

MR. TAFT SUGGESTED FOR SUPREME BENCH

His Fairness to South While He Was President Cited in His Favor.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Former President William H. Taft may be offered the vacancy upon the bench of the supreme court of the United States caused by the death of Associate Justice Lamar. When President Wilson starts to consider the vacancy it is said to be practically sure that the name of the former president will be frequently in his mind unless he receives information that Mr. Taft would not like to have his appointment taken into consideration. A movement has already started in the South to propose the name of Mr. Taft. Judge Benjamin H. Hill, of Georgia, learning that the Atlanta bar would urge his name upon the president, expressed his hope that President Wilson would name Mr. Taft to the vacancy, and pointed out that Mr. Taft, while president, had named two southern men to the supreme bench, Justices Lamar and Lurton, and had elevated another southern man, a Confederate veteran, Justice White, to the position of chief justice of the court.

It is expected that the suggestion will be urged from many sections of the South as a tribute for Mr. Taft and his fairness to the South while president.

Whatever may be the view of Mr. Taft now as to going upon the supreme bench, his intimate friends know that up to the time his name was put forward for the Republican presidential nomination in 1908 his lifelong ambition was to go upon the supreme bench. He frankly stated that to friends who urged him to permit his name to be offered for the presidential nomination.

Only recently the suggestion was made that Chief Justice White might soon retire under the law and that if he did so Mr. Taft would be urged upon the president as his successor.

Franklin P. Lane, secretary of the interior, has often been spoken of as a probability for the United States supreme court bench in the event of a vacancy there, this being based upon the president's admittedly high opinion of Mr. Lane as a lawyer and man.

Would Give Two to One State.

Mr. Lane, however, is from California and Associate Justice McKenna of the court is from that state. Mr. Lane's nomination would give two men from the same state, it is pointed out.

Mr. McKenna has been upon the bench longer than any other justice except Mr. White. He was named by President McKinley in 1898. He had been the first attorney general in the cabinet of President McKinley.

CHICAGO WOMEN TRAP FLIRTS ON TELEPHONE

"Listening Supervisors" Collect Evidence against Male Mashers.

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—Mrs. Carter H. Harrison's capture of the girl who was annoying her daughter, Edith, by telephone calls, has disclosed the developments of a new phase of telephone service. When any anonymous caller calls up now, he knows that he takes his reputation and his liberty in his hands. Traffic Superintendent H. N. Foster, of the Chicago Telephone Company, says the problem is a direct result of the fact there are so many pretty women in Chicago.

"I saw the problem arising some time ago," he said. "Women as an average are prettier now than ever before, and are more attractively dressed than ever before. There are more extremely pretty women in Chicago than ever.

Beauty Lures the Flirts.

"This fact seems to provide the incentive for many calls of annoyance. A flirt, a weak minded man or an irresponsible youth, will see a pretty woman and learn her telephone number. For a while that meant he had work to do. But such men are learning now that it is dangerous to call up and annoy women."

The first impulse of the annoyed woman is to hang up the receiver, then notify the company several minutes later. This is the only situation which Mr. Foster's trained assistants cannot beat.

Traps Set by Women.

If she jiggles the receiver hook rapidly, she will bring in on the wire the operator which obtained her for the annoyance. If she says "I have just

been annoyed by an unknown man calling this number; from where did he call me up?" the operator in practically every instance, can tell her.

If she follows this by asking that the exchange manager trace the call, in many instances the manager will obtain an accurate description of the one making the call.

On second annoyance, many women are learning to engage the annoyance in conversation while one else goes to the nearest neighbor's phone, relates the circumstances to the exchange manager and waits for the latter person to trail the call back on her wife. Police may be notified and the annoyance arrested.

Sluths Expose a Romance.

There have been a number of cases, says Mr. Foster, where courageous women, after learning the identity of the annoyance, have notified police and the telephone company, put a "listening supervisor," that is, a shorthand stenographer, on the wire, who prepared a quantity of evidence and then held it as a club over the annoyance to prevent his ever attempting further annoyance.

A certain banker complained of poor service; every day he got from two to eight calls from persons who said it was the wrong number. A company tracker went to his office. A listening supervisor sat in. An exchange tracer watched the number. The first day's results showed this: The banker had a beautiful stenographer; she had a devoted sweetheart who called up half a dozen times a day to urge her to set the day for the wedding. When the banker answered the telephone he would say, "Wrong number" and hang up.

CANCER CURE IS DISCOVERED

Malady Yields to Selenium, Asserts a Physician of New York City.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Continued success in the use of selenium in the treatment of cancer has been announced by Dr. Charles H. Walker, 327 West Eighty-sixth street. Several of the cases treated by Dr. Walker diagnosed as hopeless by prominent cancer surgeons of the city, who recently wrote to Dr. Walker commending his work after they had examined the patients following the selenium treatment.

One case was of cancer of the throat in an advanced stage. The patient could not open his jaws, he suffered excruciating pains. He had been told that an operation would necessitate cutting away half his neck and face, but Dr. Walker said that in the last five weeks his condition had improved wonderfully, the pains had ceased and the swelling had been reduced and the man was able to swallow again. Dr. Walker told of a half a dozen similar cases which had improved under his new method of treatment.

Faith in Early Treatment.

"There is absolutely no doubt," said Dr. Walker, "that the treatment affords permanent relief, and if the cases are taken in time I feel confident that a cure can be effected by this treatment."

The reported success of the selenium treatment administered by Dr. Walker has attracted patients from distant cities in the East. The patients spend a short time here and by later communication Dr. Walker continues the treatment at home under the care of another physician. Dr. Walker does not openly assert that his method is an absolute cure, but he believes that he has proved its efficiency in the early stages of cancer and its power to relieve the more malignant cases of the disease.

Among the patients treated by Dr. Walker recently was a woman 70 years old, who suffered a cancer of the right breast. An eminent surgeon insisted upon an operation. She underwent the selenium treatment instead and within two months, said Dr. Walker, the growth had diminished the pain ceased and the general condition of the patient showed evident improvement.

Another patient, a man who formerly

FORD WILL NOT PAY FOR FANCY DRESSES

Women Members of Peace Party Given a Jolt by Ford's Agent.

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 8.—Henry Ford will not pay for new gowns for certain of the women peace delegates who desire to make a brilliant showing at next week's conference at The Hague.

Gaston Plaintiff, New York auto manager for Ford and now in charge of the enterprise to "bring the boys out of the trenches" so informed several women who put the question of gowns they brought along on the Oscar II, or stay in their hotels.

Plaintiff put his foot down on another suggestion. Several delegates wanted to stay in Europe for a while longer and wanted to know if Ford would pay their way home any time they wanted to go. Plaintiff declared that the delegates who fall to sail with the main party on the liner Rotterdam on January 12 will pay their own fares home.

It was learned that Mme. Schwimmer, Hungarian peace advocate, was largely instrumental in obtaining permission for the party to cross Germany en route to The Hague. The newspapers agree that this fact has wrecked the last possibility that the Allies might look with favor on the peace expedition.

Stockholm is generally favored as the seat for the permanent peace tribunal Ford plans to establish. It is understood that Miss Jane Addams will be one of the members.

Wine tasters, employed in their professional duties, never swallow the wine they taste. They merely hold a sip of the beverage in the mouth for a few moments and breathe through the nostrils.

WOULD WHIP PATRONS OF DANCE HALLS

Policewoman Says She Was Appointed to Chaperone Thousands of Girls.

PATERSON, N. J., Jan. 8.—Declaring that she would like to use a horse-whip on some of the men who frequent the dance halls, Mrs. Grace Headlin, the newly appointed policewoman here, made some very vehement statements concerning certain men and their purposes in attending these dances. This phase of a troublesome question is not new to social workers, and Paterson has no monopoly of the type about which Mrs. Headlin speaks so forcibly. Indeed, they are numerous in every city.

"I was appointed," said Mrs. Headlin, "to be the chaperone for some 15,000 or more girls employed in the silk mills, sixty-five per cent of whom do not live at home, nor have they near friends or relatives to see that they are not led into company which may mean injury, if not ruin. They are employed at very monotonous work for ten hours each day. Paterson has not yet adopted the eight hour system, though the workers have asked for it many times. Though they handle beautiful goods and weave cloth which taxes the ingenuity of artists to produce, nevertheless, it is monotonous. And what makes it even worse these girls come in numerous instances, from races somewhat excitable, or with what may be termed volatile temperaments. The music of the dance and the rhythm of movement are what they want to supply diversion after their ten hours of toil."

"Heretofore the dance halls have been run in the same buildings and sometimes in the same rooms as saloons. Between the dances, beer, whiskey and other drinks flowed freely. The girls, some of them no more than 16 years old, and none more than 25, were given all they would drink. The mixture was bad for them. In truth, a large number became drunk, sometimes so they had to be carried home. If they had always been taken home the results would not have been so serious. It is my purpose to stop all this and I am frank to say that in a great degree I have already done so."

"The pressure brought to bear upon the board of aldermen induced them to pass an ordinance separating the dance halls and the saloons. They are now obliged to supply plenty of ice water, and instead of the girls wanting to drink beer and strong liquors, as was said by the objectors, they stay in the halls and drink water. What is better, the young men stay and drink ice water, too. The influence upon both of them is good. No one can deny that. And this, perhaps, is the real interest in my story, the actual benefit which these young people derive from the conditions existing now as compared with those which existed before."

"The economic value of this situation cannot be overestimated. They must leave the halls at 11:30 o'clock in the evening. They go to their homes and rise in the morning clear headed and ready for their work. They suffer fewer accidents. They do better and more work. The mill owner benefits immeasurably from the change, while the fact that less money is expended for drink leaves more for useful articles and makes it a matter of moment to the store keepers of the city."

TWO "WIVES" CLAIM VILLA

More Troubles Are Heaped upon Former Revolution Leader in Mexico.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 8.—With two women claiming the title of the one and only legal wife of Francisco Villa, Mexican general who has abandoned his war on Carranza, nationwide interest is centered on whether the rebel general will seek refuge in Havana, Cuba, with Mrs. Luz Villa or come to Los Angeles to join Mrs. Juanita Torres Villa.

Mrs. Juanita Villa, in this city, vehemently denies the claims of the other woman to be the legal wife of Villa. Mrs. Luz Villa as vehemently asserts that she is the only legally married wife of the general. Apparently by strange coincidence the United States government has recognized each woman as the legal wife of Villa. Both were passed across the border by federal authorities on the strength of papers showing that they had been legally married in a civil marriage.

Mrs. Luz Villa showed papers proving a church marriage in addition to the civil rites. In her home at 1108 Grand View avenue, in this city, Mrs. Juanita Villa, through Colonel Farias, her host and a friend of General Villa, declared that if General Villa goes to Havana it will be merely an elopement, to return to the charms of a former affinity which existed, she claims, between Villa and Mrs. Luz Villa before her marriage to the general. That he will leave Mrs. Luz Villa in Havana and eventually join Mrs. Juanita Villa here, even if he does desert the other wife to Cuba first, is the latter's definite opinion.

According to dispatches, Mrs. Luz Villa produced her papers when she crossed the border, while Mrs. Juanita Villa was identified as the general's wife by George C. Carrothers, agent of the American state department, who was on the train with her. With her baby in arms, Mrs. Juanita Villa denied this report.

He had an "affair," "I showed papers myself," she stated.

EUROPE'S RUINS AMERICA'S GAIN, THINKS BALLIN

Says Yellow Race, Too, Will Profit by "World's Most Idiotic War."

BERLIN, Jan. 8.—Albert Ballin, director general of the Hamburg-American line and now at the special request of the kaiser, in charge of the German railway system, contributed to the Berlin and Hamburg papers an article in which he says:

"Christmas, 1915, found the peoples of Europe still embroiled in the most cruel and most idiotic war the world has ever seen. They are immersed in a hopeless struggle, in the sorrowful work of converting this beautiful old hemisphere into a mass of ruins, for the benefit of the ocean world on the other side of the yellow race. The men who will one day be called upon to construct peace must conceive it their noblest duty not only to banish war from our generation but also to wipe out the European armaments fever for decades to come."

BLIND, HE VISITS THE MOVIE SHOWS

Loss of Vision Does Not Keep Him from Enjoying the Films.

An unusual sight, that of a blind man attending motion picture shows in San Diego, Cal., caused considerable attention at first, but now the people of that city have grown accustomed to seeing "Blind Charles" Gardner and his youthful companion, Harry Fisher, at the various theaters, as they have been steady devotees of a number of months.

The blind movie fan sells papers for a living, having lost both eyes when he struck his pick into the muck in a gold mine at Rhyolite, Nev., and exploded a forgotten charge which had failed to explode at the proper time.

Young Fisher, interpreter, is also a newsboy and the support of a widowed mother, who earns his way into the picture houses by his ability to translate with rapidity the pictures as they are projected on the screen. When questioned as to how he secured satisfaction from the pictures "Blind Charlie" replied:

"My newsboy interpreter is an expert in describing action and scenic effects to me, and from his vivid descriptions I form in the mental picture of what others can see with their eyes. Besides keeping me posted on the setting of each scene and the personalities of the leading roles in the play, he explains the plot and action to me as fast as they are unrolled on the screen.

"By keeping one hand on the boy's arm, I get the emotional quality of the story through the sense of touch and also by listening to the variations in his voice. I seem to feel the atmosphere of the scenario, the intensity of the situations, through the audience.

"It is a sort of sixth sense, I suppose, though that doesn't really express it. If the picture is one of pathos, there is an indescribable something in the air that grips me; it is the emotional force of the audience. When there is a comedy on the screen, or an exciting piece of drama, I seem to feel the wave of joy or excitement which spreads over the spectators, and when the funny film begins, I laugh too."

MAUDE MULLERED

Bluffed the judge upon the nose.

He was sore at his sad lot Because she wanted to trot and trot, While he stayed home to think and read, And up to dateness did not heed.

Maude was right there good and strong For theater, eat, shop and song.

But the judge he wouldn't stand for that, Which meant that in their little flat.

Came rows and scraps and wars galore, Which made the judge irate and sore.

So he told Maude they'd better quit, And that with her made quite a hit.

For she recked freedom would be great, Wherefore did Maude rejoice, elate.

She hit the high spots, nothing less, And of the future made a mess.

For soon her beauty seemed to stray And she was fat, forlorn and gray.

Meanwhile the judge did plod along Working hard but enjoying a song

Whenever he felt that he must have Just a bit of this world's salve.

Then Maude, remorseful, down and out And suffering from Broadway gout,

Recalled the judge, now big and great, And says, "I'll capture him, though late."

"I'll ride for alimony, sure, For he is rich and I am poor."

But the judge discounted all that stuff— She couldn't beat him with a bluff.

His detectives were not jays— They had it on her forty ways.

Now she's a cashier, far from queen, And he rides in a limousine.

Platinum prices now stand at from \$51 to \$55 an ounce.

WHEAT PIPED FROM PLATEAU TO MARKET

Washington Farmer Employs Gravity to Help Him Save 13 to 17 Cents Bushel.

WENATCHEE, Wash., Jan. 8.—Instead of hauling his wheat eighteen miles over a bad road, as he did formerly, James Keane, of Rock Island, is now letting the grain slide into market through a galvanized iron pipe. The former method cost from fifteen to twenty cents a bushel to market—by this latter way the grain can be handled for two cents a bushel. The new system has been in operation for a couple of years and bids fair to continue, at least, until the universal law of gravitation is abolished.

Keane owns land which lies on a large plateau more than 2,000 feet above the little town of Rock Island. It has always been expensive for the farmer to drive a long distance to get off the plateau and back into town and as the road wound around the side of bluffs it was very rocky and dangerous.

HONESTY DOESN'T PAY, PAWBROKER LEARNS

Broker Arrested because He Returns Pin Valued at \$1,200.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 8.—"Honesty," said Don Quixote, "is the best policy." "Honesty," the copy books echoed, "is the best policy." "Honesty," said the police, taking up the cry, "is the best policy; the Bible says so."

"Honesty," said Tony Brenner, "is the best policy," when he discovered that a diamond hairpin pawned for \$15 in his shop was worth at least \$1,000 and probably \$1,200.

At noon a man who didn't look like the owner of a diamond hairpin entered the pawnshop with one. He wanted money.

"Where'd you get it?" asked Leo Brenner.

"Found it. Tenth and Walnut," said the man.

"How much you want?" asked Brenner.

"Fifteen dollars," said the man.

Then he read of the loss.

Truth is stranger than fiction. Brenner didn't offer him \$7.50 or \$10 or \$12.50. He gave the man \$15 and took his name, address, description and signature. The man was P. Sharp. The address was 1622 Virginia avenue. All of this was set out on the report sheet, which is sent to police headquarters each day.

An hour passed and Toby Brenner sauntered in from lunch. He was shown the diamond hairpin. He examined it under a glass. He whistled.

"Twenty-half-carat blue white diamonds," he said softly. "Worth \$1,000 anyway. Somebody's lost it. We'll have to put an ad in the paper."

"You should worry who's lost it," said a clerk. "For me, I lose no sleep. Break it up and reset the stones. Who can tell?"

Believes in a Conscience.

"Honesty," said Tony Brenner, "is the best policy. A clerk without no conscience you should watch."

Straightway Mr. Brenner inserted an advertisement reading:

Notice—A platinum diamond hairpin purchased by us, possibly lost by owner, can be obtained by calling.

Then he searched the lost columns. He discovered the story of Miss Dorothy Johnston's loss.

Miss Johnston, the daughter of Dr.

PLUCKY GIRL CARRIES MAIL

Has Long Route through the Foothills of the Baraboo Mountains.

MADISON, Wis., Jan. 8.—Unwittingly a Wisconsin girl is putting up one of the most striking lessons in preparedness that one hears of nowadays. She is a carrier on the rural service of Uncle Sam and literally she is carrying out to the letter one of the time honored mottoes of the department—"Certainty, Celerity and Security"—of the United States mails.

The name of this very young woman is Edna K. Fuller and she has a route among the foothills of the Baraboo mountains, part of twenty-seven miles of her route is washed by the Wisconsin river. In some places the road is fair, in others it winds through mountains, dells and in others it isn't more than a devious bridle path.

CHURCH BELLS

All Removed in Warsaw by Russians So Germans Cannot Use the Metals.

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)

WARSAW, Jan. 8.—In the center of the "Sachsenplatz" of Saxony Square and surrounded by buildings that date back to the time when the Saxons possessed Warsaw, stands the immense Russian cathedral with its many gilded domes.

Formerly a huge bell hung in each of the domes. Lest the Germans should make use of the metals, the Russians, before evacuating Warsaw, removed all but one. That one was to have been taken away, too, but workmen bungled, let it slip and watched helplessly as it plunged to the ground and buried itself yards deep in the soft soil around the church. The Germans have, with more or less difficulty, dug it out.

The interior of the huge church has been stripped clean. The altar with its rich furnishings is gone, the portable paintings are missing and holes in the wall indicate the former location of the appearance of a barn with stone instead of wooden walls.

An effort was made at first to adapt the cathedral to its original purpose, and to use it for religious services. The acoustic properties, however, were found to be so unusually poor that the plan had to be abandoned, and it now stands empty and forlorn.

Experts have estimated that there are more than 3,500,000,000 short tons of coal in the United States, exclusive of Alaska, more than in any other continent, and nearly twice as much as in Europe.

Only 64,977 karats of diamonds were exported from British South Africa during the first four months of 1915, whereas, in January-April, 1914, there were 1,524,649 karats exported, and 1,302,126 karats in the like period of 1913.

Electric drills have been invented for operations on the skulls.

NEW AVENUE

Of Escape from the Drafting Officer Opened by the War Department.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 8.—Abbreviated, Tribly, a new avenue of escape from the drafting officer in time of war, has been opened up in the order just issued to recruiting officers of the United States Marine Corps to enlist no man who wears smaller shoes than the commercial 5-D.

"My feet were too small to serve my country," would not be uttered here as an excuse, however, according to the marine corps recruiting officers.

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But over this route Miss Fuller is prepared at all times to deliver the mail to 111 families living within the region with as much of regularity as that of any of the swift railway carriers that now speed over steel lines from ocean to ocean and from lake to lake.

She drives out of the little town of Merrimack, on the Wisconsin, and by little later than the noon day hour has called at the hundred and more of Columbia county homes.

Miss Fuller's success as a mail carrier lies chiefly in her preparedness for almost any emergency. She has equipped herself with a fine team of horses and a buggy, and she also owns a motor car. When there is any obstruction calculated to head her off in the use of vehicle, she makes use of the other, and if she finds it impossible to use either, she is capable of stuffing the mail in saddle bags, and swinging herself into the saddle.

On either of her trusty horses. She rides around any trouble that might bob up in the region of her duties.

The team used by Miss Fuller has been driven by her for twelve years. One of the horses was a Morgan colt and she matched him with a Texas pony. The former is called Bonnie and the latter Topsy. After twelve years of hard driving Bonnie today stands without a blemish. Miss Fuller says that this animal alone has carried her through thick and thin in many trying adventures, and Topsy has been scarcely less of a standby in her work.

Miss Fuller has been carrying mail since 1904, there have been occasions when dangers have beset her, but has remained absolutely unafraid. She knows that among the Baraboo there is a small army of gallants capable of running, climbing or swimming to her rescue.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Are Served as a Nominal Cost to Elementary School Children in Forty-one American Cities.

200 English, 150 German and 1500 French communiques.

One of the most recent examples of German thrift is the use of ungrounded oil as a substitute for the olive extract. Many people devoted large tracts of land to the Kansas emblem for the sake of its food content in the liquid form.