

ASTONISHED THE OLD MAN.

Youngster's Language was Most Thoroughly Up to Date.

There is a certain gentleman of particularly refined instincts and manner in Washington who abhors the idea that his young son will become generally acquainted with the language of the street.

The proud parent replied that he had never seen a policeman at full speed after a prospective prisoner, but added that he believed there were any number of the force who were good speeders.

"Well," continued the youngster, "the bicycle cops is the boys nowadays. I believe the cops that walk have all got the rheumatism, and with cops with bum feet, pop, I will run the risk of being pinched."

The father gasped at the "mixture of street" hurled at him, and then remarked: "I don't think there is any use of you going out into the street to skate. Straightway he issued orders, and his young son now skates in the back yard."

HAD ONE GREAT CONSOLATION.

At Least Onlookers Did Not Know of Congressman's Misfortune.

Recently a member of congress from Missouri came racing down the iron steps which led to the train shed of one of the depots in Washington, just as the train was pulling out.

The member was stout and perspiring, and his arms were filled with bundles, for he was a commuter. Everybody got out of his way as he chased the rear car down the long platform, some shouting advice and more or less pleasant comment after him.

The member caught the train, being hoisted upon the platform by a trainman, without the loss of a bundle. He shook his fist at the cheering crowd behind him and went inside the car with the blissful sense of having "won out."

It was only when the conductor came around that he learned that he was on a Chicago express, instead of a local accommodation. However, he accepted the situation gracefully, observing:

"There's one comfort. Those idiots in the station will never know. They think I caught the right train."—Harper's Weekly.

The Queer Parson Bird.

Two splendid male specimens of the bee honey eater were recently acquired by the Zoological society of London, England. Its throat is adorned with small white feathers which, from their resemblance to clerical bands, have gained for it the name "parson bird."

Although somewhat rarely seen in this country alive, this bird is plentiful on both the north and south islands of New Zealand. It is a good songster and mimic, and its lively temperament renders it a most interesting cage bird. Its food consists of berries, insects and honey. It has an extensible tongue, the tip of which is forked, and, being covered with fibers, forms a kind of brush, most useful to the parson bird in gathering its food.

Labouchere Writes of Career.

Henry Labouchere, the stormy petrel editor of London Truth, has written a review of its 31 years of existence. The publication carries the motto, "Cultura Veritatis Fraudis Inimici" and the editor devotes space to its legal experience in exposing fraud. Of all the actions brought against the paper in that time only four have resulted in damages.

She Was Good Enough.

Fannie is a little lady of three or thereabouts, and wise beyond her age. She has a brother a year or so older than herself, in whom she has always shown much solicitude. Fannie's mother tried to teach her a little prayer, which concluded with: "God bless me and make me a good girl," but Fannie had her own ideas upon the question, and despite coaxing, the little girl would conclude her childish prayer in this way: "God bless me and make brother a good boy. I is a good girl."

Too Much for the Strong Man.

The strong man refuses to go on for his act. "What's the matter?" "Somebody poured water into his hollow weights. It froze and made the weights so heavy he can't lift 'em."

RISE OF AUTO TRADE

GOVERNMENT CENSUS FIGURES SHOW REMARKABLE GROWTH.

Value of Machines Made in 1905 Increased Over 461 Per Cent. Over Those of 1900 in America—Use of Gasoline General.

Washington.—The total value of automobiles manufactured in 1905 increased more than 461 per cent. over those manufactured in 1900 and the value of American-made machines exported to Europe increased from \$348,528 in 1902 to \$2,481,243 in 1905.

The total production of automobiles in 1905 was 22,830, valued at \$26,645,064, as against only 3,733 in 1900, with a value of \$4,748,011, thus showing an increase in value of 461.1 per cent.

Of the 21,692 autos turned out by automobile factories, 18,649, or 85.2 per cent., were propelled by gasoline; 1,568, or 7.2 per cent., by steam; and 1,425, or 6.6 per cent., by electricity.

The figures concerning the manufacture of automobiles represent the output of the 121 establishments reporting the complete automobile. In addition to these, there were 17 establishments engaged primarily in other lines of manufacture, such as carriages and wagons, bicycles, sewing machines, etc., which during the year covered by the census, turned out 1,135 automobiles, valued at \$879,205, and 57 establishments which manufactured automobile bodies and parts to the value of \$3,388,472.

In the period between the two censuses the number of establishments turning out the finished automobile as their principal product increased from 57 to 121; the amount of capital invested in these establishments from \$5,768,857 to \$20,555,247, and the average number of wage earners employed from 2,241 to 10,239. The average capital per establishment increased from \$101,208 to \$168,878, or 67.9 per cent.

Of the total number of automobiles manufactured in automobile factories, 12,131, or 53.9 per cent., were runabouts, and 7,220, or 33.3 per cent., touring cars. Buckboards stood third in number turned out, 675; standhops fourth with 520, and delivery wagons fifth, with 411.

The value of American-made automobiles and parts exported increased from \$248,528 in 1902, the first year that they were separately reported, to \$2,481,243 in 1905. The greater part of these exports went to European markets, although Europe's percentage of the total foreign purchases appears to be decreasing. In the years 1902 to 1905 this percentage was 83.9, 70.7, 53.8 and 5.76, respectively. Nevertheless, the absolute value of the exports to Europe almost doubled in the three years.

The exports to foreign countries of North America increased from \$77,801 in 1902 to \$682,609 in 1905, nearly ninefold. In 1905 nearly two-thirds of this value went to Canada, which stood next to the United Kingdom among all foreign countries in imports of the American-made machine. In 1905 the exports to Mexico amounted to \$119,988; Cuba, \$96,538; Asia, \$120,284; Oceania, \$101,484; South America, \$81,368, and Africa, \$67,127. The total number of countries importing the American product in 1905 was 53.

The 1905 census of the manufacture of bicycles and tricycles disclosed great decreases since 1900. The number of factories declined from 312 to 101; the capital invested from \$29,783,659 to \$5,883,458; the number of wage earners from 17,526 to 2,319, and the value of products from \$31,915,908 to \$5,153,240. Many establishments that manufactured only bicycles in 1900 were, at the later census, engaged principally or to some extent in the manufacture of automobiles.

The high tide of prosperity in the bicycle was reached about 1897, and in 1900 the manufacture had already largely fallen off. The number of chain bicycles turned out declined from 1,136,122 in 1900 to 246,304 at the census of 1905; chainless from 42,929 to 4,077, and tricycles from 26,110 to 1,463. The tricycles were almost entirely children's toys. Motorcycles increased from 159 to 2,436.

Rare Violin Is Found. New York.—A violin, which the police said had a label marked "Antonius Stradivarius, Cremonensis, Faciebat Anno 1736," was unearthed among a quantity of supposed stolen goods. The violin and goods were found at the home of Ernst Ernkert, who is under arrest. An expert will be asked to examine the violin to ascertain if it is a genuine Cremona.

\$12,500 Paid for a Vase. London.—Twenty-five hundred guineas, a record price, was paid at Christie's for a square-shaped Chinese vase of the Kang-He period 20 1/2 inches high. Duveen Bros. were the buyers.

DECLARES BIGAMY IS LEGAL.

Judge Says Man May Have Many Wives Without Violating Law.

Cleveland, O.—"Under our present marriage laws a man may have a wife in each of half a dozen different states and yet violate no law of the land and be absolutely immune from punishment."

This was the startling declaration made by Judge Robert Taylor of the federal court in an address before the Men's League of Kells Memorial church on the need of federal supervision of marriage and divorce.

"A man may be a husband in the one state and not a husband in another. It depends wholly on the laws of the individual states," he said. "To show that what I say is not theory let me cite the case of a man who has had three wives and has broken no laws. He was married first in New York. Tiring of his wife, he went into Pennsylvania, secured a divorce under the laws of that state and married again. New York, however, does not recognize the Pennsylvania divorce and he was still the husband of wife No. 1.

"Later he went to California, secured a California divorce from wife No. 2, but he was still no less the husband of the women in New York and Pennsylvania when he was in those states. He died and three widows—not ex-wives but widows—took dower from his estate. So long as he did not take one wife into the state where another resided he had lived within the law."

BELIEVES CHILD BEWITCHED.

Mother Uses Weird Incantations to Cast Out Evil Spirits.

Washington, Pa.—Because Mrs. Sebastian Yaros of Rice Landing believed her three-year-old daughter was possessed of the devil, the child died while the mother was resorting to incantations to cast out the evil one. The coroner will make a thorough investigation.

It is alleged that while the child was dying the mother was in an out-building pouring grease from a melted candle through her wedding ring to bring before her the face of the witch who had brought the trouble upon her family.

When the child became ill a few days ago a physician left medicine and instructed the mother how to use it. The woman is reported to have thrown it out and announced she would use her own cure.

She first cut off a portion of her own hair, shingled the heads of her husband and child, and then mixed the hair together, covering it with dough. This she rolled in a ball, afterward throwing it over the top of the house. She then took it to the nearest crossroads and buried it, believing the first person to pass would become possessed of the evil spirit that affected her child. When this failed she resorted to the wedding ring and candle grease.

FINGER BURN RESTORES SPEECH.

Boy Suddenly Recovers Use of Tongue After Many Doctors Had Failed.

Toledo.—Unable to speak an intelligent word from birth, little Roy Dwyer was frightened into the correct use of his tongue by burning a finger.

The lad, four years old, is a son of Dr. and Mrs. William Dwyer of Niagara Falls, N. Y. He had been unable to utter sounds other than those made by a dummy. Otherwise he was particularly bright. All medical and surgical skill possible was of no avail.

While visiting at the apartments of Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Ross in the Wayne hotel, Roy started to play with an incandescent light. When Mrs. Ross was out of the room he unscrewed the bulb and stuck his fingers in the socket. He burned one of his fingers to a crisp.

When the doctor arrived he asked the child what the trouble was. Without any hesitation the lad answered: "Papa, I burned my finger on the light."

Little Roy has been able to speak fluently since the accident. He talks as though he had always had possession of his speaking faculties.

ELECTRIC POWER ON FARMS.

Dakota to Try Innovation That Will Increase Their Output.

St. Paul.—Some of the enterprising farmers of Davidson and Turner counties, South Dakota, are forming an association for the purpose of introducing electricity in the farming communities.

They expect to utilize electricity in plowing and cultivating the soil, harvesting the crops, running farm machinery and lighting the homes of the people. It will be applied to the dairies, creameries and other local industries. Power is to be put in the home for the purpose of running sewing machinery, laundry appliances and everything requiring physical labor.

The plan of those Dakota farmers is worthy the consideration of agriculturists in many sections of the west. It contemplates active cooperation of neighbors for the purpose of utilizing the natural advantages. It means the harnessing of water power in the mountains and valleys and the development of industries allied to farming that will increase the assets of the country.

POSTS OF DEAD WOOD

FIRE-KILLED LODGEPOLE PINE IS WELL ADAPTED.

Preserved With Cresosote by a Cheap Process It Fulfills All Requirements—Discovered by Government Experiments.

Washington.—An experiment in the preservative treatment of dead lodgepole pine for fence posts, just completed by the forest service, on the Henrys lake forest reserve in Idaho, has given results of economic value both to the people of the community and to the forest service. It has demonstrated that fire-killed lodgepole pine is well adapted to treatment with cresosote by an exceedingly simple process.

The demand for durable posts by ranchmen in the vicinity of Henrys lake has hitherto been met by the use of red cedar, but the supply of this species is now completely exhausted. The only native trees at present available for posts are lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, and Douglas fir. Though durability varies with the soundness and dryness of the posts when placed in the ground and with the character of the soil with which they come into contact, in general, aspen posts last from six to ten years, fir posts from five to seven years, and pine posts only from three to four years.

Lodgepole pine without preservative treatment is thus too short-lived to make desirable posts or poles. The idea of treating it was suggested by the requirements of forest management on the Henrys lake reserve. Large bodies of dead lodgepole pine, both standing and down—the legacy of severe fires in 1902—are a serious handicap to the forest there. This timber must be got rid of to make room for young growth if the future forest is to be well stocked.

Properly treated lodgepole pine should last 20 years, which equals the life of the former favorite, red cedar. By treating the pine, and thus making it serviceable for posts, the forest service has found a way of removing the encumbering timber, at a good price and supplying consumers with valuable posts at a reasonable figure. Since the success of preservative treatment has been demonstrated the value of the wood has risen from 25 cents to approximately 40 cents per cord.

The treatment was given in a galvanized-iron tank fitted with steam coils, in which from 40 to 50 posts stripped of bark were placed upright. Enough cresosote was then run into the tank to submerge the butts for about two and three-quarter feet, heated to 200 degrees Fahr., or a little above the boiling point of water at that altitude, and afterwards allowed to cool.

The large quantity of fire-killed timber on many of the forest reserves, the pressing need for durable wood, the steady rise in its price due to the increasing difficulty of obtaining it, and, finally, the ease with which post timber can be treated, indicate that the preservative treatment of timber is to have an important development throughout the west. This, besides meeting the demands of the people and refining the drain upon the forest, will lead to the improvement of conditions on the reserves and insure better crops hereafter.

It is the intention of the forest service to establish experimental treating plants where there are bodies of dead timber on the reserves and a demand for durable wood cannot otherwise be met. Experimental work will be conducted with zinc chloride and other processes as the needs of the different regions and the thorough testing of each process may require.

As a result of the post experiment, it is understood that a company will take up the treatment of dead lodgepole pine on a commercial scale in the spring. They are satisfied that the simplicity and economy of the open-tank process introduced by the forest service will enable them, with certain modifications of apparatus, to treat and sell not only fence posts, but telephone poles and posts used for irrigation works. They count upon a local market already in good part developed by the confidence which the fence-post experiment has inspired.

PAYS ALIMONY ALL IN PENNIES.

Saloon-Keeper Doles Out \$3 a Week in Coppers to His Wife.

New York.—James Brown, saloon-keeper at The Forge, Brook Haven, on Long Island, near Southampton, pays his wife \$3 weekly alimony. He pays it in pennies.

Every Saturday he appears at the office of former Justice George W. Hildreth with a bag full of coppers, dumps them on the office desk and makes a fair count before the eyes of the justice. Sometimes, when he can't get 300 pennies, he puts in a nickel.

If it is a grim joke, the saloon-keeper does not admit it by word of mouth. He says he does business in pennies, and it is handy to use them in allopahthic doses when paying alimony.

Mrs. Brown, who has three small children to support, accepts the coppers in the same outward spirit they are given.

"Never scold him," she tells Mr. Hildreth. "I am glad enough to get them, and if pennies are his business medium, they are my hard cash. I wouldn't know how to spend a dollar bill."

UNCLE SAM'S COMMERCE BOOMS.

His Trade Growth in Two Years Is More Than \$31,000,000.

Washington.—The enormous growth in American trade with its noncontiguous territories in the last calendar year as contrasted with the preceding one is shown in figures compiled by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor. In value this commerce aggregates \$131,000,000, compared with less than \$100,000,000 in 1904.

Of this trade \$59,000,000, in round numbers, consisted of merchandise shipped to those territories and \$72,000,000 worth of merchandise received from them. In addition to this there was received from Alaska over \$18,500,000 worth of gold, being its own production, and \$6,500,000 of foreign gold, principally from the British territory adjacent.

Of the \$59,000,000 worth of merchandise sent to the non-contiguous territories about \$22,000,000 worth went to Porto Rico, \$17,500,000 to Alaska, \$12,500,000 to Hawaii and \$7,000,000 to the Philippines.

The following figures show how American shipments of merchandise have increased in 1906 as compared with 1904: Porto Rico from \$12,999,000 to \$22,000,000, Alaska from \$11,500,000 to \$17,500,000, Hawaii from \$11,000,000 to \$12,600,000 and to the Philippines from \$5,000,000 to a little over \$7,000,000.

Shipments of merchandise from noncontiguous territories to the United States during the same period have increased as follows: Hawaii from \$25,000,000 to nearly \$30,000,000, Porto Rico from \$14,000,000 to \$20,500,000, Alaska from \$19,500,000 to \$12,000,000, while in the case of the Philippines there is shown a slight reduction.

The gold received from Alaska, the total of domestic production, was in 1904 a little over \$9,000,000 and in 1906 \$18,500,000.

CAT GUARDS DEAD HERMIT.

Yellow Feline Is Found Perched on Master's Body.

Winsted, Conn.—Charles Church, 76 years old, who when young became a hermit as the result of being disappointed in love, was found dead and frozen in his home in Blandford, Mass., near here by his nephew, James Habb of Otis, who had gone to the place to see how the old man was getting along.

The hermit's only companion, a yellow cat, was found half starved, lying on the body. Death is supposed to have resulted from paralysis.

Church did not believe in banks, and hoarded his money in his home. Willis Church of Colebrook River, his brother, and Dr. Horace Ward of New Boston found between \$400 and \$500 of the hermit's money secreted in different parts of the building. Twenty silver dollars were found in a jar containing turnip seed, larger amounts were sewed in clothing, and various sums were in kettles and other receptacles.

Recently when Willis Church called on his brother the old man seemed to realize that he was nearing death, for he told him where he had buried gold and a tin box full of money.

HUMANITARIAN STAMP PLAN.

French Deputies Urged to Adopt a Philanthropic Scheme.

Paris.—"It will be a practical and easy way of almsgiving, and the government will not lose anything by it," is the argument an important body of philanthropists is using to convince the French deputies of the wisdom of their latest charitable project—that a new postage stamp be issued and sold for twice the price marked on it, half going to the state and the other half to support indigent consumptives.

A person wishing to send a letter to a foreign country would buy a "humanitarian stamp," as it is called for ten cents instead of the usual five cents. This scheme originated with Dr. Wayenburg and has already been adopted in Holland, where it has met with considerable success.

The Dutch stamps, twice the size of the ordinary ones, were specially designed by Derkinderen, an artist of the Holland Fine Arts academy. The symbols on them represent various means of vanquishing tuberculosis, such as a head of wheat and the stalk, which stands for wholesome food, and a dove, which calls to mind fresh air.

"Bill" Club Gets Its Charter.

Jefferson City, Mo.—The "Bill Club No. 1 of the World" filed articles of association with the secretary of state, and upon a pro forma decree of the circuit court of Clay county was granted a charter as a social organization. The headquarters of this club is at Excelsior Springs and its membership is restricted to men and women who answer to the name of "Bill." William J. Bryan, United States Senator Stone and ex-Congressman Cowherd of Kansas City are on the membership roll.

Mild Tobacco for France.

Paris.—The French government, which has the monopoly for the sale of tobacco, has just placed on sale packets of tobacco containing less than one per cent. of nicotine. The ordinary tobacco has four per cent. If smokers appreciate the new blend it will become a permanent addition to the stock of the tobaccoists of France.

SPOONS SAVE ROADS

MONEY RAISED THROUGH SALE OF SOUVENIRS.

Kane County, Ill., Federation of Women's Clubs Has Novel Plan of Preserving Historic Features of Highways.

Aurora, Ill.—The most novel means to build a public highway in Illinois has been taken by the Kane County Federation of Women's clubs. Recently not less than 1,000 silver spoons, valued at \$2 each have been sold to improve and to preserve certain historic features of the roadway lying along the Fox river from Aurora as far north as Elgin and Carpentersville.

The Kane county women have been working on this project for over a year, but it has only been within the last few weeks that they hit on their novel plan of raising the money which is intended to carry out their plans which are intended to benefit the whole people.

The work of preserving landmarks and beautifying lands abutting on the roadways was commenced in the fall of 1905, when they interested the farmers to the extent of inducing them to keep their weeds cut down. Then the women engaged a landscape man and drove him over the route, the result of which was that he drew up an elaborate plan calculated to establish and maintain one of the most attractive driveways in the state.

After this came the project of raising the money. Rich men, automobile owners, drivers of blooded stock, were appealed to, but subscriptions came few and far between. During the most of the last summer there was nothing done that led the women workers to hope for the consummation of the project.

Then one of the Aurora women broadened the project. She suggested that the fund be started by selling silver spoons of a special design.

Then the women workers got their heads together in working out a design. At the start it was determined that a leading feature in the design should be a good likeness of old Chief Shabbona, who thousands of times had passed over the trail now marked by the roadway sought to be improved. The name of Shabbona is an honored one in Illinois. To the white settler of pioneer days Shabbona was a friend indeed. History relates that he saved settlements from massacre and in many other ways so endeared himself to the white people that they reverse his memory unto this day.

They named a town for him, and erected a fine monument at his grave. Shabbona's likeness has been made to appear in the bowl of the spoon and the artist has done some clever work on other portions of the souvenir. The stem is made to represent one of the predominating woods of the Fox valley, on the spreading end of the stem there is a pretty view of the valley, and at the tip is the crouching form of a fox, emblematic of the historic river and valley along and through which the roadway courses its way.

A New York silversmith was given the task of producing the spoons. At first only 500 were ordered, but the spoons began selling like the traditional hot cakes. Where at first it was next to impossible to stir up any interest in the project, people in all of the towns, including Aurora, Bannock, Galena, St. Charles, and Elgin, began buying spoons for themselves and for presents. The local clubs of all the towns kept the matter humming, and by this time, could old Shabbona come back from the happy hunting grounds, where he has been sleeping for 48 winters, he would find that his likeness in white metal has been carried to almost every state in the Union, where spoons have been sent by remembering friends.

Inclosed in each box with a spoon is a bit of history, which reads as follows:

"Shabbona, the Indian chief whose picture adorns the bowl of the Fox river valley souvenir spoons, was probably the most conspicuous Indian among the many who made their homes in the beautiful Fox river valley before the advent of the white man. He was born in Canada about 1780, of the Ottawa tribe. He married the daughter of a Pottawatomie chief, and, according to the custom of the Indians to adopt the tribe of the wife, he became a Pottawatomie. He was known as 'the white man's friend,' saved many from massacre, particularly during the Black Hawk war in 1832. He died at Seneca, Ill., July 18, 1859, and is buried in Evergreen cemetery, Morris Ill., where a monument was erected to his memory."

The success that has attended this novel venture in road building is highly gratifying, not only to the women workers who originated the scheme, but to thousands of people of Illinois who love its historic traditions and who glory in the romantic character of its river scenery.

In Primitive Manchuria.

The large and fertile fields of Manchuria are tilled with wooden plows. The vast number of well-made carts that are turned out are constructed with crude tools, laboriously fashioned in the local blacksmith shop, and a day is taken to put in shape iron fittings that an expert machinist, with good cold chisel and emery wheel, would finish in half an hour. The borings are made with hand-fashioned augers, operated with a bow and cord. Labor is cheap, but foreign inventions are scarce.