

Folk Who Are Talked About

Attorney General Moody's New Task.
Witte's Legal Adviser—Judge Calvin.
Page—Minister Hicks—Maud Gonne's Troubles.



ATTORNEY GENERAL
W. H. MOODY.

THOUGH this is the season when professional men usually take things easy and go on long vacations, the attorney general of the United States, William H. Moody, is delving into the scandals in the department of agriculture. Mr. Moody is a man who thrives on hard work. He is considered to resemble the president both in figure and in the strenuousness of his habits. The attorney general is not so impulsive as Mr. Roosevelt, but is built on much the same lines physically, being of medium height, stocky appearance and ruddy, well browned complexion. Like the president, he is athletic, walks eight or ten miles a day and is a good horseman. Before Mr. Moody was attorney general he was secretary of the navy, and before that he was in congress. He went to congress with a high reputation as a lawyer. His conduct of the commonwealth side of the celebrated Lizzie Borden case at Fall River, Mass., had heralded his name throughout the country. During the drawing of seats at the beginning of the Fifty-fourth congress he and another shod, heavy set young congressman found themselves sitting side by side.

"Haven't I seen you somewhere?" asked Mr. Moody's neighbor.

"Really, I don't know. It is possible we have met somewhere," was the reply.

"Oh, I know you! You were counsel for the commonwealth in the Lizzie Borden trial and your name is Moody. My name is Quigg, and I reported that trial for the New York Tribune." And the lawyer and reporter, now national legislators, shook hands.

On his mission to this country to confer about terms of peace between Russia and Japan M. Sergius Witte, the czar's chief envoy, has the advice of a professor of international law, Frederick von Martens, whose opinions on subjects pertaining to international relations carry much weight in Europe. Although of German extraction, his career has been associated chiefly with Russia, and he has been of great service to that country in past years in the good use he has been able to make of his knowledge of international law and foreign affairs. Professor von Martens was born in 1843 at Pernau, in Livland, one of the Baltic provinces. He clings to the "von" in his name because it marks him as belonging to the minor German nobility. Most of the leading Russian and German universities have conferred degrees on Professor Martens.

Since 1871 he has been professor of international law at the University of St. Petersburg. He has served as special commissioner of the Russian government on several important occasions, has been prominent in connection with the Hague peace conference movement, has written much for reviews and magazines and is the author of several books, among them "The International Rights of Civilized Nations," "The Brussels Conference and the Oriental War of 1877" and "The Right of Private Property in War."

The honor of being the host of the Russian and Japanese peace commissioners during their stay at Portsmouth falls on Judge Calvin Page, a well known New Hampshire lawyer. The quarters of the visiting foreigners are the Hotel Wentworth, on the Atlantic coast a few miles from the city of Portsmouth. They travel back and forth each day between this hotel and the Portsmouth navy yard, where they hold their sessions.

The hotel is owned by the estate of the late Frank Jones, and Judge Page, as one of the trustees of the estate, manages the property. It was in this way that he extended the courtesies of the resort to the peace conferees and said that no board bill would be rendered, as the honor of entertaining such a distinguished party would be a sufficient consideration. However, Judge Page is quoted as saying that he hopes the conference will not last so long that it will involve keeping the hotel open after the regular summer guests have departed and making special provision for the envoys and their attaches, since the building is designed only for use during the warm months. The judge is quoted as saying concerning his guests:

"About the menu? Japanese, I'm told, eat snowballs and rats. Now, our rats here in Portsmouth are not very fat, and I'm afraid won't come up to the standard. But Russians, I'm

bold, are great for fish. In Russia every man of wealth, so I'm told, has a private tank of his own into which he casts the live fish, taking them out as fast as required. So, you can see, we can suit the Russians easily, and, as for the Japanese, they are very cultured and polite and will understand that we are unable to accommodate them with the snowball and rat diet, and everything will be all right."

Colonel John Hicks, the new minister of the United States to Chile, is a newspaper man, an author and a diplomat. He is a Wisconsin man, but was born in Auburn, N. Y., in 1847. When he was a child his family removed to the Wolverine State, and when the civil war came along his father joined the army and was killed in fighting for his country. Young Hicks had to struggle in making his upward climb, but he worked his way through college, joined the staff of the Oshkosh Northwestern and gradually won a name for himself in journalism. He is now owner and editor of the Northwestern, has written much under the pen name of Sandy Broad and is the author of "The Man From Oshkosh." Colonel Hicks was appointed minister to Peru by the late President Harrison. As minister to Chile he succeeds Henry L. Wilson, who was transferred to Belgium.



JOHN HICKS.

John Kendrick Bangs once ran across a gift copy of one of his books in a secondhand bookshop, still having this inscription on the fly leaf: "To his friend, J— G—, with the regards and esteem of J. K. Bangs. July, 1899." Mr. Bangs bought the copy and sent it to his friend again with a second inscription beneath: "This book, bought in a secondhand bookshop, is re-presented to J— G—, with renewed and reiterated regards and esteem by J. K. Bangs, December, 1899."

There are some peculiar features in the suit for divorce which Mrs. John McBride, better known by her maiden name of Maud Gonne and often called "The Irish Joan of Arc," has brought in Paris against her husband, the gallant colonel of the Irish brigade which fought on the side of the Boers in the South African war.



MAUD GONNE
M'BRIDE.

When the beautiful and eloquent pleader for the cause of Ireland united her fortunes with those of the officer who fought so bravely in the Boer war, the romance of the union attracted much attention. Both were picturesque figures, both were devoted to the idea of freeing Ireland from English rule through the use of the sword, and their marriage was supposed to be a case of true love. But it has proved otherwise. In the course of the trial in Paris the counsel for Colonel McBride, Maitre Labori, who defended Dreyfus, asserted that the Irish Joan of Arc was subject to hallucinations, giving as an example her belief that she is the reincarnation of an ancient Irish queen. He argued that her belief that her husband was unfaithful was simply another of her hallucinations.

There is a story that Mrs. McBride might have had for a husband no less a hero than the renowned English general, Lord Kitchener. According to the story, he ceased to be a suitor for her hand when she asked him to lead an Irish army against England.

George S. Nixon, successor of William M. Stewart as senator from Nevada, is a native of California and forty-four years of age. He is a business man, and his early career was one of struggle against adverse circumstances. He learned telegraphy and when scarcely more than a boy was an operator at a lonely station in Nevada. He obtained a position in a bank and rose from one post to another until in 1886 he organized the First National Bank of Winnemucca, of which he is president. He now controls four other banks and also owns valuable mining property and several large cattle ranches. He at one time owned a newspaper and has served in the Nevada legislature. Senator Nixon supported William J. Bryan in 1896 and 1900, but for several years has acted with the Republican party. Fifteen years ago the senator had an adventure with bank robbers which he will not forget as long as he lives. He was alone one evening in the Winnemucca bank when five desperadoes rode up and proceeded to take possession of the premises. Before he could reach for his Winchester, which was ten feet away, he was covered with a Colt's revolver and was ordered to throw up his hands. The outlaws placed a knife at his throat, and he was forced to unlock the safe and give the robbers \$22,600 in cash. Not a cent of that booty has ever been captured. The robbers were pursued as soon as an alarm could be given and a party collected, but they got away.



GEORGE S. NIXON.

It is all right to go to law. Going to the lawyers is what costs.—Tarrytown (N. Y.) News.

Different.

It is all right to go to law. Going to the lawyers is what costs.—Tarrytown (N. Y.) News.

A Vegetable Caterpillar.

In New Zealand and Australia they have an animal vegetable oddity which cannot be equaled by any other animate or inanimate object upon the earth's surface. It is the queerest of the many antipodean wonders and paradoxes and for the want of a better name has been called the "bulrush caterpillar" or "vegetable worm." The native Tasmanian name for the oddity is aweto-hotete. The aboveground portion of this vegetable worm is a fungus of the order sphaeria, which grows to a height of six or eight inches. When pulled up by the root this fungus is found to consist of a large caterpillar, showing head, segments and breathing holes—every detail of the grub being perfectly preserved. On examination the interior of the caterpillar is found to be composed of a "punky" looking substance, really the root of the fungus, which has cremated every fiber of what was once a living, breathing creature's anatomy. In all the instances which Buckland records, the sphaeria had made its attack in the fold of skin between the second and third segments of the caterpillar and had replaced all the animal substance of the creature's body with a hard brown vegetable growth resembling the fungoid growths on blackberry and other vines.

Veils in Churches.

During the tenth century no woman was allowed to appear at church without a veil. It had to be a real veil, too, covering and concealing the features in order that the prayers and meditations of the men might not be disturbed by the contemplation of feminine loveliness. There was a tradition that the origin of the custom was in an order from a great French saint. When a young man he met a little girl with features so noble and beautiful that, although he was many years her senior, he immediately fell in love with her because she resembled a young lady to whom he had been engaged years before, but who died in his arms. The man and the child separated, and he became a priest. Many years later he saw her in the congregation just as he was entering the pulpit to preach, and the sight disturbed him to such an extent that his sermon was a failure, and he ordered all the women thenceforth to wear veils.

Birds in Attack.

Birds display great skill and cunning in the chase, the attack and in guarding themselves from injury during the struggle for supremacy. The secretary bird is the inveterate enemy and untiring pursuer of the snake. All sorts, even the most venomous, he hunts with a zest that is at once interesting and amusing. The snake flees from its foe, who follows, watching every opportunity for a blow. When the reptile turns the bird uses one of his wings as a shield and strikes with his foot. The snake buries its fangs in the wing, but leaves the poison in the plumage, and the bird escapes unhurt. Repeated blows from the powerful claw confuse and disable the snake, and at last it falls, to be at once dispatched by thrusts of the sharp beak into its head. The bird then tosses his victim into the air and, catching it as it falls, swallows it.

England's First Organ.

Elifeg, bishop of Winchester during the reign of Alfred the Great, is reputed to have procured an organ for his cathedral. It was the largest instrument then known, having 400 pipes divided among ten keys, supplied by wind from twenty-six pairs of bellows and requiring the services of no fewer than seventy blowers. Judging from this, the Winchester organ either came from Germany or was built upon a German model, for in that country, until much later, the wind was provided by a species of treadmill arrangement whereon the blowers gripped a bar, each working two pairs of bellows, like those of our smiths, with their feet.—London Queen.

Splitting Paper.

Very often it is worth knowing how to split a sheet of paper. Suppose you had an article which was printed on both sides and you desired to paste it in your scrapbook. You would paste it between two sheets of stout paper and, when nearly dry, draw these apart. You will have half of the printed sheet on each, and by the use of moisture you can readily detach them.

Three of Them.

One word in the English language in which the vowels occur in regular sequence is "facetious." Is there another?—Rochester Post-Express.

Ever hear of the word "abstemious"?—Cleveland Leader.

What is the matter with "arsenious"?—New York Tribune.

Autobiographies.

All autobiographies are lies. No man is bad enough to tell the truth about himself during his lifetime, and no man is good enough to tell the truth to posterity in a document which he suppresses until there is nobody left alive to contradict him.—George Bernard Shaw.

Woke Him Up.

Bashful Beaumont—Er—I—er—dreamt I—er—kissed you last night. What's that a sign of?

Modest Maiden—Well, it's a sign that you're more sensible asleep than awake.

They Fall Short.

Foreigner—Are the earnings of your household servants large as a rule? American—No; not nearly so large as their pay.—Pittsburg Post.

He who knows only his own side of the case knows little of that.—Mill.

DR. SVEN HEDIN'S WORK.

Though Still Young, He Has Done Enough For a Lifetime.

Dr. Sven Anders Hedin, the Swedish geographer and explorer who has written to Swedes in America urging them to raise \$5,000,000 for the increase of the naval defenses of Sweden, is an ardent patriot, and he has reason to feel grateful to his country and its government, for his work in behalf of science was made possible by the generous aid King Oscar and the Swedish riksdag have extended him. An alliance with the Swedes in America "is the only Scandinavian alliance we Swedes at home can think of," he says.



DR. SVEN ANDERS HEDIN.

He was born in Stockholm in 1865 and educated at Stockholm, Upsala, Berlin and Halle, at the university of the latter city receiving the degree of doctor of philosophy. In 1885 he undertook a journey of exploration in Persia and Mesopotamia.

In 1899 King Oscar sent an embassy to the late shah of Persia, and Hedin was a member of the party. The next year he made a journey through Khorassan and Turkestan. A dozen years ago very little was known about the mysterious land of Tibet. In 1893 Dr. Hedin set out on a trip from the Russian frontier to Peking through a portion of Tibet and the Lobnor region. His accounts of his experiences, which were quite adventurous, and of his scientific observations, which were of much value, excited keen interest and led to his undertaking in 1899 another expedition to the same region. This time he had a large caravan, was backed by King Oscar and had the aid of the czar of Russia and the special assistance of General Kuropatkin. He devoted three years to gathering material regarding the geography, geology, ethnology and plant and animal possessions of the regions explored. He learned much about Tibet, though he was not permitted to enter Lassa.

ASPIRES TO A THRONE.

Prince Charles of Denmark, Who Wishes to Be King of Norway.

Prince Charles of Denmark, whose aspirations for the vacant throne of Norway are favored by Emperor William of Germany, is the second son of the crown prince of Denmark. He is thirty-three years of age and is three years the junior of his wife, who was the Princess Maud, third daughter of King Edward VII. of England. As a



PRINCE CHARLES OF DENMARK.

girl she was very popular with the English public and has always had inclinations to be unconventional and democratic. Her marriage to Prince Charles occurred July 22, 1896, and a son was born to the royal couple on July 2, 1903.

On his marriage to Princess Maud the young man who covets the Norwegian throne received a settlement of \$2,500,000 as his wedding gift and a splendid residence in Copenhagen. His mother was an only child of the late Charles XV. of Sweden and Norway, and his grandmother was Princess Louise of the Netherlands, who at the time of her marriage to King Charles was accounted a great heiress. Prince Charles as a boy at school was mixed up in a hazing affair which resulted in the death of a fellow student.

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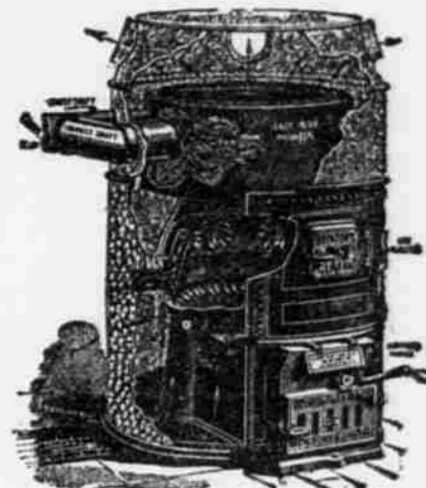
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