

## WELCOME DIPLOMATS

LATIN-AMERICAN ENVOYS RECEIVED WITH SPECIAL CORDIALITY.

Distinguished Men and Charming Women Composing Diplomatic Corps—Senor and Senora Vicuna, Dr. and Mme. Wilde.

(Special Correspondence.)  
WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—The Latin-Americans are coming to the front in fine form. Never have the representatives of the South and Central American and Mexican republics in this capital been so popular as now, and never have their diplomatic households been composed of so many distinguished and able men and charming and talented women. These legations will be the center of much social gaiety this season, and already arrangements are under way for a number of brilliant



Photo by Clinedinst, Washington.

SENORA VICUNA.  
[Wife of the Chilean minister.]

entertainments. There have been several changes in the South American legations, and the new diplomatists are uniformly men whom Washington, officially and socially, can well afford to welcome. There seems to be more than ever before a sincere desire on the part of the republics of the southern continent to be on the most friendly terms with their big sister republic, a sentiment which this country is by no means inclined to discourage. The Pan-American exposition, to be held in Buffalo next year, in which these countries are likely to be pretty well represented, promises to bring all the Americas into closer commercial and social relations. We want a larger share of their trade and more intimate relations with them as national entities which should have very much in common. So we are just now especially pleasant toward the Latin-Americans, and it may be added that their representatives at the national capital are in every way worthy of our most generous courtesies.

One of the most eminent and popular of the South American diplomatists is Senor Don Carlos Morla Vicuna, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from Chile, and his wife is an exceedingly attractive and accomplished woman. Their home is a very hospitable one. Senor Vicuna is a man of wealth, a poet and a diplomat of recognized ability—a rather unusual combination, but he seems to find it a very satisfactory one. His first experience in affairs of state was as secretary of the Chilean legation in Washington, which office he occupied from 1870 to 1872, during the administration of President Grant, between whom and the young attaché there existed a very warm friendship. He was at that time a prime favorite in Washington society, nor did his many years' absence from this capital lessen his popularity. He became minister to this country in 1898, bringing to the discharge of his duties ripe experience in international affairs, having been first secretary of the London legation, first secretary of the Paris legation, minister plenipotentiary successively to Uruguay, Paraguay and Argentina and secretary of state of Chile.

Senor Vicuna is an enthusiastic admirer of the United States and does not hesitate to express himself, not only to Americans, but to his own countrymen. Not long ago he was reported as saying: "In my official relations, as well as in my private intercourse, it is my desire to cultivate the closest possible friendship between the great republic of the United States and the lesser one which I have the honor to represent. The United States planted the doctrine of republicanism upon the western continent, and the republics of South America followed the United States in throwing off monarchical rule and establishing for themselves governments of the people. The uniform growth and prosperity of the United States have shown that its government has been wise, and the republics of South America should profit by the teachings of their older and stronger sister."

Speaking of trade relations between the United States and Chile, he said, among other things: "We are now shipping over 1,000,000 tons of nitrate annually to Europe, and if the farmers of the United States understood the value of this product we would be shipping an equal amount to your country. We can use a great many of your manufactured products, especially farm machinery, and cotton goods, and a very extensive trade could be built up to the great advantage of both countries."

Senor Vicuna's genius and trend of mind are by no means confined to

statecraft and diplomacy. He has done some things very creditable in literature and is a great reader and student. While secretary of the Chilean legation here he found time to translate "Evangeline" into Spanish, and for the excellency of the work he received a complimentary note from Longfellow. He has written many poems of recognized merit, as well as a considerable number of prose productions.

Senora Vicuna is a native of Chile, though of Irish descent. She has the appearance of a handsome English woman, a marked departure from the popular idea that South Americans are all of the Latin type. She is an accomplished woman and a charming hostess. She speaks English with some difficulty. There are four bright children in the Vicuna family, one of whom, a boy of 13, is quite a remarkable musician.

Doubtless the most notable of the new diplomatic representatives from South America is Dr. Eduardo Wilde, who comes from the Argentine Republic. He is a gentleman of such distinguished career that he will be a decided addition to the diplomatic corps at this capital and will undoubtedly take high rank. He was born in Buenos Ayres and educated at its famous National college. After taking his degree as doctor of medicine, but while still pursuing his studies, he was placed in charge of the cholera lazaretto at Berlin, Leipzig, Paris and London, thus preparing himself for the responsible positions he subsequently held under his government. Upon his return to Buenos Ayres he resumed the practice of medicine and was given the chair of anatomy in the National college and a year or so later was also appointed professor of hygiene in the same institution. His work in connection with the sanitation and public health of his native city and country has been of the most valuable and important character.

In 1875 Dr. Wilde began to take a lively interest in the politics of his country, hitherto having devoted himself mainly to the science of medicine. He was at that time elected to the provincial legislature from the province of Buenos Ayres, and in 1876 he became a member of the national congress from the same province and was re-elected for a term of four years. He has a distinguished record as cabinet minister and as a man of affairs in Argentina.

Mme. Wilde, the accomplished wife of the Argentine minister, is a most attractive woman of the Spanish type and is considered by many as the greatest beauty of the diplomatic corps. She is a gifted musician and has a voice which would easily rival many professional singers. It is said that Mme. Wilde has a sister in Argentina who is even more beautiful than herself and that she is to spend the winter with her in Washington. As young ladies are scarce in the diplomatic ranks, she may come with the foregone conclusion that she will be a reigning belle. At all events it is certain that, with such host and hostess as Dr. and Mme. Wilde, the Argentine legation, which has been established in a handsome residence on Connecticut avenue, will be the scene of much social gaiety and enjoyment the coming season.

The new minister from Peru, Senor Manuel Alvarez Calderon, presented his credentials the latter part of August, but went to San Francisco soon afterward to meet his family, who came from Lima via the Pacific. Minister Calderon is a wealthy business man and for several years has been in England and Europe in connection with his own interests. This has given his children, of whom there are seven as bright boys and girls as could be found anywhere, a fine opportunity to acquire the languages, and they speak Spanish, French, German and English with ease. He also has with him three of his nephews, lads of 16 and 18 years, whom he has placed in college with his own sons. Mme. Calderon is, with good reason, proud of her flock of young people, and is a typically de-



Photo by Clinedinst, Washington.

MME. WILDE.  
[Wife of the Argentine minister.]

voted South American mother. They have taken the house 1750 Massachusetts avenue, which they have furnished in an exceedingly elegant manner. Bolivia, which has been unrepresented at our capital for more than two years, has re-established its legation, its new minister, Senor Fernando Guachalla, having arrived via San Francisco a few days ago. Minister Guachalla has a large household of children, and for the present Mme. Guachalla will remain in Sucre with them. Two of the children, the eldest daughter and son, have accompanied their father to Washington, he having taken a furnished house in the west end and placed these two in school.

SAMUEL HUBBARD.

## RECORD OF THE "SOO"

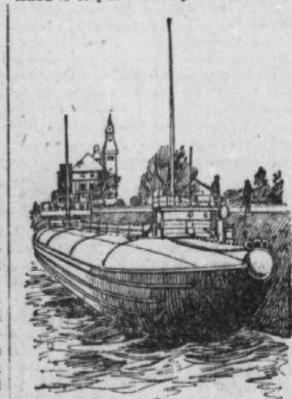
HOW THE AMERICAN SUEZ CANAL HAS GROWN.

More Shipping Passes Between Lakes Huron and Michigan Than Goes Through the Egyptian Canal—Proposed Improvements.

(Special Correspondence.)  
SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich., Nov. 20.—Most Americans know, of course, that up here in what was once a region inhabited only by Indians and fur traders a prosperous, thriving commonwealth has grown up, but few know or realize that we have here a ship canal through which are transported more tons of freight yearly than through the world famous Suez canal. Through the Sault Ste. Marie canals—there are two, the American and the Canadian—about 4,000 vessels pass annually, bearing more than 50,000,000 tons of freight. The canals are open only 8 months of the year, and yet in that restricted time a greater tonnage passes through them than enters the port of London or of New York in a twelvemonth.

The natural waterway from Lake Superior to Lake Huron is by way of the St. Mary's river, but this passage is closed to vessels by the rapids of the river. To avoid these rapids two great canals have been constructed, each about three miles in length. The American canal is the older and dates back about a century. The Canadian canal was constructed because the Canucks wanted a waterway of their own. At present each canal is used by the people of both nations without any hindrance. The use of either depends entirely upon their relative congestion.

It is this congestion of the canals that presents serious difficulties to their use. Traffic on the great lakes has grown so enormously that the canals no longer furnish sufficient accommodation for the shipping. A few weeks ago the rivers and harbors committee of the house of representatives made a trip up the great lakes, with a view of seeing for themselves the extension of American commerce up here. To say that they were astonished is to put it mildly. As one result



WHALEBACK LOCKING THROUGH THE "SOO" CANAL.

of the trip, the "Soo" canal, as it is familiarly known, will receive within the next few months its much needed enlargement and improvement.

There are now two locks in the American canal, known as the Poe and the Weitzel locks, which are named after eminent American engineers. The Poe lock is the newer and is 800 feet long and 100 feet wide. The Weitzel lock is 600 feet in length and narrower. The proposed improvement to the canal contemplates the enlargement of the Weitzel lock to the dimensions of 1,600 and 100 feet, making it the largest lock in the world. When it is completed, it will be able to accommodate at one lockage four of the immense lake vessels, which are fully 500 feet in length. The vessels engaged in the lake carrying trade are now quite as large as the transatlantic liners of a few years ago.

The cost of the Sault Ste. Marie canal has been very great. The Weitzel lock cost \$2,500,000, while for the Poe Uncle Sam had to pay more than twice as much. The cost of the new improvements to the canal will be fully \$9,000,000. When one considers, however, that there were more than 20,000 lockages during the past year and that on some days 100 vessels passed through the canal and that more than 96 per cent of the lake commerce is Yankee, our rich uncle seems well able to afford the money.

The Sault Ste. Marie canal was in existence a long time ago, and its principal users were the fur traders and Indians. The word "sault," by the way, is French and means waterfall. The old canal was diminutive in size and of use only to canoes. When American settlers appeared in the upper peninsula, the need of a good ship canal around the falls soon became apparent, and an agitation was started to have congress appropriate the money to build one. The government has probably spent more up to date than \$10,000,000 on our canal.

The freight transported through the Sault Ste. Marie canals amounts to more than \$20,000,000 a year. The season of 1900 has broken all their records. The end of the season is at hand, and almost 50,000,000 tons of freight have passed through since spring. The articles carried are many and varied, and some idea of their magnitude and value may be gained from this list: Nearly 3,000,000 bushels of grain, more than 3,000,000 tons of flour, more than 17,000,000 tons of iron ore and nearly 3,000,000 tons of coal. Quite a respectable showing for a region that was an absolute wilderness a century and a half ago.

HENRY W. MILLER.

## ALASKA'S BIG CHIEF.

Rules Six Thousand Indians, Speaks English and Wears a Botled Shirt.

Chief Johnson of the Taku tribe, one of the most famous Indians in Alaska, was recently in Salem. He has under his charge 5,000 to 6,000 Indians, and they look to him as their ruler. He has six or seven large stores located at Dena, Juneau and other points and practically controls the trade of his people. Every three years Chief Johnson has a big potlatch, at which time he gives away thousands of blankets and other things useful to members of his tribe. He had a potlatch in 1896, and it cost him \$25,000, and the one held last year was almost as expensive.

There are other Indian chiefs in Alaska, but none who have as numerous dependents as Johnson. There are probably 20 chiefs in all, the next in point of number of followers below him having about 3,000. One of these chiefs is to give a big potlatch to his people this year, and so Chief Johnson, the principal business man for the Indians of that northern country, has come down to make special purchases of blankets and other articles suitable for the extraordinary occasion.

It has been the custom of the chief to come here annually to make his purchases from the Thomas Kay Woolen Mill company, but they were unable to fill his order for 5,000 blankets, as they only had about 500 pairs on hand. These he took, and the remainder will be sent later.

Chief Johnson has some members of his tribe in the Chenauna Indian school, and he will visit that institution before he returns to his home in Alaska. This representative of our northernmost possession is not satisfied with some of the laws which have been made at Washington to govern the Indians. He bitterly opposes the encroachments of the white man and says that the game is disappearing from the hunting grounds, and the fish no longer swarm the streams as in years gone by. Hunting and fishing are the only occupations of his people, and he sees, at no distant date, these will be destroyed and they will be sunk deeper into poverty and want than at the present time. While speaking of the condition of his people, he showed a sincere interest in their welfare and a determination to do everything in his power to add to their comfort and happiness. He says the chiefs of the white men rule only for money, but he rules his people without charge, and they obey him and love him because he is good and just to them. He says the whisky business in Alaska is very detrimental to the Indians, and he would like to see the prohibition law enforced.

Chief Johnson dresses well, wearing a white shirt and a high collar, and he has the appearance of an intelligent man. He speaks fair English and is a close observer and a shrewd business man. He is a man of great wealth, probably one of the richest in Alaska, and lives in the finest house in any of the northern cities. He has ruled his tribe since the death of his father, which occurred in 1880. He is about 50 years of age and is strong and hearty, enjoying the best of health.—Oregon Statesman.

## The Twentieth Century.

The century will end on the Monday following the Sunday after Christmas. Why may we not by general consent and mutual understanding mark that day out from common time—aye, even from "kalendar" days—by lifting a wave of united Christian worship that will roll around the world, which "he hath called from the rising up of the sun, even unto the going down of the sun?"

I would have on that day a celebration of the holy communion in every church and chapel and meeting house throughout all Christian lands, with the use of such special prayers and lessons as the ecclesiastical authorities may see fit to "set forth" and a special collection for missions. And I would that at midnight of that last day of the century in every place of worship the people gather, "young men and maidens, old men and children," to praise the name of the Lord, and as the new century came in I would have every voice and heart and soul, every chime and organ, swell "the great Creator's praise."

Where it is possible I would have the holy places illuminated. Where there is lack of clerical supply I would have some faithful layman lead the devotions of the people. Let no one, in city or country, on plain or mountain, in bondage or free, ashore or ashore, be without the opportunity of joining publicly in Christianity's twentieth century "Birth Hymn."—Rev. W. N. Dunnell in Churchman.

## Concerning Mark Twain.

One day recently Mark Twain got home from Europe. He said that he had been gone nine years, which seems improbable, but he accounted for all the intervening time, admitting that he passed through this country in 1895 on his way to Australia and lectured every night from New York to San Francisco. Half of 1891 he spent in France and Germany, 1892 in Florence, 1893 and 1894 in France, 1895 and 1896 on his travels in France, 1897 and 1898 in London and Vienna and Sweden, and now he comes from England. It was in 1895 that he formally began the labor of paying \$80,000 of the debts of Charles L. Webster & Co. He accomplished it in a little more than two years. He may be a rich man again by this time. He admitted that he was rich enough to decline an offer of \$50,000 for 100 lectures.

Rich or poor, Mr. Clemens is a very much respected man and is mightily welcome home. He means to spend the winter in New York and to go to Hartford when he gets ready in the spring and to go to work at his trade as the spirit moves him. He is a man of sentiment, and a remarkably durable, sturdy and well-disciplined sentimentist it is. The only thing about him is that he has become almost too exalted and exemplary a person to joke about. But he can joke about himself still, and that's a comfort.—E. S. Martin in Harper's Weekly.

## A School Without Pupils.

The Hutchinson (Kan.) News says that every morning at the usual hour Miss Mary Serogins opens the schoolhouse in district No. 78, in Reno county, and then sits at her desk all day long, while not a pupil comes to receive instruction. It seems that all the families living in district No. 78 are Catholics and send their children to a nearby parochial school. Miss Serogins has the usual contract with the school officers, and she will continue to open and occupy her lonely schoolroom through all the winter months. Last year she had no pupils at all during the first four months of the term and only two pupils during the remaining three months.

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## BETHAY NOTICE.

Taken up by Jesse Wells on Shreve Island and estrayed before me one black horse mule, about 12 years old, 15 hands high, collar mark on neck, no other marks or brands.

The owner will please come forward, prove property and pay charges, or the animal will be sold as the law directs, at Saad Beach, on the 8th of December, 1900, B. R. JACOBS, Justice of the Peace, Eighth Ward, November 7, 1900.

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## NOTICE OF ESTRAY.

Taken up by James Thomas on the 3 ringfield place near "getz-rs", one sorrel pony horse, about 8 or 10 years old; has dark mane, with white spot in forehead and on nose or lip. No other marks or brands.

The owner will come forward, prove property, pay charges and take the animal or the same will be sold according to estray law on

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1900.

C. D. HICKS, Judge City Court, Shreveport, La. The Caucasian, Nov. 21.

## Dropsy

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## BETHAY NOTICE

Taken up by John Coleman, ten miles southeast of Greenwood, La., one dark bay mare, branded on left hip too dim to make out, has frosty face, white spots on each side of neck, about 11 years old and about 13 hands high. The owner will come forward, prove property and pay charges, or the animal will be sold as directed by law on the 24th day of November, 1900. S. J. PHILLIPS, Justice of the Peace, Fifth Ward, Caddo Parish, Louisiana, October 26, 1900.

## SUCCESSION SALE.

No. 678.—In First District Court of Louisiana.—Succession of Seaborn Neaves. By virtue of a commission and order of sale to me issued by the above succession, by the Honorable First Judicial District Court of Louisiana, Parish of Caddo, I will sell for cash, with the benefit of appraisement, at the principal front door of the courthouse in Shreveport, La., during the legal hours for sales, on

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1900, the following described real estate belonging to said succession, to-wit: 69 acres of land in fractional section 33, township 15 north, range 15 west, and commencing on south line of said section 33 at a point on corner of a certain tract of 47 acres sold by M. H. Page to Moses Neaves, November 27, 1876, and run thence north along the west line of said Moses Neaves' tract to Cross Lake, thence north and west on the traverse line of Cross Lake, until a traverse line of Cross Lake, the west has sufficient distance to include 69 acres of land by being gone to include 69 acres of land by running south on a line parallel to said west side of M. Neaves' tract to the south line of said section 33, thence east to place of beginning, and being same land bought by said Seaborn Neaves from M. H. Page, together with buildings and improvements thereon.

SIMON HEROLD, Administrator of said succession.

Nov 21.

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## SHERIFF'S SALE

No. 6097.—In First District Court, State of Louisiana, Parish of Caddo.—Yermon Marble Works vs. Mrs. A. M. Phelps et al. By virtue of a writ of fieri facias issued in the above entitled and numbered suit in the Honorable First Judicial District Court of Louisiana, Parish of Caddo, I have received and will sell for cash without the benefit of appraisement, at the principal front door of the courthouse in Shreveport, La., during the legal hours for sales on

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1900,

the following described real estate belonging to the defendants, to-wit: Lots 15, 16 and 17 of block 4 of the city of Shreveport, La., together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, to be sold to satisfy said writ and all costs.

S. J. WARD, Sheriff Caddo Parish, La. Caucasian, Nov. 7, 1900.