

COUNTERFEITS DON'T PAY

Down in the Republic of Colombia, South America.

WHERE FIAT MONEY FLOURISHES

Because the Bank Notes There Are Worth Only About One One-Hundredth of Their Face Value in Exchange.

Down in the republic of Colombia in South America there is a sort of comic opera paper money. All told there is in circulation about a billion dollars worth of it which is pretty good for a country whose population is 1,000,000, especially when it is remembered that many of these bills never saw a cent's worth of the money.

A sign in the streets reads: "Cerveza. \$5 on a Vaso." The hesitating tourist reads it out: "Beer. \$5 a glass." Then he wonders what sort of enormously wealthy country he has strayed for his misfortune and begins to believe that the old tales of the Spanish days didn't exaggerate in the least.

"Unless the little word 'oro,' meaning gold, follows any statement about money, the tourist should divide by 100. Five dollars without this qualification means five cents. Bills at \$50 or \$100 an hour mean inflated rates of from \$5 to \$25.

In the billiard parlor paying \$50 an hour isn't as extravagant as it seems when it is divided by 100. Also, reducing the sum total of paper money to its value in gold it comes to \$10,000,000, rather more in keeping with the size of the country.

It all began some years ago when Colombia was solvent. Then the money was worth what the face value declared it to be. But when the first of a long series of revolutions of recent times came on the government ran shy of money in the treasury.

Beauty of Printing Money. A report that to effect by the treasurer got the reply: "Print some more." It is like the absurd case of the gold mining concern. There are bound to be plenty as long as the printing presses hold out. They kept on printing the money until eventually there was so much that the value fell to about 20 to 1. That is if a man had a bank note of 100 pesos it was worth just 20 cents in real money or gold.

Even now the same fatal facility in printing money exists, but the present government has set to work to make the money worth more nearly what it calls for. Some day it may return to its face value.

The Columbian have no confidence in their own paper. They avoid taking it in England or the United States, payable in gold, circulates practically as real money.

It changes from one hand to another with endorsements multiplying, until finally it is necessary to add an extra strip of paper to the surplus of names. The paper doesn't want to cash, it is for the paper money, because the exchange varies so from day to day that he may lose money by changing.

In Colombia the morning greeting of merchants isn't "How are you?" but "How is exchange?" Some days a gold dollar is worth 100 pesos, other days it may be up to 25. Then, again, it may fall under 10, it hasn't done that recently.

Bank in a Tight Place. An English mining company recently wanted to get a draft for \$5,000 cashed. That means \$500,000 gold, or \$500,000 paper money. The draft was presented at the Banco Central.

The bank had to do some tall scratching to get together this sum. The mining company got a request not long after that to be good enough thereafter to give about a month's notice when it wanted the money in the company said he had an idea that another such request would mean that the government would have to cable to England, where the money is printed now, to have the printers run off a lot of the stuff. The company had to have the same money to pay off its bills, and since it would have very little left to let so much gold go.

It is a country where counterfeiting would naturally be supposed to be one of the lost arts. When the government made its own money instead of having it printed abroad whatever counterfeiters there were were so much better off than the government money that they passed current very readily. Every one recognized them as counterfeit, but few persons cared.

FOR SALE Clothing, Shoes, Hats, Furnishing Goods, Ladies' Goods.

Stock For Sale To The Highest Bidder.

Fixtures For Sale—Must Leave Within Ten Days.

ATTENTION DEALERS. Here is the opportunity you dealers in the small towns throughout Iowa, Nebraska and the Dakotas have been waiting for. Here is an opportunity to buy goods bought by the representative buyers in New York at less than 50 cents of the dollar.

FIXTURES. 500 sets of 2 1/2 inch hat cases, 50 feet of 1/2 inch cashmere, 300 sets of 1/2 inch cashmere, 2 display cases, 5 display cases, 5 display cases, 5 display cases.

ALL KINDS AMONG MODELS

Ambition that Grew in a Maine Logging Camp.

BEHIND SCENES IN STUDIOS

Figure Out of the Romance—The Athlete, the Grandmother, the Longshoreman—A Sculptor and His Creation.

"NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—The models who haunt the doors of the studios and art schools of the city are of any and every nationality, and some of them have tried pretty much every other calling. They may come from Oregon, from France, from Sicily, from the Bowery or from Sixth avenue, but if they earn a living by posing they have already one conspicuous trait in common—a high opinion of their persons.

It makes an amusing sight to see one of the small Colombian children, without a stitch of clothing on, hurrying out of a house with a bundle of some high denomination, possibly 100 pesos, clutched in a chocolate colored hand.

"It doesn't look safe to send a child out with so much money," said a kindly disposed American woman, catching sight of the "boy" on the note. Then she got some information, and added: "Well, even a dollar is a lot of money to let a child have."

In an office one day a man pointed to his valise standing open on the table. "Look here," he said. "See what trust I have in my servants. It isn't every man who would dare go away and leave \$1,000 lying in a bag that's open."

The listener gasped and went to look in the bag. Sure enough there was the equivalent of \$5 worth of real money. The foreigner now gets to call anything that he has in his pocket.

Even in the matter of small coins the Colombian keep up the deception. There is a piece made of lead which, what is called "cocoibola" money down there. This is marked "Five Pesos, p. m." The "p. m." means "paper money" and is to indicate that the supposed \$5 is really worth five cents. If they marked the coin in red five cents gold it would be the right value.

California with its "no coin smaller than a nickel" boast is quite outdone down in Colombia, where the peso is the smallest.

Crucially Discounted. The entire South American continent is accustomed to eccentricities in the management of its financial concerns. For instance it is told of Uruguay that they have a very best little device in discounting.

As almost every one knows, the gold dollar of the United States is not 100 per cent gold. It couldn't very well be and still be a circulating medium. The Republic of Uruguay profited by that fact, which also is the case in all countries where there is a gold standard.

The gold dollar of Uruguay is a supposition of such fitness that it is actually 100 per cent gold. It never circulates, except in the mind of the treasurer of the country. Consequently every gold coin of every country is discounted in Uruguay against that wonderful imaginary piece of money.

Pura and some of the others have from time to time repudiated parts of their currency. Perhaps that is what Colombia is, may do.

"As matters stand," one resident said, "the money isn't pretty enough for wallpaper and it isn't of much use for anything else."

There is some remarkable gold money in circulation in Colombia. There are coins of Spanish Kings dating back to the seventeenth century. These are doubtless, which pass current at the value of \$5. French and other gold also is to be found in Colombia. There is also a small amount of gold money of the republic in circulation. That is genuine and the purpose of it is to be used by the persons who give a chance at one of these coins is apt to buy it.

BURGLARS HAVE BUSY NIGHT Number of Places Visited, but No Big Losses Have Been Reported.

Burglars were busy the night before Christmas visiting a number of houses and places of business in doing something to provide a holiday celebration. A ladder burglar stole a watch, keys and money to the total of \$5 from the room of Mrs. Isabella Crow, who lives on the second floor of the Utopia boarding house, Seventh and Davenport streets.

Wednesday and Thursday night burglars entered the commission house of Copeland & Flynn, Twelfth and Howard streets, and stole quantities of dressed ducks and chickens. Over 100 pounds of fowls were carried away on Thursday night alone.

The home of George W. Loomis was visited and ransacked, but the occupants found nothing missing Christmas morning. In spite of the great number of things in a paper money and a number of Christmas presents that had just been purchased, was stolen from a buggy in front of the Brandeis building Christmas eve. It belonged to Mrs. J. E. Veary of Benson.

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Pending Settlement With Insurance Companies

It will be necessary to hold at our salesroom all Pianos, Piano Players and Organs, ordered from us for future delivery. As soon as our

Loss by Fire and Smoke on the Evening of Dec. 24th

has been adjusted, delivery will be made. Our entire stock of Pianos, Piano Players and Organs will be offered to the public at prices never before given east or west. Our loss through fire and smoke will be Your Distinct Gain. Don't buy a piano until we announce this sale. Watch the papers.

SCHMOLLER & MUELLER PIANO CO.

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Courtney's The Pure Food Store. To Reduce Stock Before January 1st. Courtney Offers These Very Unusual PRICE REDUCTIONS. We wish to reduce certain lines of our stock to an absolute minimum before invoicing. To bring this result quickly we cut prices far below the regular on the finest and most desirable goods in our stock. This is a chance that is offered very rarely and it will mean dollars of saving to buy at Courtney's this week.

OLD JAIL PROFIT TO COUNTY

Peter Propicio Will Pay for Wrecking Privilege.

OTHER BIDDERS ASK TO BE PAID County Board Expects to Have Building Out of Way by February 1.

DEATH RECORD. Mrs. Ann Olmstead.

Needed Mourning. The lady-I haven't such in the house to give my dear man—but would you like a piece of pie?

Railway Notes and Personalities. S. E. Miller, general freight and passenger agent of the Northwestern, leaves Omaha for Chicago, Saturday.

Wright Will Feed Prisoners. The feeding of county prisoners by Elias Wright will be done at the same figures as last year.

NEW AUTOMOBILE IN CITY. Veile Car, Made in Moline, Ill.—John Deere Flow Company to Be Western Distributors.

J. J. Derrig & Co., Omaha Agents. The most important announcement of the last week in the automobile industry is that of the Veile Motor Vehicle Co., Moline, Ill., which has placed on the market a thoroughly up-to-date machine at \$1,750, remarkably complete in equipment.

FREE PILE CURE. Sent to demonstrate the merits of Pyramid Pile Cure.

What is the Best Cure for Piles? It can be For You.

We have testimonials by the hundreds showing all stages, kinds and degrees of piles which have been cured by Pyramid Pile Cure.

If you could read these unpolished letters you would not doubt go to the nearest drug store and buy a box of Pyramid Pile Cure at once, price fifty cents.

We do not ask you to do this. Send us your name and address and we will send you a trial package by mail free.

We know what the trial package will do. In many cases it has cured piles without further treatment. If it proves its value to you order more from your druggist. This is fair, is it not? Simply write us a letter giving your name and address and we will send you the trial package by mail in plain wrapper free.

Address: Pyramid Drug Co., 144 Pyramid Bldg., Marshall, Mich.

purpose of presenting to the public a good, strong, substantial car which will answer the popular demand at a moderate price. The sample car just received by the John Deere Flow Co. is fully up to expectations, and it is doubtful whether a hand-operated machine can be found anywhere regardless of price.

Robbers Assault Victim Enter Car at Fifteenth and Grace Occupied by Greek Laborers.

A report reached the police at 1:15 o'clock this morning that robbers had entered a car at Fifteenth and Grace streets on the Missouri Pacific tracks and had robbed the inmates and killed one man. It developed that the man was not killed, but dangerously hurt. The robbers secured little booty. They escaped. The occupants of the car are foreigners employed by the railroad company. Detectives were at once sent to the scene of the crime to search for some trace of the men who did the work.

WELCOME ARCH KEPT BUSY Lights Still Shine for Santa and Then Will Burn for Colored People.

Though Christmas is past, the welcome arch will shine forth a welcome to Santa Claus again tonight, as it did last night and on Christmas eve.

Wright Will Feed Prisoners. The feeding of county prisoners by Elias Wright will be done at the same figures as last year. Mr. Wright being the only bidder. He bid 94 cents a meal for ordinary prisoners and 9 cents for juvenile and insane prisoners.

The People's Ice and Coal company submitted the lowest bid for filling the ice float at the County hospital. They asked \$1.5 a ton, packed in the ice house. C. D. Woodward & Co. offered to deliver ice from their lake at Meadow for 75 cents a ton, but the county would have to pay the freight and pack it.

Sherman & McConnell submitted a bid to fill all county prescriptions for 17 cents each. Bids on drugs, meats, groceries, building supplies and lumber were also received and referred for tabulation.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS. E. T. Riley of Twin Falls, Idaho, B. H. Whyte of Blair and H. C. Ryan of Lincoln are at the Des Moines.

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Important Notice. The Closing Out Sale of the late A. B. HUBERMANN STOCK of fine Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry, Sterling Silver, Cut Glass, etc., will positively close. Every article will be sold at any price, regardless of cost or value. Don't miss the greatest opportunity of a lifetime. Money for every purchaser. Jewelers, traders, dealers and the public in general are invited. REMEMBER, 4 DAYS ONLY. 1609 1/2 Farnam Street Between 16th and 17th Sts.