

Castro needs a little primary instruction as to who we are.

War balloonists are beginning to make battle-ships look old fashioned.

Fersians now have the massacre fever. Oh, civilization is spreading, all right.

If Anna Gould's marriage should turn out happily, how surprised everyone would be!

The world-wide steel trust is warned not to give cause for an alteration of vowels in its name.

There are some people who didn't even look at their money after reading of the ten-dollar counterfeit bills.

A celebrated ornithologist says that butterflies are the best actors in the world, and he was not speaking of summer girls, either.

A New York woman committed suicide because she couldn't pay her rent. Some people go to extremes in trying to fool the landlord.

The board of education in Shanghai, China, has decided to punish the teachers of schools who report that some of the students are too bad to be educated.

A New York thief was arrested, tried, convicted, sentenced and started for prison within 24 hours. However, he is permitted to take his time about serving his term.

Commander Peary knows now who the candidates of the great political parties are, but he will have to wait until next summer to find out who has been elected.

Now that wireless telephone messages have been successfully transmitted over 12 miles between Newark and New York, the future of wireless telephony seems bright.

The newest and finest passenger steamer has a telephone in every stateroom, thus enabling passengers who are seasick to call one another up and describe in detail all their symptoms.

Latest disclosures of the inhuman treatment of prisoners in Yekaterin, St. Petersburg, are convincing that the worst had not been previously told about darkest Russia. But surely there is no worse to come.

Peary's last expedition northward is being referred to as "a race to the pole." If only there was a general belief that he will cover the complete stretch of the racetrack the game would be more exciting.

This proposition to give every horse employed in the postoffice department a 30 days' summer vacation further illustrates the comparative luxuriousness of working for Uncle Sam even on a modest salary. He's easy.

The shortest time around the world is claimed to have been made by Lieut. Col. Burnley Campbell, who left Liverpool on May 3, 1907, and on his return landed at Dover on June 13, 1907, covering the circuit in 40 days and 19 1/4 hours.

Prof. George E. Palmer of Harvard university in a recent lecture said in substance: "The scientific world swung to Darwinism and then swung back; the religious world swung over to the scientific position, and is swinging back."

The queen of Spain has made a quick recovery, and has left her room, while the new baby, now aged three weeks, takes his first promenade in the gardens of La Granja. The first thing we know, the youngster will be riding a pony and driving his elder brother to do stunts over the garden wall.

The meanest man in the world has been arrested in New York on the charge of cheating poets. He not only stole their songs, but also the money they sent with the verses in a prize competition. A man who would defraud a hardworking union poet should be made to read all the poetry he received.

A well-known French physician has written a long article upon the usefulness of tears, but he fails to note the fact that they often procure for a woman her own way when dealing with hard-hearted man. No woman who uses her ability to cry aright will agree with the person who speaks of "useless tears."

The following advertisement appears in a Hungarian journal: "Experienced person has opened a school for all those who desire to perfect themselves in the art of being humorous. Dry intellectual humor taught, as well as ordinary witticisms of daily life. Demonstrations in practical jokes if desired." Here's a great opportunity for the editor of London Punch.

CAT SLIDES DOWN A POLE.

Firemen's Feline Mascot Learns the Trick by Watching Them.

Boston.—The firemen of Combination A fire station, on Canal street, in West Medford, have a mascot, a veteran fire horse and a captain in whom they take great pride, says the Globe. The mascot is Dick, a large tortoiseshell coon cat, that slides down the sliding pole like any other fireman. The horse is Jeff, with a record of 25 years' continuous service. The captain is Frank H. Walker, for



"Dick" Coming Down the Sliding Pole.

over 27 years a member of the department.

Dick, the cat, is an unusually intelligent animal. He was presented to the company by Hoseman Chamberlain about two years ago, when a mere kitten.

He had adapted himself to the ways of the fire department, and at the present time can slide down the firemen's sliding pole from the second floor, a distance of 19 feet, with comparative ease. He attends fires occasionally, riding in the bottom of the combination chemical engine and hose wagon, and is to be found "at home" almost any afternoon sound asleep on the broad back of the big black veteran horse, Jeff.

EARLY STAGE COACH DRIVER.

Hampton Ball Once Had Senator Benton as a Passenger.

Montgomery City, Mo.—This place boasts of having the oldest living Missouri stage driver. His name is Hampton Ball, a relative of the "Dave" Ball, candidate for governor. He drove a stage coach over the Boon's Lick road, from St. Louis to Lexington, Mo., more than 57 years ago, his route being from Jones' Burg, now Jonesburg, to old Danville, the county seat of Montgomery county.

Mr. Ball recalls with pleasure the fact that he once had as one of his



passengers Thomas H. Benton, the Missouri statesman.

Mr. Ball not only drove a stage in his early life, but had the distinction of holding up one, not for the purpose of robbery, but to give a passenger what he termed a meritorious flogging for an injury to his afflicted brother. The offense occurred when Mr. Ball was a lad and he promised when he became a man he would avenge the wrong. He knew that the stage would pass a certain place and would have in it the passenger whom he had promised in youth that he would flog. Ball secured a hickory withe, and going out in front of the stage, ordered it to stop.

IN THE LIMELIGHT

ZEPPELIN CONQUEROR OF AIR



Count Ferdinand Zeppelin, whose recent remarkable flight in his dirigible airship followed by the destruction of his machine by lightning at Echterdingen, has resulted in arousing all Germany to his support, so that his evident misfortune may prove the best thing that could have happened to him, has devoted his life and his fortune to aeronautics.

The story of the German inventor-nobleman is one of tireless effort and unselfish devotion to an ideal. For half a century, nearly, he has worked at his airship, much of the time under the most unpromising conditions. Time after time he has seemed to have grasped success, only to have the first real experiment demonstrate a weakness that was fatal. Time after time he overcame his disappointment and went back to work with unflinching faith that the secret of the upper air should yet be his.

Count Zeppelin is a scion of one of the respected houses of the German nobility. He inherited a considerable fortune, and had an excellent place in the army. But even in that early day he was at work upon the sky-sailing idea. Long before the aeronauts of France had begun seriously to work upon the proposition, Count Zeppelin was studying, experimenting, testing. He resigned his place in the army and gave all his time and energy to his work. He spent all of his fortune in the same cause before success came. Then, when he had apparently solved the greatest obstacle, he had no money. He had a firm believer in the king of Wurtemberg, who had advanced him cash at various times for his work. Then, a year ago, the German reichstag gave more money, and now it looks as though popular subscription would place a million at his disposal for the construction of a new airship.

HOLDS THE DEMOCRATIC BARREL



Charles N. Haskell, whom the Democrats have chosen to hold the campaign barrel in the official capacity of treasurer, is governor of the state of Oklahoma, where he went eight years ago, after losing out in his home state, Ohio, in the race for the Democratic nomination for governor, John R. McLean beating him for the place by one vote.

In Oklahoma he has had better luck and will now handle the finances of the Democratic national committee.

Gov. and now Treasurer Haskell is about 46 years old and is a lawyer, also has done considerable railroad building. Once Haskell had an office in Wall street, but his stay there was very short. Haskell is generally considered a "gum shoe" statesman. He was nominated by the Democrats of Oklahoma in July last.

After his defeat in Ohio he is said to have expressed himself as dissatisfied with his political treatment there and declared that he would go to Oklahoma, where he would be appreciated, and he has made good. He has also prospered in business. His wife, said to be a shrewd business woman, has helped him to make money, and is as well known as her husband.

THE VENEZUELAN DICTATOR



Don Cipriano Castro, known by his enemies as the Andean cattle thief and by his friends as the president of Venezuela and the champion of Venezuela for Venezuelans, is now in the international limelight, having recently aroused the ire of doughty Holland, which country may administer a wholesome punishment with the Dutch wooden shoe before she is done with the irascible little South American upstart.

Ten years ago, when the present dictator of Venezuela, who so often before, as to-day, has succeeded in endangering the peace of the world, was 40 years of age, there were at least five score self-styled generals in the republic more prominent than he. Ignoring the etiquette of the revolutionary game, by assassinations, exiles, and imprisonments, he has thinned out the ranks of his competitors, and for the moment at least rules supreme over a subjugated people.

In 1898 Castro was not only unknown to fame, but his first appearance in public life as senator to the federal congress from the Andine state of El-Gachira, had been a distinct failure. His uncouth manners were remarked upon in a by no means conventional or august assembly.

Castro returned to the Andes with a great hatred of Caracas, which he denounced as a Europeanized capital, and of its society, by which he had been overlooked and snubbed.

Several of the half-hearted defenders of the Castro regime, and a few such they are, say that after all the friction which has resulted in the almost complete ostracism of Castro by the civilized world has arisen over the claims of foreign concession hunters, whose morality and observance of the law are no more admirable than those of the Andean dictator.

These advocates of Castro, or at least of non-intervention, say that it is a case which is well covered by the old axiom of international law, which reads: "Let the investor beware or take the consequences." While this view of reasoning sounds well, it is not in accord with the facts.

PROBES OKLAHOMA'S SECRETS



Prof. Charles N. Gould, who has been appointed by the governor of Oklahoma as head of the new state survey authorized by the recent legislature, and for which an appropriation of \$15,000 was made, is an educator and geologist well known through the west. Born in Ohio in 1868, he was educated in the west, graduating from Southwest Kansas college in 1899 and taking his degree of A. M. from the University of Nebraska after a special course in geology and paleobotany.

He has filled the chair in geology in the University of Oklahoma since 1900, and since 1902 has been resident hydrographer of the United States geological survey.

Prof. Gould is a member of the Society Sigma Xi; the American Institute of Mining Engineers and the Kansas Academy of Science.

In the present survey which Prof. Gould will direct he will have seven parties in the field all summer and part of next winter. Briefly, the work of the parties in the field will be to investigate the location and accessibility of the various building stones of the state, including limestone, marble, sandstone, granite, gabbro, gypsum, dolomite and porphyry, with pressure tests to determine the availability of this stone for the construction of public buildings; investigate the location and availability of all stone, clay and other materials of the state suitable for the construction of roads, with ample tests to determine the relative value of the different materials, etc.

Truth and Quality

appeal to the Well-Informed in every walk of life and are essential to permanent success and creditable standing. Accordingly, it is not claimed that Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is the only remedy of known value, but one of many reasons why it is the best of personal and family laxatives is the fact that it cleanses, sweetens and relieves the internal organs on which it acts without any debilitating after effects and without having to increase the quantity from time to time.

It acts pleasantly and naturally and truly as a laxative, and its component parts are known to and approved by physicians, as it is free from all objectionable substances. To get its beneficial effects always purchase the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only, and for sale by all leading druggists.

WHY HE WAS ANXIOUS.

Albert's Particular Reason for Inquiry That Worried Nurse.

Albert was a solemn-eyed, spiritual-looking child.

"Nurse," he said one day, leaving his blocks and laying his hand gently on her knee, "nurse, is this God's day?"

"No, dear," said his nurse, "this is not Sunday. It is Thursday."

"I'm so sorry," he said, sadly, and went back to his blocks.

The next day and the next, in his serious manner he asked the same question, and the nurse tearfully said to the cook, "That child is too good for this world."

On Sunday the question was repeated, and the nurse with a sob in her voice, said, "Yes, Lambie. This is God's day."

"Then where is the funny paper?" he demanded.—Success.

Laundry work at home would be much more satisfactory if the right Starch were used. In order to get the desired stiffness, it is usually necessary to use so much starch that the beauty and fineness of the fabric is hidden behind a paste of varying thickness, which not only destroys the appearance, but also affects the wearing quality of the goods. This trouble can be entirely overcome by using Defiance Starch, as it can be applied much more thinly because of its greater strength than other makes.

None for Him.

"Well, what does the hat bill come to this summer?" inquired Mr. Juggins.

"Let me see," said Mrs. Juggins, producing the long paper. "My Merry Widow, Lottie's pink Merry Widow, Ella's green and Mame's mauve Merry Widow—total \$99.90."

"Gee!" said Mr. Juggins. "Nearly a hundred! Well, with the ten cents remaining, I guess I'd better have my old straw done up again."



This woman says that after months of suffering Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound made her as well as ever.

Maude E. Forgie, of Leesburg, Va., writes to Mrs. Pinkham:

"I want other suffering women to know what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for me. For months I suffered from feminine ills so that I thought I could not live. I wrote you, and after taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and using the treatment you prescribed I felt like a new woman. I am now strong, and well as ever, and thank you for the good you have done me."

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN.

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.