The following I. O. O. F. lodges will meet tonight: Columbia, No. 15, degree work; Salem, No. 22, degree work; Excelsior, No. 17, business. Meeting of Harmony Lodge, No. 11, of P. tonight.
 The following Red Men's tribes will meet tonight: Logan, No. 8; Sioux, No. 15.
 The following National Union councils will meet tonight: Bancroft and Dahlgren.
 Amusements.
 National—Mrs. Fliske in "The High Road," 8:15 p. m.
 Columbia—The Love Leash, 7:15 and 8:15 p. m.
 Belasco—"The Typhoon," 8:15 p. m.
 Polli—Poli Players in "The College Widow," 7:15 and 8:15 p. m.
 Chase—Polite vaudeville, 7:15 and 8:15 p. m.
 Academy—"The White Slave," 7:15 and 8:15 p. m.
 Casino—Vaudeville.
 Casino—Vaudeville.
 Lyceum—"The Girls From Missouri," 8:15 and 9:15 p. m.
 Gateway—Broader burlesques, 7:15 and 8:15 p. m.
 Concert Tomorrow
 By the U. S. Soldiers' Home Band, Stanley Hall, 3:30 p. m.
 JOHN S. M. ZIMMERMANN, Director.
 March, "The Imp".....Alford Overture, "Masaniello".....Auber Sora, "The Lost Chord".....Sullivan (Request).
 Selection, "Pagliaccio".....Leoncavallo Novelty, "Chauchior Cakes."
 Excerpts from "The Bowers".....Alford Finale, "March Progressive."
 Am. Titus Worthington "The Star-Spangled Banner."