FAVORS A RETIREMENT LAW.

"If there were a retirement law for the clerks employed by Uncle Sam in the various departments at Washington, the civil service would not be cluttered up by a small army of aged and inefficient clerks," said W. R. Hayes, former congressman from Ne brasks the other day

"As it is now, no head of a depart ment or bureau chief will discharge a man or woman who has been a faithful worker for 30 years or more, because old age has impaired the usefulmess of the employe. As a result, there are hundreds, if not thousands, who are kept on the rolls merely as a matier of humanity. If dismissed they would in many instances be thrown spon the charity of the world, for it is utterly out of the question that private employment could be obtained

The stupidity of the clerks themselves has been one of the chief reasons why a liberal retirement law has failed of passage for all these years. The clerks can never agree on any policy among themselves. Many of them obstinately contend that the government has no right to withhold a dollar of their salaries to go into a pension fund for retired clerks, ignoring the recognized improvidence of that large per cent. of employes who never save a penny of their salaries. it would be an act of beneficence toward this class if a portion of their

wages was regularly retained. 'Unquestionably, it would be cheaper for the government to give a pension outright to those whose faculties are decayed, and to put young and vigorous people in the place of the superannuated. Every other first-classnation in the world save the United States has some kind of pension scheme for its civil servants, that of Canada, especially, being a model."

MICROBE LOST HOPE.

A lonely microbe, disheartened and ready to die because the public health service is rapidly putting all his ilk where they can do humanity no harm, pecked over the edge of Assistant Surgeon General George Rucker's desk the other day and heard the doctor humming a ditty that went like this:

"A fly and a flea, a mosquito and a louse, all lived together in a very dirty house. The fice spread the plague and the skeeter spread the chills. All louse spread typhus, too. Folks in hills. The fly spread typhoid and the louse spread typhus ,too. Folks in that house were a mighty sickly crew. Along came a man and he cleaned up the house. He screened out the skeeters and swatted the louse. The fly and the flee he cracked on the wall. Now the people in that house are never sick at all."

"Well" piped up the microbe, "that's all right as far as it goes, but it strikes me you've been a bit partial in this thing. How about the bedbug? Where does he get off?"

"He's going to get off pretty quick," returned the doctor. "So far the bedbug has been able to prove an alibi, but I've put the sanitary detective on his trail and I'll get him yet."

Whereupon the microbe, seeing the jig was up, committed suicide by jump ing into the inkwell.

11,221,624,084 CIGARETTES.

· If cirarette smoking is as deadly as some of the antis make out, this country will soon be inhabited exclusively à by imbeciles.

During the fiscal year 1912, the tidy number of 11,221,621,084 cigarettes was smoked in this country, an average of about 138 for every man, woman and child. Inasmuch as not all men and women and few children before the walking age smoke cigarettes, the average consumption for those who do is considerably larger than

this eleven billion odd is an in-use of two billions over the conextraption of 1911, and Secretary Mac-Veagh and his department officials confess they cannot explain this vas fump.

LIGHT HOUSEKEEPING DISCON OONTINUED.

Secretary Franklin MacVeagh will mot permit any more chafing dish parties in the Treasury building. The nounday parties, the daily teas and dainty hot luncheons have been discontinued. For many years clerks of the treasury have made merry over the chafing dish at moon, but there will be no more of that and everybody will have to go out to get lunch. The manitary committee of the department recommended that the secretary have the little eating parties discontinued and all cooking whensils removed.

Light housekeeping in Uncle Sam's money chest is a thing of the past.

Driving an Alfigator. Using a child's toy wagon and allowing himself to be drawn about by an alligator, is one of the queer methnods adopted by a German sportsman to win a wager, says Popular Mechanics. He claimed in a conversation with a friend that there were no less than 10,000 methods of locomotion, and in the dispute that followed he wagered that he could prove it. The bet was taken up by the friend and a trip around the world was undertaken to try out all the various kinds of transportation, and incident ally to devise some new ones. The aligator stunt was carried out at the alligator farm at Los Angeles, Cal.

> Worry and Work. Wiggs-Worry kills more people

than work. Wagg-Quite natural! there are more people worrying than working.

AS THE BURGLAR VIEWS IT

National Board of Control Favored by: Mr. Velvet Pillowfeet, So Well and Widely Known.

Mr. Velvet Pillowfeet, the widely known burglar, returned from Europe yesterday on the Pelumphic. When asked about the business situation he

"There is no need for worry over, the burglar business. In spite of the disturbance of recent months, underlying conditions are sound and resources are plentiful. And yet, although I am thoroughly optimistic, I want to say that no noticeable revival of burglary can be looked for at once. So long as the authorities continue their meddling, and so long as the people are willing to listen to inflammatory agitators, our solidest burglars will not undertake new commitments. The public mind has been stirred up until they think burglars are much worse than they really are. It is actually coming to the point in this country where a man who is good to his family cannot turn a dishonest penny without having to undergo annoying investigations by congress and the police and muckrakers.

"I do not deny, of course, that burglary should be regulated, nor do I object to a modicum of government control, which might even go so far as to limit the amount which a duly licensed burglar might make at any one haul, but I do think that burglary should be taken out of politics-For this purpose I favor the creation of a national burglary board, to be appointed by the president and composed of leading respectable burglars."

OUAINT NAMES GIVEN CLUBS

London Institutions Seem to Have Been Designed for All Sorts of Queer People.

The Person The title "Cave of the Golden Calf" bestowed on London's first cabaret theater club, which opened its doors recently, recalls other curiously named clubs which have flourished in this

country at different times. For instance, there was the "Calves" Head club,' founded in "ridicule of the memory of Charles I."

"The Everlasting" was a purely social club, with a membership of 100

souls. "The Little club" was a distinctly original institution. It was intended for those not five feet high. The door was made high enough to admit a

man five feet and no more. There were many others, eccentric in name and tradition, which flourished during the eighteenth century, such as "The Great Bottle club," the "Je Ne Sais Quoi club," "The Sons of the Thames" and the "No Pay No Liquor club," whose members on the first night of joining were obliged to pay an entrance fee of one shilling and wear a hat shaped like a quart pot.-London Tit-Bits.

American Shopping. A New York letter in the Munich Gazette speaks of the pleasures of shopping in the great cities of the United States, and lays particular stress on the "fairness" of the rules under which all stores seem to work. "It makes no difference," says the writer, "how unfamiliar one is with the language and the currency-he has the same place in the line of patrons with the natives. Polite salesmen and saleswomen show the goods, which are seldom urged upon the customer; the prices are fixed, and one knows that he buys at the same figure without bidding less, as his neighbor who tries to pinch the price. In one place I purchased goods to the value of 7 marks, listened to a fine concert, took tea at a small price, wrote several letters in a beautiful room at no cost save the postage, and found the goods at my home when I reached there a few hours later."

Why It Has a Hump. Keepers of the zoological gardens are expected to know all the facts and theories of natural history, and, as they do not, they sometimes have to manufacture explanations.

One of the men in the Philadelphia 200 was asked, by a visitor, what the hump on the camel's back, was for. "What's it for?" repeated the keep-

er, in a dased way. "Yes, of what value is it?" The keeper thought real hard for a

minute, and then said, gravely: "Why, sir, do you suppose folks would come miles to see this animal if it didn't have a hump? Sir, a camel, if it didn't have a hump might just as well be a cow. That's the use of the hump!"

Semething Like It. "Will you have some mocking bird

soup ?" A new waitress in a family hotel on the hill startled the diners last

evening by asking this question. "I'll not eat at this hotel again, I'm a member of the Audubon society. The very idea! Making soup out of mocking birds!" indignantly remarked

a woman. "I'll take a chance on it just once," said her husband. The waitress went to the kitchen

and returned. "I made a mistake," she said. "It was mock turtle soup."

But That Was Long Ago. Hewitt-Times have changed. Jewett-Right you are; I remember when a pedestrian had an even chance for his life when he tried to cross the street.

AFRICAN PYGMY AT ZCO

New Yorkers Soon to Have Opportunity to See Rare Animal Captives.

New York .- For the first time on record visitors to New York zoo will shortly have an opportunity to inspect what is probably the rarest animal that has ever been made a part of any such collection—that is, the pygmy hippopotamus.

These pocket editions of the "bloodsweating behemoth" were discovered in 1884 in Africa, and it has taken nearly thirty years to secure these first live specimens, although a few mounted bodies have been shown. since their habitat so far as known is confined to a remote territory peopled by bloodthirsty cannibals. The two specimens which have now been acquired, a male and a female, cost the 200 \$12,000, a figure which indicates their rarity.

According to descriptions that have crossed the Atlantic shead of the pair. the male is 30 inches high at the shoulders, 70 inches long from the end of his nose to the base of his tail, and his tail is 12 inches long. He weighs 419 pounds. The female, believed to be only two years old, is 18 inches high and weighs 176 pounds.

In comparison, Caliph, the enormous male hippopotamus who now stands in a mounted state in the American Museum of Natural History, stood 4 feet 91/2 inches high at the shoulders, was 12 feet 4 inches in length from end to nose of root of tail, his circumference was 11 feet 8 inches and his weight has been given as close to 6,500 pounds.

Beside the enormous bulk of a full grown male hippo of the common species, the pygmy is like a six months' old human infant of thirteen pounds weight beside a man of 180 pounds. In bulk one adult Nile hippo weighing 6,000 pounds is equal to fourteen adult male pygmy hippos.

CANNIBAL RACE IN THE WEST

Evidence Found by R. F. Gilder to Prove Traditions of the Omaha Indians.

Omaha, Neb.—Traditions among the Omaha Indians to the effect that a tribe of cannibals once lived in the Valley of the Missouri have been verified apparently by discoveries made recently near this city by persons operating under the direction of R. F. Gilder, a well-known archaeologist.

The Omaha Indians came to this region from the Ohio river about 300 years ago. These pioneers heard from other Indians who then lived here of the former existence of a tribe that ate human flesh. Inquiry among other tribes that had formerly been in the valley showed that they had the same tradition, and persons interested in uncovering the history of the early inhabitants of America undertook to learn if there was truth

in these tales. The search has been going on for eight years. At the beginning it was found that some race had lived on the bluffs of the Missouri in dugouts, which at times were 10 feet deep and were roofed with poles over which were laid twigs, grass, and earth. In the floors of these were caches in which were stored property and food. These from time to time have yielded evidence of cannibalism, but nothing that appeared conclusive was unearthed until this summer, when in a small dugout, one of eight, were found bones which Mr. Gilder believes show absolutely that human flesh was cooked to be eaten.

"In all there were found parts of at least 16 human skulls ranging from the smallest infant to the senile subject," said Mr. Gilder in announcing this discovery. "Many showed the peculiar color which bones assume on being boiled. In my possession there is a vast assortment of food benes of quadrupeds and birds.

AGED HEN STILL LAYS EGGS

Owner Vouches for "Belva Lockwood's" Years and Productiveness.

Boston, Mass.-Mrs. Hall of Norwell has a hen that is 21 years old this summer and still lays eggs.

"I know she is 21," says Mrs. Hall, "because she was one of a sitting of eggs that was set by my mother, and she's been dead 21 years this sum-

Belva Lockwood has laid eggs regularly up to this year. Last year she laid 11, and when she was at the coy age of 16 she was producing 250 eggs a year with the enthusiasm and industry of young broilers of two years.

"The only trouble with her," says Mrs. Hall, "is that she's a little blind. She seems to feel her way, but if I let her out she's likely to get lost, so I keep her locked up."

BOLT MELTS PICTURE WIRES

Lightning Twists Child About and Cuts Up Other Didoes in New Jersey.

Williamstown, N. J. - Ligining performed some weird antics in the home of Albert Eldridge. The current entered by way of a chimney and blow out every chimney stop in the house. It melted picture wires by the dozen, tore off picture frames, smashed a bureau to pieces and cut carpets in several rooms. The current penetrated every room in the house except the parlor, and in the sitting room seized a grandchild of Eldridge, who was playing in the middle of the floor, and turned her completely around without doing her any injury.

SWIMS ACROSS BAY

Young Girl Makes Half a Mile in Record Time.

Six-Year-Old Covers Long Distance at . Dover in Nineteen Minutes Cuts Her Way Though Waves Like an Expert.

Dover.-Vicitors to Dover and promenaders on the harbor piers were astonished recently to see a little mite of a girl, barely more than a baby, take the water with all the ease and aplomb of a channel swimmer, and proceed to swim half a mile across the bay in the record time of

19 minutes. And the sight was in truth a remarkable one. The diminutive swimmer, looking the merest speck on the sunlit waters, cut her way through the waves with a businesslike, sturdy breast stroke that would have done credit to a Wolff or a Holbein.

Swimming by her side with watchful eyes was Mrs. Jack Weldman, the channel swimmer. But the little record-maker neded no guardianship. Instead, the little girl finished her half mile as fresh as a cricket without aid of any kind, and this although the sea was anything but smooth. By some people it would have been considered choppy.

The plucky little girl who achieved this novel performance is Freda Pickett, a six-year-old pupil of Miss Jarvis. sister of the English champion swimmer.

The part of Dover bay covered by the child is that which lies between the Prince of Wales pier to the Promenade pier, a distance of half a mile, which she covered in the extraordinary time of 19 minutes.

The child's parents belong to Market Harborough (Leicestershire). Jack Weidman is enthusiastic about her

prowess. Little Freda is a merry-looking child, just over three feet high, and slightly built.

In a chat which I had with the little swimmer she said: "I love the water and always look forward to my swimming lessons. I swim at Market Harborough and go over to Leicester once a week for my lesson from Miss Jarvis.

"I wanted to do this swim from pier to pier, but when I was out a little way I felt lonely. Then Mr. Weidman came along. "He has swum with me in the bay

for several days past, and I feel all right so long as he is near. "He is so big, you see," added the mite, "and he takes me on his back

when I feel tired.' Asked if she meant to try and swim the channel when she grows up, the little fairy responded with enthusi-

"I should like to," she said, "but 1 should want Mr. Weidman to come with me."

Little Freds mainly relies on the breast stroke in her swimming, and her head is well out of the water. She changes to the side stroke at times. and when she is tired she turns on her back and floats.

She was as merry as could be throughout the swim. When she had got about half way and was asked how she felt, she laughingly replied: "I feel fine."

CATS AGENTS OF DISEASE

Massachusetts City's Health Board Believes Household Pets Caused ∞ Epidemic.

Springfield, Mass.-Officials of the local health department believe they have traced the source of infantile paralysis to the house cat. The health inspectors have discovered several well-developed cases in cats and will send several of the affected animals to Boston for observation.

The disease was epidemic in various cities two years ago, and the number of cases reported in Springfield approximated the figures of New York and Philadelphia.

San Diego, Cal., Aug. 14.-To prevent a spread here of infantile paralysis, now prevalent in Los Angeles and other northern ports, the board of health of San Diego has declared a quarantine, restricting children from attending public places.

WERE LOST ON BERRY HUN

Washington Attorneys Are Finally Found With the Ald of Bloodhounds.

Walla Walla, Wash.-Wilbur Tones and Frank Crowe, local attorneys, lost in the Blue mountains, were found on Salmon river, fifty miles from Walla Walla. They were trailed by bloodhounds. The young men, almost exhausted, were making their way slowly down the river through the wildest country in the range.

Toner and Crowe left their camp to hunt huckleberries. After they had been absent 36 hours other members of their party notified the police. They had wandered 25 miles from their camp. Sheriff M. Toner, father of one of the men, led the searching party.

Returns Fat Wallet and Gets Dime. Germantown, Pa.-Leonard Cholerton found a pocketbook containing 2261, hopped on a street car and returned it to the owner. The man thanked the boy and gave him a dime for his honesty. Young Choierton walked home so that his profit would De five cents.

"Miles rebiewadaly 3.10 P.

OLD FAD IS AGAIN REVIVED

England and America Follow France in Digging Up Inexpensive and Entertaining Practice.

Boston.-A quarter of a century ago our mothers and our fathers had their pictures taken "en schouette." It was a fad that caught the country and had a brief reign. Some persons acquired considerable skill with shears and screen and lamp and made toe most outrageously amusing shadow caricatures of their friends. Many had albums in which they glued their pictures.

Everybody soon forgot these galjeries of silhousties. Now the fed has been revived and it is quite the proper thing to entertain one's friends with silhouette parties at which prizes are awarded for the cleverest outline pictures produced.

England, copying France, has taken up the silhouette fad with a vim, and America, not to be outdone, is making new collections in shadow pio-

The fad has much to recommend it as a diversion for the summer months. It is an inexpensive form of entertainment and it provides much amuse-

Shadow sculpture gets its name from a French minister of finance whose parsimony in public expenditures arouses the resentment of the people. Outline pictures of him in black cardboard were hawked about Paris streets in 1758, and not long aft erward he lost his portfolio.

IN PLEA FOR GUADALOUPE

Henry Beranger, French Senator, Sees Great Future for Colony in the Antilles

Paris.—Henry Beranger, the French senator representing Guadaloupe, the French island colony in the Lesser Antilles group in the Atlantic, has issued a public appeal in behalf of that island, which he has just visited.

Senator Beranger foresees a great industrial and agricultural future for Guadaloupe, but he declares that the island is now too heavily burdened with taxes.

He points out that in the last ten years the population has increased from 180,000 to 220,000, and Guadaloupe has maintained her output of sugar, the coffee production has tripled and the production of fruit flavorings has steadily mounted.

What Guadaloupe needs, says Senator Beranger, is a chance to work by herself and for herself. She needs to be freed from excessive taxes levied by the mother country and the great variety of fiscal charges which stiffe the efforts of planters and fishermen and which together constitute a burden which discourages the admirable enthusiasm of the islanders to develop into a successful and brilliant colony.

FISH HIRES SAFE CRACKERS

Thing and Silver is Locked Up at Newport Villa and Combination Cannot Be Worked.

Boston.—Safe-breaking experts employed by a firm of manufacturers here have been summoned to Newport to open the family safe at the villa of Mr. and Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish. Before Mr. and Mrs. Fish left their estate at Garrisons, N. Y., they sent on their most valuable china and sil-

ver, with orders that it be locked in the safe. This was done, but upon the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Fish the combination could not be worked. Locksmiths were called, but acknowledged that they could not open the safe without the use of explosives. This drastic method Mrs. Fish would not permit, fearing the concussion

are now on their way to Newport. DOG SAVES BOY. IS KILLED

might destroy the china and silver. It

was then that Mr. Fish decided to call

upon the expert safe breakers, who

Canine Drage Child From In Front of Auto, but is Crushed to Death.

Cincinnati.—To save his master, five-year-old Clarence Whitney, the youngster's pet dog gave up his own life under the wheels of an automobile. The boy was crossing Madison road near the home of Senator Foraker.

and did not see an automobile driven by Miss Margaret Payne. of Carlisle avenue, rapidly approaching. The dog seized his master by the trousers and tried to drag him out of the path of danger. The machine was so close that the animal was unable to get the child entirely out of the road. The lad was struck a glancing blow that knocked him down, but did not cause any serious injury. The dog was caught under the wheels and crushed to death.

BOLT TRACES TREE ON MAN

Lightning Kills Two In New York-Freak Lightning Draws Picture on Victim's Back.

New York.-Five deaths, two as a result of lightning, and numerous prostrations were the tolls claimed here by the excessive heat. The two men killed by lightning had sought relief from the heat under a tree in the Bronz when a bolt demolished the tree and caused instant death to the men. The clothing was torn from the back of one of the victims and a picture of the tree under which he was killed traced on his back. Two other men and a six-months-old infant complets the list of dead.

AIDED IN DEATH OF WOMAN

Man Surrenders to Police, Declaring That His Conscionce Has Been Troubling Him.

New York.—Evan Evanson of 1425 Bath avenue, Bath Beach, an elderly man of impressive appearance, called at police headquarters in Manhattan and asked to see the person in charge, if there were any one on duty so late at night and it was not too much

trouble. Lieut. James Dunn, who lately has grown a little sensitive to criticism of the difficulties which persons who desire to surrender for crime or give testimony against criminals are said to have experienced, sent out word that Mr. Evanson was to come right

"Fifteen years ago," said Mr. Evanson, "I was responsible for the death of a woman, Margaret Lens, in Brooklyn. My conscience troubles me in my old age and I wish to surren-

The telephone helped to find two detectives in Brooklyn who were willing to come over and take charge of him, and Mr. Evanson was locked up in the Adams street station over

night. When he was arraigned before Magistrate Dodd, Assistant District Attorney Lee, who had been looking up the death of Margaret Lens, told the magistrate that the health department books showed that Margaret Lens died July 30, 1898, of Bright's disease and that Coroner Delapha had

so certified. "I know that," said Evanson. "I am not exactly a murderer. But I want to tell the grand jury how I am

responsible." Magistrate Dodd committed Mr. Evanson to the Kings county hospital for observation for five days.

FORTUNE FOR ILLEGAL SON-

Father Advertises for Kin, Now Fifty-

two Years Old, Whom He Plans to Give \$60,000. Philadelphia, Pa.—The following advertisement in the newspapers tells

a remarkable tale of an old wrong.

with the attempt of the father to right himself after fifty years of silence: "In the spring of 1860, a few miles from Lancaster, a boy child was born to a German girl named Caroline, who a short time after died, but the thild lived. If any one can give any information about this kindly write to C. J. Nyholm, 478 North Third street,

Philadelphia." Mr. Nyholm is an insurance broker and at his home he told the story of an aged and grief-stricken old man who in his reclining years desires to give the child of whom he is the father \$60,000. He has not seen the child since 1888, when it is thought that the young man went to Lancaster, being somewhere in the farming secion at that time. The father intended to marry the mother of his offspring, but went to the Civil war, and when he was mustered out he fourd

PIN IN LIVER 20 YEARS: DIES

she had died during his absence.

Operation Apparently Successful, But Brooklyn Girl's Strength Fails-First Case of Kind.

New York .- Miss Kathryn Roche, Brooklyn, died in the Prospect Heights hospital, and a surgical examination . into the cause of her mysterious illness revealed the fact that for 20 years a small pin had been in her

No similar case has ever come to the knowledge of New York surgeons. Twenty years ago Miss Roche was taken to Seney hospital. It was then thought that she was suffering from an ordinary stomach malady and the doctors sent her home. A recent operation was apparently successful, but the vitality of the atient was not sufficient to carry her through the

reactionary period. MOVING HABIT DIVORCE PLEA

Minneapolis Man Says His Wife Has Ciranged Abode Twentynine Times.

Minneapolis, Minn.—If a man is compelled by his wife to move twenty-nine times in the seventeen years of his married life, is it ground for

a divorce? W. P. Crawley of this city believes it is, and has asked that the court grant him freedom. In his petition he declares that the "moving habit" formed by his wife has become unbearable; that she "beat him up" with a broom, and that he gave all his earnings to his wife, who spent them, forcing him to borrow from his brother to provide for his needs.

Wada His Grandniece. Poughkeepsie, N. Y.—Stephen Scutt seventy-five years old, a wealthy resk dent of Dutchess couty, has married his grandniebe, Miss Alice See, tweny ty-two years old. They had never seen each other until a few days ago. -

Cleveland to Bar Loafers. Cleveland.—Because the faces on public square benches had become familiar through hot days and nights, Police Chief Kohler has ordered habitual loafers barred from the city's downtown breathing places.

Supposed Body is Dummy. Chicago.-A horristed crowd ran to the front of the Y. W. C. A. building on Michigan avenue after the body of a woman hit the sidewalk with a duli thud. They found a dummy dressed in an old skirt and jacket.

L'ABEILLE DEPLA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS rander or Louisians of Manacillans Last Etate . In Pade 2 to published after Classific Commerce Conference Commerce Comm