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SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1910.

WAR ON THE FLY.

By an announcement of the agricultural department, the government is to engage in war upon the housefly.

This leads to some curious reflections. The housefly and other pestiferous insects inflict injury on the American nation to an amount that would build a two-power navy of super-dreadnaughts.

While the heart of man naturally leaps at the thought of abolishing the fly, it is not best to be too sanguine. Long familiarity with the cheerful persistence of the familiar thing tends to perpetuate a dread that after the federal government has done its worst to him he will keep on tickling bald pates and getting into the soup without any provocation.

WRONGING THE INNOCENT.

In arguing against secret divorces, Justice Amend of the supreme court of New York, points out the possible peril to a co-respondent named in malice or mistake.

The argument confutes itself. It admits that the real harm is not in the naming of an innocent man as co-respondent, but in the subsequent revelation. Under the system of publicity an infinitely greater percentage of wrong is done to innocent men and women.

With the judge considered in the nature of a family doctor, the facts of marital unhappiness might well be trusted to his hands. If a judge be unworthy of this trust, he is unworthy of being a judge.

should be treated like individual flies. What would Justice Amend say to a proposal to make public the names of all persons suffering from incurable diseases? And yet these cases are far more of a menace to the public than marital troubles.

POSTAL SAVINGS MUDDLE.

Some curious features are developing in the postal savings bank bill, most of which are caused by the conflict of interests and prejudices over it.

There has been some discussion over the question whether depositors in the proposed institution shall be permitted to draw on their deposits on demand.

Washington Gossip

Three occupants of the white house I have known intimately—all Buckeyes, and all veterans of the civil war—remarked Gen. J. Kent Hamilton of Toledo, Ohio.

"All were great men. They are Hayes, Garfield, and McKinley. Garfield probably was the most brilliant man of the trio. He was a giant in debate. No man in congress was more ready with his tongue, no man had more facts and figures at his fingers ends, so to speak.

"McKinley's success, in my judgment, was due in a large measure to his tact and pleasant manner, his ability to make friends, his taking manner of speaking. He was not what I would call eloquent. McKinley never could make a person cry, he could not work on the feelings, but he had a most graceful way of talking, most pleasing gestures and posture.

The Cost of Living

By George H. Maxwell

No more intricate question than that of the increased cost of living has ever been before the American people for their consideration, except the tariff question, and there are many who now connect the two to high cost of living is due to the tariff, as others maintain that it is due to the increased production of gold.

According to Professor Laughlin "the increased rate of taxation, the protective duties, enormous expenditures for army and navy and the extravagance of municipalities are among the chief causes of high prices."

It may probably be safely assumed that if all protective duties on food products were removed, food would be cheaper, for a time at least, and there is little doubt that the agitation for cheap food in the cities will take the form of an agitation for free trade in food products.

thirty days if congress would lower the duty on beef and cattle. "This statement was made by John Barrett, director of the international bureau of the American republics, in an address before the ways and means committee of the Chicago association of commerce at luncheon in the La Salle hotel today.

"The American farmer who raises beef buys all his supplies from American factories where wages have gone up in many instances in the last ten years quite as much in proportion as the price of beef. The American farmer is the backbone of the market of the American factory. The cattle raisers of the South American pampas trade with Germany and Europe—not with the United States.

"President Taft is mighty popular in Louisiana," added Mr. Le Bourgeois. "That goes for the entire south, too. He has been a popular man all his life. When he was in college he was a favorite among the boys, and was looked up to as a student of superior mind and qualifications.

"I always have had the greatest admiration for Mr. Taft from the time I was with him in college until now, and although we differ in politics, I am glad to say that the people of the south think a whole lot of Taft, the president, because they believe that he is honestly striving to be a president of all the people."

"The late Senator Platt owed his phenomenal success as a politician to four things," said W. M. Carson of Albany, N. Y. "These were his absolute fidelity to his friends, his never-broken word, his marvelous knowledge of political conditions in every part of the state, and his wonderful ability to forecast coming political events.

"The advantage of nominating a man like Dr. Hill, it seems to me, lies in the fact that he has a clean record. He is not a politician, and no bricks are thrown at him on that score. He would be under no great campaign, and I believe would come nearer to beating Gaylor, should the Democrats nominate the latter, than any other man who so far has been mentioned as a possible Republican nominee."

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Broussard, may be induced to run for governor, to succeed Governor J. Y. Sanders," said Mr. Loisel. "One can not hear any other name but that of Broussard when the question of who will be the next governor of the state is broached, and we fear that Broussard may have to accept. I mean this, for if he should become gubernatorial candidate it would mean, of course, that he would have to give up his seat in the house, and that would be a misfortune to the whole state of Louisiana. The sugar planters and business men of Louisiana know how valuable a man Broussard has been as a representative in congress, and I don't know who could take his place. His services in the house have been more appreciated by our people than those of any congressman we have had for years, and I believe he is the biggest man in the state today. He can have almost any position within the gift of the people.

"My friend Loisel is right about Broussard," said Mr. Le Bourgeois. "It would be too bad if Bob Broussard should be nominated for governor, but if that could be a stepping stone to the senate it might be well enough to elect him governor for a term, and then send him to the senate when a vacancy occurs. Broussard is about the only man in the party I know of that could straighten out matters in the state.

"The suffragettes may argue that an attack on long hatpins is a disarmament movement against them. Lassoing and branding a la Cudahy are distinctly unique contributions to the unwritten law's instrumentalities.

From a higher source than the Republican congressional committee comes the word that the insurgents have not been cast out without a dollar or a dirge, but are on the ragged edge of probation until further orders.

Witness my hand and seal of office at Grand Forks, N. D., this 25th day of February, 1910.

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