

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

Women as Wage Earners.

IT has never been determined to the satisfaction of the men workers that it is a good or a fair thing for the women workers to compete with them in the open labor market. The men contend that the women, by accepting a lower wage, decrease the average wage paid to all. The unmarried women who have no one to work for them maintain that the woman who has a husband for her bread-winner is an unfair competitor. Then, again, there are those, generally old-fashioned folk that have, like Webster's veterans, come down to us from former generations, who devoutly believe that the woman's sphere of labor, as wife and mother, is in her own home, where useful, helpful work for the world may be found to engage much of her time, energy and intelligence. These ancient people contend that the rearing of children, the making of good men and noble women, is the very best and the most profitable work to which married women can put their hands or minds.

Respecting the merits or demerits of any of these three contentions we do not pretend to decide, as we are past masters in neither political economy nor sociology. What we do know on the subject pretty thoroughly is that the right kind of labor is a good and beneficial thing for women as well as for men, and that day by day recognition of that fact is becoming more general. What else is being recognized is that the woman who works for a wage or salary loses no dignity nor prestige, but rather gains both by her willingness and ability either to work and support herself in womanly independence or to assist in the support of her family who need her assistance.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Saving Niagara.

GOVERNOR ODELL'S veto has, for the time being, saved Niagara Falls from spoliation by utilitarian enterprise. He rightly considers that sentiment—a love for the grand and beautiful in nature—has claims upon the law-making power which cannot wisely be ignored in behalf of money-making propositions. It will be easy to find elsewhere the power necessary to run the machinery of a population five or ten times as great as that of the United States to-day. But we cannot find another Niagara. So the New York statesman has the approval of the nation at large, whatever the disappointed Niagara corporation and its tools in the State Legislature may think of his veto.

But Governors and Legislatures come and go, and if Niagara is to flow on forever it is not well that the fate of the Falls should depend on the bargainings of lobbyists and politicians. Neither should it depend on the chance that there may never be a Governor of New York to whom sentiment may be mere silliness, and Niagara a mere waste of water which should be set to turning mill-wheels. The jurisdiction of New York State over a river which forms part of an international boundary is subject to the treaty-making power of the Federal Government. That government, in conjunction with Canada, can make the destruction of the cataract forever impossible through a treaty prohibiting any further diversion of the waters of the river. As both countries are now using the water in about equal quantities the prohibition would be fair to both, and would preserve to Canada and New York the glorious central attraction about which each has created, at vast expense, a magnificent riverside park.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Cupid in the School Houses.

FROM time immemorial the school house has been a favorite resort for sly Cupid. Thousands of charming young women have found the school house the threshold of matrimony, and countless young men have met their fate while eking out an educational existence by teaching winters and "boarding round." Under these circumstances none but the most hard-hearted educational autocrat would have the temerity to seek to banish Cupid and to say that no female teacher could rise in love and marry the man of her choice without losing her position in the public schools.

The New York Board of Education sought to banish all married women from wicked Gotham's public schools, and forthwith an incipient revolution was started. A come-

ly young teacher named Kate S. Murphy, who fell a victim to Cupid's wiles, determined to make a test case in behalf of herself as well as of her suffering sisters, and she brought action against the superintendent for the purpose of preventing the enforcement of the by-law providing that "No woman principle, head of department or member of the teaching or supervising staff shall marry while in the employ of the Board of Education."

The case was carried to the Court of Appeals, where a victory was won for the matrimonial liberty of the female teacher. Following this defeat the New York Board of Education has now amended its by-laws by striking out the clause which permits charges to be made against a teacher- bride, but it retains the prohibitive feature, merely to demonstrate its continued belief that female teachers ought not to wed and still retain their positions.

In the meantime Kate S. Murphy has won a victory in behalf of her sex in connection with the public schools which will unquestionably be appreciated by her teaching sisters everywhere, and as a token of her good faith she will continue to teach in gay Gotham even though she has fallen a victim to clever Cupid.—Burlington Free Press.

Brazil, Peru and Rubber.

WHEN Brazil and Bolivia entered into a treaty concerning the territory of Acre last fall, it was thought that the long standing disputes over the region had finally been brought to an end. Now it appears, however, that Peru is still to be reckoned with. A battle has been fought between Peruvian and Brazilian troops on the River Granddies, the result being, according to Brazilian reports, a complete rout of the Peruvians.

The Ministers of both countries at Washington have thought it important to bid for American sympathy by issuing statements as to their respective claims and rights. Formally considered, these statements have little in them of interest. They deal simply with vague treaties and vaguer boundaries in an exceedingly thinly settled region.

Actually the dispute has great importance to both countries, because the prize at stake is the control of some of the richest rubber forests in the world. Brazilian companies have begun to work the forests in the course of their progress up the tributaries of the Amazon, while Peruvian companies have entered them since the denudation of the forests in Mantana, which is recognized Peruvian territory.

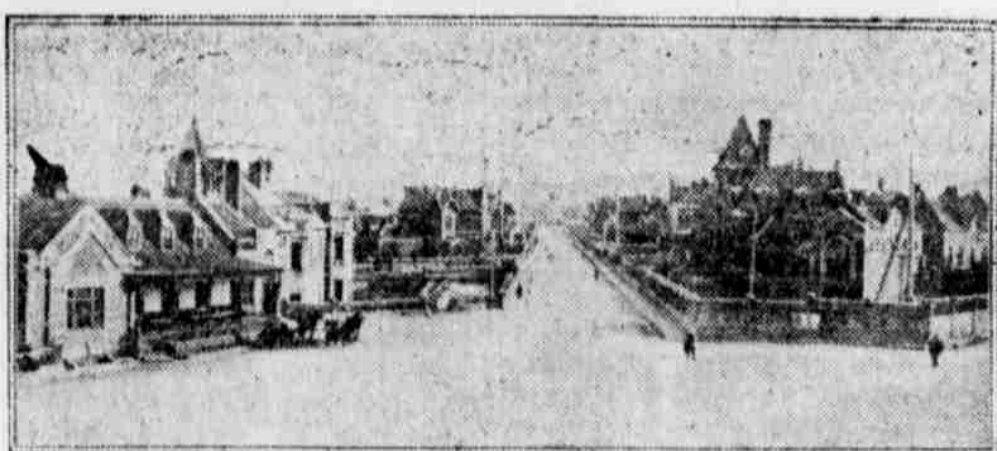
It is reported from Rio Janeiro that no war will result from the frontier battle since both countries desire arbitration. Brazil demands, however, that Peru withdraw all her troops from the disputed country before arbitration begins, while Peru insists that the presence of her troops is not in the slightest degree derogatory of "good faith and fraternal sentiment." Certainly if the desire for arbitration is genuine a provisional arrangement should be easy to make.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Industrial Changes in China.

SLOW as is the progress of civilization in China, compared with Japan, which, in a period covered by the memory of men now living, had sprung from a condition as barbarous as Persia to her present place among nations, yet industrially at least the "Celestial" Empire does move, and that in a manner which cannot be neglected in any computation of future trade with that country. The report of the Inspector General of Customs of the empire shows that China is rapidly getting into a condition to supply herself with certain articles for which she has depended heretofore almost entirely upon other countries. Those who have not kept themselves well informed in regard to the industrial changes which have been taking place in the empire will be surprised to learn from the report that the nation which for so many years relied almost entirely upon England and the United States for its cotton goods, now manufactures 50 per cent of all the goods of this kind supplied to the home market. In a year China's imports of flour have fallen off one-fourth, not that the Chinese are eating less of it than formerly—in fact, the consumption of flour is increasing in the empire—but because the deficiency in imports was more than made good by the recently established Chinese flour mills grinding Chinese wheat.

These would seem to be signs that, in spite of a corrupt and incompetent Government, China is beginning to awake from her sleep of centuries.—New York Press.

DESTRUCTION OF DALNY'S DOCKS.



ONE OF DALNY'S PRINCIPAL STREETS.

The necessities of war produce strange conditions. For five years the Russians had been engaged in erecting the commercial port of Dalny, situated on Tallenwan Bay to the east and north of Port Arthur. It was to be an open port, without a custom house, and free to the commerce of the world. Large government buildings were erected, streets were laid out, houses built and great docks constructed, the entire outlay being in the neighborhood of \$25,000,000. Then came the war, with Russian unpreparedness on land and sea. The defeat of the Russians at Kin-Chou compelled their evacuation of Dalny. Before abandoning the place, however, they destroyed the larger docks and many of the utilities which Japan might find useful, thus wiping out in a few hours works which in times of peace they had created at large outlay of time and money.

Some men belong to church and some others seem to think the church belongs to them.

For every man who achieves greatness there are millions who fail to have it thrust upon them.

GOOD Short Stories

Norman E. Mack, of Buffalo, was asked the other day to define the word bonanza. Mr. Mack has had some experience in mining propositions, and replied: "A bonanza is a hole in the ground owned by a d-d liar."

A Mormon once argued polygamy with Mark Twain. The Mormon insisted that polygamy was moral, and he defied Twain to cite any passage of Scripture that forbade the practice. "Well," said the humorist, "how about that passage that tells us no man can serve two masters?"

We all have our trials at the telephone, but we do not usually hear "Central's" opinion of us. A San Francisco lawyer, who had been trying for ten minutes or more without success to get the number he asked for at last gave vent to his annoyance in very strong language. His wife, who was standing near, said, persuasively, "Let me try, dear." Then, in a gentle voice, which was intentionally a strong contrast to his angry tones, she called, "Hello, Central!" Her husband distinctly heard "Central" answer promptly, "Just a moment, madam. There is a crazy man on the line. Let me settle him first."

At a meeting of the Birdsborough (Pa.) Athenaeum, which devotes an evening each month to the consideration of topics of current interest, the subject of compulsory education was taken up. There was a vigorous exposition of views, pro and con, into which not a little feeling entered. Finally, one member, who had been listening attentively, obtained the floor after considerable difficulty, and remarked that the field had been gone over so thoroughly that there remained little to be said. "But," he added, "I want to say this: Some people have no children, and don't care whether they go to school or not."

Dr. Seward Webb was one of a party of friends who listened to some tall tales from a young braggart. Then Dr. Webb told a story of an adventure he had with a grizzly. It happened in the Rockies, and culminated in the doctor being left defenseless on the edge of a high cliff, over which his rifle had fallen—and the bear only six feet away. When he had reached this point in his story Dr. Webb paused, and appeared to have finished. Then the imaginative young man, who had been listening pop-eyed, broke in: "Well," he said; "well? Go on. What happened?" Dr. Webb, looking him calmly in the eye, replied: "The grizzly devoured me."

In a little Tennessee town lived a justice of the peace who had been elected for many terms, although he was the only Republican in the district. At last, one campaign when political excitement was very high, it was determined to oust him, and put in a Democrat. The Republican was frightened. Then he resolved upon a bold plan. The election was held in an old distillery, and before a vote was cast the justice of the peace announced his intention of making a speech. "Feller citizens," he said, from the top of a barrel that he had mounted, "I've been justice of the peace here goin' on twenty years, an' a good many times I've saved many of you from goin' to the penitentiary, an' now you're tryin' to put me out of office. But I just want to tell you something. I've got the constitution and the laws of the State of Tennessee in my pocket, and just as sure as you turn me out of office I'll burn 'em up—blame me if I don't—and you may all go to ruin together." He was elected. The voters felt that to be in a State without a constitution and laws was too great a calamity to be thought of.

A THEORY OF KANSAS RAIN.

Dr. Snow Says that the Moisture Comes from the Gulf.

The theory that the rainfall of Kansas depends very largely upon the snowfall in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado is not supported by Dr. F. H. Snow of the University of Kansas, who believes that the rains of Kansas are caused by winds from the Gulf of Mexico, says the Kansas City Star. Dr. Snow, who has studied the weather of Kansas 37 years, supports his theory by argument, which is the result of close observation. The United States Weather Bureau recently sent out warning to persons in eastern Colorado and parts of Nebraska stating that on account of a deficiency in the snowfall in the mountains last winter the supply of water in the Platte River for irrigation will be exhausted prematurely. This has called attention and promoted discussion regarding the theory which attributes the rainfall of Kansas to the melting snow in the Rockies.

According to this theory, an excessive snowfall in the mountains is followed by an abundant rainfall in Kansas the following season, while a deficiency of snowfall indicates the prob-

ability of a serious deficiency in rainfall. In talking of the question as to the source of Kansas rainfall to-day, Dr. Snow said:

"Notwithstanding the deficiency of snow in the Rocky Mountain region last winter, the rainfall of Kansas in March and April greatly exceeded the normal amount and furnished a sufficient refutation of the theory that Kansas rainfall depends upon the mountains snow. The most probable source of the moisture which produces the Kansas rainfall is the Gulf of Mexico. The prevailing winds of Kansas in the latter part of spring, the entire summer and the first half of autumn, are from the south and southwest."

Dr. Snow's theory is that the winds of western Kansas come from across the hot, sandy country of New Mexico and western Texas and that the winds of eastern Kansas blow over central northern Texas, central Oklahoma and after crossing Kansas take a northwestern course through southeastern Nebraska, northwestern Missouri and over Iowa. This territory is in the rain belt and is not subject to dry seasons as in western Kansas and parts of other states over which the dry hot winds from the far southwest pass. These dry winds, after their course over New Mexico and western Texas, cross western Kansas and pursue a course further east in Nebraska than in Kansas and then into the Dakotas.

"The sea breezes from the Gulf of Mexico," said Dr. Snow, "extend westward into south Texas for a considerable distance, gradually veering to the north and joining the regular southwest winds, bringing abundant moisture to the eastern part of Kansas, while the western half of the State lying beyond the moisture-laden winds from the gulf has a different rainfall in each locality according to its distance from the northward moving moisture-laden currents."

Dine Only When Hungry.

A prolific cause of chronic indigestion is eating from habit and simply because it is meal time and others are eating. To eat when not hungry is to eat without relish, and food taken without relish is worse than wasted. Without relish the salivary glands do not act, the gastric fluids are not freely secreted, and the best of foods will not be digested. Many perfectly harmless dishes are severely condemned for no other reason than they were given perfunctorily and without relish and due insalivation.

Hunger makes the plainest foods enjoyable. It causes vigorous secretion and outpouring of all the digestive fluids—the sources of ptyalin, pepsin, trypsin, etc., without a plentiful supply of which no foods can be perfectly digested.

Wait for an appetite if it takes a week. Fasting is one of the saving graces. It has a spiritual significance only through its great physical and physiologic importance. If breakfast is a bore or lunch a matter of indifference cut one or both of them out. Wait for distinct and unmistakable hunger, and then eat slowly. If you do this you need ask few questions as to the propriety and digestibility of what you eat, and it need not be predigested.—Hygienic Magazine.

The Fringe on Mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes belong to the fly family, but differ from common flies in many respects. One of the most interesting differences is the fringe of hairlike scales on the edge of the wing and on the wing veins. These scales are exceedingly transparent and dainty in appearance, and the accomplished microscopist looks at them with great interest, because, once upon a time, the English-speaking microscopists of the whole world were fighting a wordy war about the true structure of these feathery objects. Microscopic lenses of those days were poor in comparison with the lenses of the present, and few observers agreed in the interpretation of what they saw. We know about these scales now, but they will always be attractive, because thirty or forty years ago they stirred up quite a scientific contest.—St. Nicholas.

Earthworms and Moisture.

Earthworms cannot live without moisture; their food is also dependent upon it. During droughts they burrow down to moisture often three or four feet, and it is only after rains, during humid weather, or in damp earth that they may be dug up just under the surface or are seen reaching far out of their holes or even traveling on the surface to new localities, generally at night. Vegetable mold often grows upon pavements, and worms frequent such places. Often they crawl upon the hard sidewalks and cannot burrow down again. They are found in greatest numbers wherever there is decaying vegetation. Worms are friends of man and serve an important economic purpose.—St. Nicholas.

Free Variation.

Old Mother Hubbard,
She went to the market,
To get a nice porterhouse steak,
But when she got there
The price had doubled,
And she had to buy liver instead.
—Chicago Tribune.

Are No Tramps in Germany.

To-day the lot of the laboring man in Germany is in many respects better than that of ours. The German state recognizes the right of every man to live—we do not. When the German laborer becomes old or feeble the state pensions him honorably. In Germany the laboring man can ride on the electric cars for 2 cents—we pay 5. German cities have public baths, public laundry establishments, big parks, free concerts and many other features which soften poverty—although they do not remove it.

The corollary to this is that the emperor permits no tramps to terrorize his highways. The police are organized for rural patrol as well as city work, and every loafer is stopped and made to give an account of himself. In England vagrancy has been a public nuisance for generations—with us it has become of late years almost a public danger. Germany has no tramps. The man who is without work in Germany finds no inducement to remain idle. A paternal government sets him to such hard work that the would-be unemployed finds it decidedly to his interest to seek some other employment as soon as possible.—National Magazine.

A keen critic is apt to make cutting remarks.