

**Will Make Another Dash for Pole.**



COMMANDER ROBERT E. PEARY

Leave of absence for three years has been granted Commander R. E. Peary, U. S. N., by the Navy department in order to resume his attempt to find the North pole. The dash will be made in the summer of 1908.

**TEXANS RAISE PECANS**

**NUT-GROWING INDUSTRY SPREADING IN STATE.**

Value of Product Proved by Late Governor Hogg—Northern Investors Enter Field and Begin Planting of Orchards.

Austin, Tex.—Texas has at last come to a realization of the pecan's importance as a revenue producer, and the tree that once fell indiscriminately before the thoughtless woodman's axe is now carefully protected. More than \$2,000,000 worth of these unimportant looking little nuts were shipped out of Texas during the year 1906, and there now are nurserymen in Texas who devote themselves exclusively to pecan propagation.

Texas is the chief pecan state of the union, although the tree flourishes in many other southern states, even as far north as the southern part of Indiana and the Egypt district of Illinois, and the culture is spreading year by year.

There was a time not so very long ago when all pecan trees were of the

wild variety, but the enterprising nurseryman has brought about a marked improvement, and statistics now show that Texas has 358,955 artificially planted trees, while the number of wild ones in bearing condition is estimated at nearly a million.

The late Gov. James S. Hogg, of Texas, was among the first to appreciate the commercial value of the pecan, and on his plantation near the historic old town of Columbia there stands a large and select pecan grove as a monument to his planting.

It is also a matter of official record in Texas that in his dying moments, Gov. Hogg directed his law partner, Frank Jones, of Houston, to see that his funeral was marked by simplicity, and that his son, William, and his daughter, Miss Ina, be requested to plant as early as possible a pecan tree at the head of his grave and another at the foot, and that when these trees reach a bearing state their product be distributed so far as they will go among the plain people of Texas to be used as seed in spreading pecan culture.

It is the rule rather than the ex-

ception for an ordinary pecan tree to bear from three to five barrels of nuts, hence it can be calculated at a glance that in the course of time, an immense quantity of pecan forestry will result from the two trees that stand as sentinels over Gov. Hogg's grave in the Austin cemetery.

As soon as practicable after the funeral the trees of the most improved variety obtainable, were planted in accordance with the dying governor's request, and their growth thus far has been entirely satisfactory.

Nuts grown from wild pecan trees sell for about five cents per pound, while the cultivated nut brings from 20 cents to 50 cents per pound. The trees are long-lived, and it is no unusual for a ten or 12-year old tree to produce a crop worth from \$60 to \$100. The average, however, is somewhat below that figure, but 25 or 30 trees find ample room upon an acre of ground, thus making pecan raising a highly profitable industry.

Pecan growing has now reached the dignity of classification as a horticultural pursuit, and many northern investors, appreciating the great profit that is possible, are forming syndicates to plant and operate large commercial orchards.

Since the nurseryman has taken hold of the pecan, numerous varieties are springing up, each vying with the other in the matter of early production. The best that has ever yet been reached is a tree warranted to bear fruit in four years from date of planting, while others of the improved varieties require all the way from five to seven years. The wild tree is much slower.

Hardiness is one of the chief characteristics of the pecan tree. It belongs to the hickory family, and grows to a large size. Almost any kind of soil satisfies the pecan sapling, no difference whether it be along the river or along the high plains. Its roots penetrate deep into the ground, and it thus at once becomes able to withstand the severest drought. Owing to its size and spreading branches, the pecan tree serves well for shade, and in many of the towns and cities of Texas, pecans are being planted for the dual purpose of ornament and usefulness.

Experts who have indulged in various tests, assert that the pecan possesses a nutritive value of great merit, and is more easily digestible than most of nuts.

**WAX REPLACES THE BONE.**

Remarkable Operation Performed on Six-Year-Old Boy to Save Arm.

New York.—Surgeons at St. Gregory's hospital performed an operation on a six-year-old Italian boy, Peter Lepari, of Brooklyn, by which they replaced a portion of a necrotic bone of the left forearm with a substance known as "bone wax," which the surgeons say will turn into bone.

When the boy was brought to the hospital it was found that he was suffering from a tubercular bone in the forearm. Decomposition had set in, and to prevent loss of the use of the arm and the complete removal of the bone it was decided to bring the "bone wax" into use. An X-ray view will be taken daily to watch the progress of healing.

"Bone wax" was discovered by a German chemist ten years ago and has been used in Vienna.

**TWO BIG QUESTIONS**

**THE "MORAL OBLIGATION" AND "DOES IT PAY?"**

**SHOULD BE CONSIDERED**

**An Honest Answer to These Will Keep the Trade with the Home Merchant Every Time.**

(Copyrighted, 1906, by Alfred C. Clark.)

When the thrifty person or his wife sits down for the first time—or any time—with the mail order catalogue and its temptations, there are two, and only two, points to be taken into consideration.

One of these is moral obligation, and the chances are that that will be dismissed as sentimental nonsense.

The other is—Will it pay? and to that the thrifty person will be inclined to interpret an answer from the prices quoted in black-faced figures in the catalogue.

Neither of these questions should be lightly dismissed. Moral obligation is not sentimental nonsense, and black-faced figures sometimes lie.

The duty a man owes to his own community and his obligation to trade at home are so often reiterated in the country press that, possibly like some of the preaching, it has a tendency to harden the hearts of the sinners.

What has your neighboring town

household, and that among the duties to his family and to the heirs of his estate is that of practicing judicious economy—buying where he can buy the cheapest and to the best advantage. And this brings us to the second point in the argument—the paramount question in this commercial age—"Will it pay?"

By most people an affirmative answer to that question is accepted as the call of duty. As a matter of fact, "Will it pay?" is a good test to apply to any project or proposition. There are commercial, as well as political, demagogues, and the man who is appealed to on the score of patriotism or profit, duty or dollars, can scarcely do better than to sit down by himself and submit that question—"Will it pay?"—to his own best judgment. Provided always, that he goes to the very bottom of it.

What are the relative advantages of buying at the local store and ordering from a catalogue house? Advantages, understand, that figure in the question, "Will it pay?" Don't get away from that question. It certainly is very comfortable to sit down by your own fireside and select a dress pattern or a sulky plow from a printed description and a picture of the article; much more comfortable, in fact, than hitching up and driving to town on a raw day.

A consideration more important, perhaps, is that the printed price in the catalogue seems, in some cases at least, to be lower than the price quoted at the local store. Isn't that conclusive? Let's see. The catalogue describes the goods and quotes a

**Premier's Ticket Aided Murder.**  
A Russian journal tells the story of how the murderer of Gen. Lunin, prefect of St. Petersburg, obtained admission to the semi-official party at which the deed was committed. After the crime all the guests were detained and their tickets were examined. There was one ticket the rightful owner of which was not present. It was no other than that of Premier Stolypin himself. The murder had been committed under cover of the invitation ticket of no less a personage than the prime minister. The premier had not been able to go, and his ticket fell into the hands of a member of the secret police named Nakolone. He resold it to the revolutionists for \$16,000.

**Most Difficult of Artist's Studies.**  
B. W. Leader, R. A., considers that to an artist clouds are the most difficult of all studies.

**EVEN IF DISCOURAGED**

**TRY DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS FOR YOUR RHEUMATISM.**

**The Pills Have Cured the Disease in Almost Every Form and Even in Advanced Stages.**

Rheumatism is a painful inflammation of the muscles or of the coverings of the joints and is sometimes accompanied by swelling. The pain is sharp and shooting and does not confine itself to any one part of the body, but after settling in one joint or muscle for a time, leaves it and passes on to another. The most dangerous tendency of the disease is to attack the heart. External applications may give relief from pain for a time but the disease cannot be cured until the blood is purified. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are the best medicine for this purpose as their action is directly on the blood, making it rich, red and healthy. When the blood is pure there can be no rheumatism.

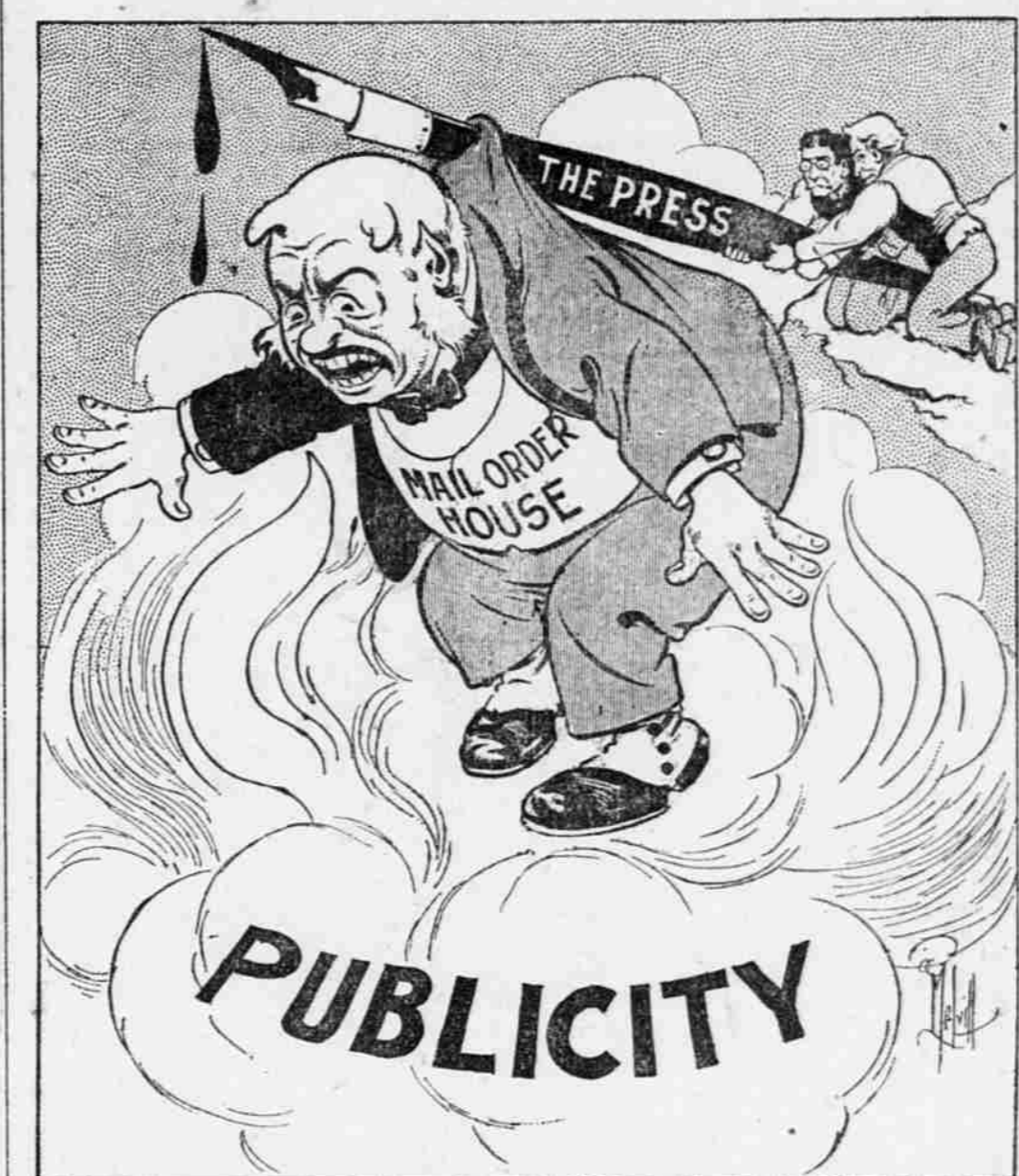
Mrs. Ellen A. Russell, of South Goff St., Auburn, Me., says: "I had been sick for fifteen years from impure blood, brought on by overwork. My heart was weak and my hands colorless. I was troubled with indigestion and vomiting spells, which came on every few months. I had no appetite and used to have awful fainting spells, falling down when at my work. I frequently felt numb all over. My head ached continuously for five years.

"About two years ago I began to feel rheumatism in my joints, which became so lame I could hardly walk. My joints were swollen and pained me terribly. "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills were recommended to me by a friend, after I had failed to get well from the doctor's treatment. When I began taking the pills, the rheumatism was at its worst. I had taken only a few boxes, when the headaches stopped and not long afterward I felt the pain in my joints becoming less and less, until there was none at all. The stiffness was gone and I have never had any return of the rheumatism."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have cured such diseases as nervous and general debility, indigestion, nervous headache, neuritis and even partial paralysis and locomotor ataxia. As a tonic for the blood and nerves they are unequalled.

A pamphlet on "Diseases of the Blood" and a copy of our diet book will be sent free on request to anyone interested.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold by all druggists, or sent, postpaid, on receipt of price, 50 cents per box, six boxes for \$2.50, by the Dr. Williams Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.



The fire of publicity is the medium the mail-order houses are using to destroy this community. It is up to you, Mr. Merchant, to fight the devil with fire. By the aid of the local press you can hold him over the scorching flames, and put a stop to his devastating competition so far as this community is concerned. Will you not assist in the good fight?

given you, Mr. Farmer? A market for your produce. What has made 25 to 50 per cent. of the present value of your farm? The accessibility of a market. You know what your grandfather did on that same farm? Drove his hogs and hauled his grain 30, 50, maybe 75 miles to the nearest market town, and received prices for them that would make you howl about the trusts. And he hauled back the family supplies for which he paid what you would consider monopolistic prices. Do you happen to know what the old farm was worth then? Well, it lacked a good deal of being \$75 or \$100 an acre.

Yes, the home town, with its handy market, has advanced the value of your property and made you worth several thousand dollars more than your grandfather was worth. The home town affords schooling for your children, and perhaps social and church privileges which your family would not otherwise enjoy. The rural mail routes and telephone systems, radiating from the home town, as spokes from a hub, bring to your home the greatest conveniences of modern times.

Have you ever noticed that the first thing the settlers of a newly-opened reservation do is to send for a wagon load of mail order catalogues? Well, I haven't. They lay out a town site every six or eight miles, start two or three general stores, build a school house, a church, a blacksmith shop, a grain elevator, petition the department for a post office, and start a newspaper. They know, from former experience that, with these things close by, life will be endurable, whatever hardships may come. They know, also, that without them they must live lives of isolation and endure an existence that is contrary to all natural human instincts.

On the other hand, it goes without saying, that the average country town cannot exist without the support of its tributary territory. Then, if that town affords the advantages for the rural citizen that have been enumerated, there exists what we may call an interdependence and a moral obligation between the two. Are you, Mr. Thrifty Farmer, living up to that obligation when you do your trading with the mail order house?

To this line of argument the farmer may answer that his greatest obligation, his first duty, is to his immediate

price; maybe it gives a picture of the article also, but you don't see the goods. The local merchant shows you the goods; you may examine them critically; he may allow you to test them or to call in an expert to advise you. Is it fair to conclude that the catalogue article is the cheaper just because the price is lower?

An element that must enter into the comparison of goods and prices is, that in any attempt to fool the customer, the local merchant is decidedly at a disadvantage. He must show the goods, not merely describe them. His business depends wholly upon the limited trading area of his town and his ability to inspire confidence within that circle. He cannot afford to make a practice of misrepresenting his goods.

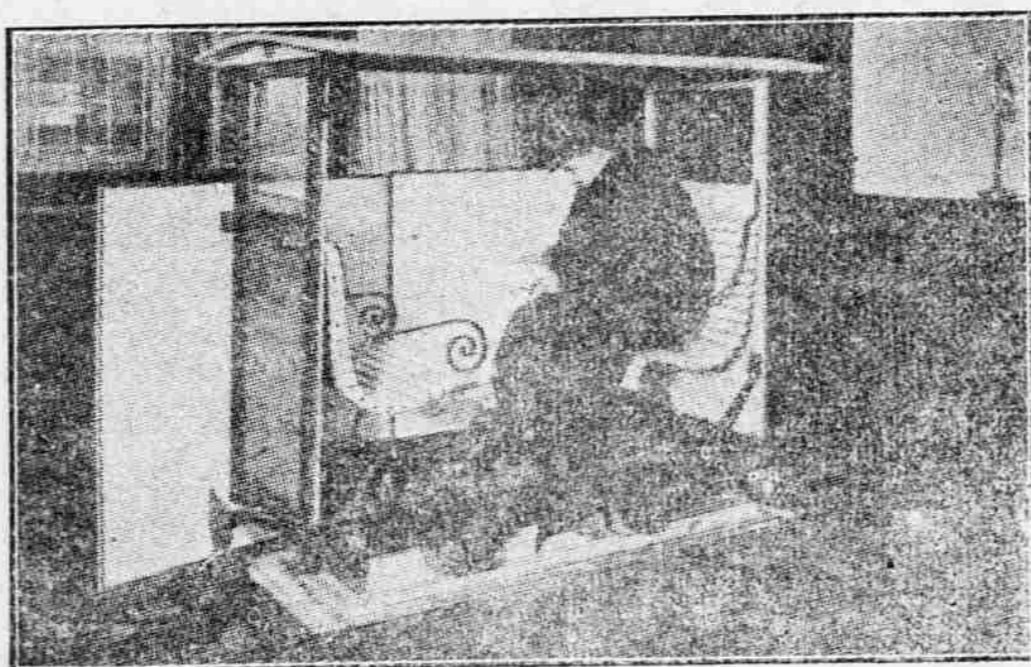
The mail order house is not so tied down to the maxim that "Honesty is the best policy." It has no neighbors, no fellow citizens, no mutual interests with its patrons. Its trade area is wide and always shifting. Naturally these conditions do not demand extraordinary vigilance in supplying honest-made goods. And where vigilance is not a needed employe in the business he is generally taken off the payroll, which makes a saving in expense, as well as in the cost of the goods. If lower prices are quoted by the catalogue house, may not this account for it?

"Will it pay?" Is it a matter of economy to buy inferior and damaged goods when the same money, or even a little more, will pay for goods of the best quality? Which course does a man's first duty to his own household dictate?

But to get at the bottom of that question, we must consider the far-reaching general effect of mail order trading. If single catalogue houses are to be capitalized at \$40,000,000, they must be reckoned with along with Standard Oil, the beef trust and railroad mergers. If they are allowed to suck the blood from our country towns, your grandchildren will find conditions much the same as those of your grandfather's time. Their markets will be 30, 50 or 75 miles away. The towns and villages will be deserted, and the "hubs" will be too distant to send the radiating spokes of rural mail, telephone lines and other modern conveniences far into the country.

CHARLES BRADSHAW.

**New Project for Crossing English Channel.**



The plans for the projected subway under the English channel, comprise a scheme for an unfamiliar kind of passenger car. As shown in the accompanying photograph, these cars are planned to hold only two passengers each.

**To Hold a Floating Exhibition.**

France to Make Bold Bid for Trade in Mediterranean.

Washington.—France, the land of surprises, is about to make an enterprising innovation, through her merchants, to secure more trade with Mediterranean ports. The plan is to hold a floating exhibition of French products.

"According to Levantine newspapers," writes Consul General Gabriel B. Ravndal from Beirut, "Mediterranean ports are shortly to be visited by an exhibition ship which is to be fitted out with a view to gaining new outlets for French commerce. The vessel is to be arranged as a floating exhibition of products suitable for export and French manufacturers and merchants will be enabled to exhibit their goods and samples on payment of moderate charges. A number of salesmen, partly drawn from pupils of the commercial schools, speaking at least two languages, will be carried, these being under the superintendence of experienced commercial travelers. In order to stimulate their

zeal all these employees will be paid on commission and the widest possible publicity is to be given to the expected arrival at the ports at which the vessel is intended to call. At each place the salesmen will present their samples to the various buyers and transmit the orders they may obtain to the head office, which will see them carried out. A series of receptions and fetes are to be held on board with a view of attracting customers.

**Real Thriller.**

Gunner (entering circus)—What is the deuce is all that din? Are we at the animal tent?

Guy—No, we are about to see the great thriller for 1907.

Gunner—Indeed! Is it the leaping automobile or the falling airship?

Guy—Neither! They are tame in comparison. Over in that big white pit which is constructed to represent a court room you will soon see a wild and untamed insanity experts wrangling with each other over "brain storm."

**USE PORTO RICAN COFFEE.**

Effort to Be Made to Cultivate a Taste For it.

Washington.—Uncle Sam is about to make a systematic effort to cultivate a taste for Porto Rican coffee among the people of the United States. Persons who claim to be authorities in coffee matters declare that the bean grown in Porto Rico furnishes the richest and at the same time most delicious coffee that can be made. Yet for some reason or other there is very little market for the product in this country.

The government will undertake to boil Porto Rico coffee and give it away in order that the people may become acquainted with its delightful qualities. This will be done at the coming Jamez exposition, where a special booth will be fitted up to dispense cups of Porto Rican coffee. Pretty dark-eyed girls from that tropical island, attired in neat and attractive native costumes, will serve the coffee and the government will pay the bill.

This exhibit will be somewhat similar to the famous corn kitchen which the government maintained at St. Louis in order to exploit the possibilities of this cereal.

**THIRD CENTURY RELIGION.**

Professor Burns Cross on Forehead to Attest His Sincerity.

Des Moines.—As a mark of sincerity in his belief Dr. Paul Bittix, until recently professor of Greek in Central Holiness university at Oskaloosa, has burned a cross an inch and one-half long and three quarters of an inch wide on his forehead.

The tortures which the flagellantes of the middle ages inflicted on themselves, the sufferings of the old crusaders, whom Bittix would imitate in a large degree, can have been no worse than the agony endured without a sign of suffering by the ousted professor as the acid ate into the living flesh. Moreover, this says Bittix, is but the beginning. All his followers in the new crusade must mark themselves as he has done, "with the sign of the cross."

Bittix was discharged as a result of his self-mutilation.

**THE CANADIAN WEST IS THE BEST WEST**

160 ACRES IN WESTERN CANADA FREE. The testimony of the thousands during the past year is that the Canadian West is the best West. Year by year the agricultural resources have increased in volume and in value, and still the Canadian Government offers 160 acres FREE to every bona fide settler.

**Some of the Advantages**

The phenomenal increase in railway mileage—main lines and branches—has put almost every portion of the country within easy reach of churches, schools, markets, cheap fuel and every modern convenience. The NINETY MILLION BUSHEL WHEAT CROP of this year means \$20,000,000 to the farmers of Western Canada, apart from the result of other grains and cattle. For advice and information address the SUPERINTENDENT OF IMMIGRATION, Ottawa, Canada, or any authorized Government Agent. W. V. BENNETT, 801 New York Life Building, Omaha, Nebraska.

**SICK HEADACHE**

Positively cured by Little Liver Pills. They also relieve distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Biliousness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Costed Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable. SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature. REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

READERS of this paper desiring to say anything advertised in its columns should insist upon having what they ask for, refusing all substitutes or imitations.

PIT & PITLESS SCALES. For Steel and Wood Frames, 25 and 50. Write for descriptive circular. Also "DEFIANCE" IS SUPERIOR QUALITY.

Thompson's Eye Water. If afflicted with sore eyes, use it.