

Pulse of the Press

Age cannot wither the infinite variety of an actress' husbands.—New York Mail.

Summer will have to go some to make up for this spring.—New York Mail.

A woman has an awful good time ogling other women envy her.—New York Press.

The more fun you could have spending money, the more you don't know there to get it.—New York Press.

Contracts may be divided into barials, marriages and Pittsburg matrimonial alliances.—New York Sun.

If the Spanish baby has had its first attack of colic, the news has been carefully suppressed.—Washington Post.

In all probability there will be no shortage in the wheat crop except for roading purposes.—Philadelphia Press.

Millinery stores are now advertising the "airship hat." Another way to make the money fly.—Washington Post.

Ruef says he fears injustice in San Francisco. But it's exactly the other way that scares him.—Philadelphia Ledger.

When wheat reaches \$1 the farmers are reconciled to the wicked men in the pit who "deal in futures."—New York Tribune.

To complete his popularity King Alfonso has only to appear on the streets of Madrid pushing a perambulator.—New York Sun.

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That Chicago man who proposed at luncheon and married at sundown is liable to get in the divorce court at breakfast and get a decree before his noon refresher.—Cincinnati Commercial.

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A scientific sharp some time ago detected a human soul in the act of leaving a body, and now a Harvard biologist has succeeded in weighing one. Somebody may yet catch one of them if they don't wach out.—New York World.

The Pennsylvania Railroad station at Oxford, near Philadelphia, sold for \$121. This must be that much-predicted ruin of prosperity.—Pittsburg Post.

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THE CHINESE FAMINE.

Wretchedness Reaches Its Deepest Depths in the Stricken Region. There is no abatement in the dreadful Chinese famine which confronts 15,000,000 people and in which 5,000 persons are said to be dying every day. The horrors of this dreadful visitation will never be accurately told, for they are beyond the power of words to express. Side by side are instances of shocking depravity and of marvelous heroism. Cannibalism is now common, and the living are rifling the graves of the dead and devouring the corpses. Children are being offered for sale on every hand and even offered as gifts with the hope of saving them from death by starvation.

In many cases now the famine victims are dying of disease or poison. All kinds of wild weeds are being eaten and some of the latter being poisonous produce death. The fever which always follows in the wake of famine is beginning to claim its victims and in some of the famine stricken small-pox has broken out and become epidemic. The wretched condition of the people is seen in an incident which befell Captain Kirtan, an Englishman, one of the representatives of the Foreign Relief Committee. The people in most parts of the famine area had never seen a white man before, says Captain Kirtan. They were intensely curious, but there was an entire absence of hostility. In one village they congregated in front of the village "inn" in great crowds. Half of them were starving. I was talking to the head man, through my interpreter, and he was in a state of terrible distress on account of his people. I thoughtlessly took a tin of biscuits from my own stock of supplies and began to give them to the youngsters. In a moment there was a wild rush of men, women and children, and it was only by a liberal use of sticks that my escort of soldiers and yamen runners prevented me from being mobbed and possibly smashed up simply by the mad rush of hundreds of starving human beings.

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COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Chicago. Aside from the effect of unfavorable weather on leading retail lines, the course of business is steady, production in the industrial branches being fully sustained and new demands carrying the period of assured forward work farther into 1908. No diminution appears in the pressure for supplies of raw material.

Current inquiries indicate that heavy orders for rails and equipment are impending, and there is fair activity in furniture, structural shapes and wire. Local building operations are well sustained, and the forces employed increase, at exceptionally high wages.

Manufacturing conditions remain favorable, wood and leather working plants steadily increasing outputs, and there is a large distribution of electric and brass goods. Receipts of ore fall short of expectations, owing to late opening of navigation, but fresh arrivals of lumber and hides exceed those of a year ago. Dealings in the wholesale branches make a fair aggregate.

Mercantile collections continue to be very encouraging. Bank statements this week exhibit deposits at the highest level. Commercial borrowing is not particularly urgent at this time, but money works easier, although the discount rate remains at 5 1/2 per cent.

The markets for provisions and live stock reflect steady absorption, and better receipts of hogs increase packing, but the rapid rise in prices having discouraged cash operations. The total movement of grain at this port aggregated only 7,403,886 bushels, against 9,388,130 bushels last week and 5,746,688 bushels a year ago. Compared with those of last year, there are increases in receipts of 14.3 per cent and in shipments 42.6 per cent. Receipts of live stock were 296,803 head, against 253,515 head last week and 280,814 head last year.

Failures reported in the Chicago district number 14, against 26 last week and 24 a year ago.—Dun's Review of Trade.

ONE WOMAN IN FIVE A WORKER. Some Queer Occupations Reported by the Census Bureau.

The census bureau has issued a report showing that in the United States, exclusive of Alaska, Hawaii and other outlying territories, there are 4,833,630 women at work. The total number of women 16 years of age and over in continental United States in 1900 was 23,485,550, which makes one woman in every five a breadwinner. Of the number reported as divorced, 55.3 per cent were supporting themselves wholly or in part by their own earnings. It has been suggested that the increase of divorce is partly attributable to the more independent economic position of women.

Domestic service, notwithstanding the increased diversity of employments for women, remains the most important of the occupations, almost one-fourth of those reported as engaged in gainful pursuits being returned as servants.

The census shows that five females were employed as pilots; that on steam railroads 10 were employed as baggage-men, 31 as brakemen, 7 as conductors, 45 as engineers and firemen and 20 as switchmen, yardmen and flagmen; that 43 were carriage and hack drivers, 6 ship carpenters, and 2 roofers and slaters; that 185 were returned as blacksmiths and 508 as machinists; that 8 were boiler-makers, 31 were charcoal, coke and lime burners and 11 were well borers.

Business failures for the week ending May 22 number 165, against 184 last week, 170 in the like week of 1907, 179 in 1905, 184 in 1904 and 181 in 1903. Canadian failures for the week number 19, as against 22 last week and 13 in this week a year ago.—Bradstreet's Commercial Report.

St. Louis.—Cattle, \$4.50 to \$6.25; hogs, \$4.00 to \$6.25; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.50; wheat, No. 2, 97c to 98c; corn, No. 2, 53c to 54c; oats, standard, 45c to 47c; rye, No. 2, 84c to 85c; hay, timothy, \$14.00 to \$21.00; prairie, \$9.00 to \$15.00; butter, choice creamery, 22c to 24c; eggs, western, 15c to 16c; potatoes, 50c to 60c.

Indianapolis.—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$6.00; hogs, choice heavy, \$4.00 to \$6.00; sheep, common to prime, \$3.00 to \$5.25; wheat, No. 2, 91c to 92c; corn, No. 2 white, 51c to 52c; oats, No. 2 white, 42c to 43c.

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Cincinnati.—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$6.00; hogs, \$4.00 to \$6.50; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, 95c to 96c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 50c to 52c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 43c to 44c; rye, No. 2, 74c to 76c.

Detroit.—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$5.75; hogs, \$4.00 to \$6.00; sheep, \$2.50 to \$5.50; wheat, No. 2, 95c to 97c; corn, No. 3 yellow, 50c to 57c; oats, No. 3 white, 47c to 49c; rye, No. 2, 80c to 87c.

Milwaukee.—Wheat, No. 2 northern, 90c to \$1.01; corn, No. 3, 52c to 53c; oats, standard, 44c to 45c; rye, No. 1, 81c to 82c; barley, standard, 83c to 84c; pork, mess, \$10.45.

Buffalo.—Cattle, choice shipping steers, \$4.50 to \$6.00; hogs, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$5.75; sheep, common to good mixed, \$4.00 to \$5.75; lambs, fair to choice, \$5.00 to \$7.00.

New York.—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$6.00; hogs, \$4.00 to \$7.00; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.50; wheat, No. 2 red, \$1.01 to \$1.03; corn, No. 2, 90c to 92c; oats, natural white, 49c to 51c; butter, creamery, 23c to 25c; eggs, western, 15c to 16c.

Toledo.—Wheat, No. 2 mixed, 90c to \$1.00; corn, No. 2 mixed, 55c to 57c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 46c to 47c; rye, No. 2, 78c to 80c; clover seed, prime, \$8.20.

Interesting News Items. Joseph Miller is under arrest as the result of the finding of the dead body of T. S. Sirmans, a storekeeper at Sirmans station, Madison county, Florida.

More than a score of families were rendered homeless by a fire which swept Lincoln, N. H., entailing a loss of \$100,000. Twenty-two cottages and two large residences were destroyed.

George W. Caldwell, a contractor, was served at Little Rock, Ark., with a warrant based on an indictment charging graft in connection with the new State capitol.

The steel steamer Saxon, owned by the Pittsburg Steamship Company, went ashore on arbuon Island, Lake Superior, during a fog, and is declared to be in bad shape.

Secretary of State Schull formally denied to the Minnesota Retail Lumber Dealers' Association the right to incorporate on the ground that its articles of incorporation filed March 12 were in conflict with the State anti-trust laws.

THE MUSICIANS

The musicians of Vallejo, Cal., have formed a labor union.

Belville (Canada) carpenters are asking for an increase in wages.

Granite cutters of Hardwick, Va., have won their fight for better wages.

A district council of cement workers will be formed in San Francisco, Cal.

San Jose (Cal.) Street Car Men's Union is agitating for an increase in pay.

Laundry Workers' Union of Alameda county, Cal., has made a demand for an eight-hour day.

Union labor is renewing interest in a proposition to establish a "labor temple" in Boston, Mass.

The San Francisco (Cal.) building material teamsters' union now has on the roster 2,900 names.

The Winona leather workers' union has affiliated with the Minnesota State Federation of Labor.

Announcement has been made that all Italian barber shops in San Francisco have been unionized.

Leather workers on horse goods at Toronto, Can., are asking an increase of 15 per cent in their wages.

The International Union of Horse-shoers of the United States and Canada was organized in 1875.

The New York police now desire an eight-hour day. Several hundred of them recently met and organized a union.

The Ontario branch of the Canadian Labor party was recently organized at a lively meeting of labor men at Toronto.

The Sacramento Labor Temple Association hopes to have its \$50,000 temple ready for occupancy by next Labor day.

Agricultural laborers at Argentina, in the Province of Ferris, Italy, are on strike for a more equitable division of labor and wages.

The New York Labor Bulletin, just issued by the Department of Labor, gives the number of organized men and women in the Empire State as 308,404.

A new lodge of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen was instituted recently in Minneapolis. The membership is almost wholly from the Soo shops.

There is a movement on foot to establish a weekly labor paper in Oakland, Cal. The Central Labor Council of Alameda county is behind the project.

A special committee from the Minneapolis Teamsters' Union is investigating the feasibility of the Union going into the feed business on the co-operative plan.

Louisville (Ky.) union pipefitters who voted to strike gained the advance in wages asked from the wall paper dealers, and returned to work under a year's agreement.

More attention is to be given to Southern states by the American Federation of Labor, which is planning to build up a stronger labor movement in that section of the country.

Stogie-makers intend to apply for a charter from the American Federation of Labor. Their application hitherto has been contested by the International Cigar-makers' Union.

A compromise proposition to end the strike of the lithographers for the eight-hour workday, and which has been on since Aug. 4 last, has been sent to referendum for action.

Pattern-makers' League of North America sent \$9,300 in organization work in the Eastern Coast States last year, and have received \$20,000 in wages as a direct result of that work.

Electrical workers, machinists and blacksmiths of Great Falls, Mont., who recently went on strike, have signed a contract for five years. All the smelter employes are now back to work, and all are bound by five-year contracts.

President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor has given his official sanction to a merger of the San Francisco Water Workers' Union with the gas workers. The organization will be known as the Gas and Water Workers' Union.

Metal Workers' Union, at Minneapolis, is making preparations to institute a new union composed of factory and assortment workers and can workers. The workmen of these crafts are tinners, and there are a large number employed in the various local factories.

A movement is on foot by the Amalgamated Engineers of England for a further advance in wages, notices for which have been given to the officials of the Employers' Federation. The matter will come before the joint committee at an early date in London.

Washington (D. C.) Central Labor Union recently passed a resolution to the effect that the various trades connected with the body, and not belonging to the building trades, be induced again to take up the question of an allied council of miscellaneous trades and form an Employers' Federation. The Allied Labor League of the Central Labor Union.

If present plans are carried out, Chicago will have a union hotel, built by union men exclusively, all its furnishings and appointments to be union made, and every person employed, from bell boys to manager, shall be members of labor organizations. It is believed that the labor unions of Chicago, regular residents and transients, who live in hotels are sufficiently numerous to make a very large hotel a success.

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Women composers of Christiania and Bergen, Norway, are to be paid the same rates as men, after five years' apprenticeship and the passing of a test as to being fully qualified.

Knoxville (Tenn.) carpenters have reached an agreement with the contractors whereby the carpenters will receive thirty cents an hour, nine hours a day and union shop conditions.

The weavers, who have been on strike in Pawtucket, R. I., have voted to return at the increase offered by the proprietors. The operatives asked for an advance of 1 cent a yard, and they have accepted 1/2 cent.

MRS. M'KINLEY DEAD.

Widow of Martyred President Passes Away at Canton.

Mrs. McKinley, the widow of the martyred President, expired at Canton, Ohio, Sunday afternoon. Her death was so peaceful that it was with difficulty the physicians noted when dissolution came. There was no pain and no struggle. The body of Mrs. McKinley is to rest in the vault in West Lawn cemetery, which holds the remains of her husband, until the completion of the national mausoleum on Monument hill, when both caskets will be transferred to receptacles in that tomb.

Although for thirty years Mrs. McKinley had been something of an invalid, she was comparatively well until a week before death, when she suffered a stroke of paralysis.

Throughout the long period of her invalidism, dating from the death of her two little children, Mrs. McKinley showed a firm and unwavering belief in the career of her husband and by her cheering words, in spite of personal afflictions, encouraged him when there was darkness at hand. She believed that his star of destiny would never set until he had become President of this land and for more than a quarter of a century cherished that belief until her hopes were realized.

After President McKinley's death she expressed a desire to join him and prayed day by day that she might die. Later, however, she frequently told friends she desired to live until the completion of the McKinley mausoleum, which is the gift of the nation and which is to be dedicated on Monument hill Sept. 30 next.

Mrs. McKinley was born in Canton June 8, 1847. James A. Saxton, her father, was an intellectual and progressive business man and banker, his wife a lady of culture and refinement. Ida Saxton was reared in a home of comfort and ease. After attending Canton schools she was a pupil at a private school at Delhi, N. Y. Later she went to a Cleveland academy and finished her education at Brook Hall seminary, Medina, Pa.

While she taught Sunday school in the Presbyterian church young lawyer William McKinley was superintendent of the First Methodist Episcopal Sunday school. Among many admirers and suitors the handsome young soldier, who had been with Grant and Sherman and won distinction in the Shenandoah valley, was the favored one.

Her life as the wife of William McKinley was a devoted one. They never "kept house" while he was in Congress because of her invalid state. She, however, desired to be with him as much as possible and spent much time in Washington. On his campaign tours while he was Congressman, Governor and President, she journeyed with him.

After McKinley's term as Governor ended, they came to Canton in January, 1896, in time to celebrate their silver wedding anniversary in the first home of their early married life. This wedding anniversary was the beginning of a year and two months' residence in Canton, during which time Mr. McKinley was nominated and elected President of the United States.

GOES UP IN SMOKE.

Many Millions Enten Up by Acton. Fires and Eten Protection.

In all this huge country of ours we built about \$500,000,000 worth of new buildings a year; our fire losses, including cost of fire departments and insurance, exceeds that sum. Two hundred million dollars is actually burned up every year in smoke; fire departments, high water pressure and all that sort of thing mean nearly \$300,000,000 more; we annually pay out \$195,000,000 to the gentlemen who condescend to gamble with us on the question of fire in insurance premiums. We get back, after considerable trouble and some litigation, about \$55,000,000 from the insurance companies as a slight salvage for our fire injuries! Surely not a profitable gamble. Now then, the above are normal losses, so called. One fire, like San Francisco's, means \$15,000,000 wasted in smoke, \$1,000,000,000 in loss, business that is largely destroyed, \$12,000,000 to clean up the debris and \$350,000,000 and 20 years' time to get the city in the condition it was before the fire. To counterbalance all that vast toll the people of San Francisco may, after long delays, much quibbling and tiring litigation and fusing get \$25,000,000 from the insurance companies!

Short News Notes.

Gen. Funston used to collect botanical specimens for the Department of Agriculture.

Leopold, King of the Belgians, is said to be the richest monarch in Europe, next to the Czar of Russia.

The Duke of Orleans contemplates an expedition to explore the northeast coast of Greenland this spring.

The Sultan of Turkey eats sparingly, eats meat seldom, and water is his principal beverage, supplies of which are conveyed to his palace in sealed barrels.

The Prince of Monaco is again afloat on science bent. This time he has sailed for Spitzbergen to prosecute his investigations as to the currents of the upper air.

Col. G. G. Munson, a State Senator of Wisconsin, is also Gov. Davidson's private secretary. He has not drawn a dollar of his pay as Senator, returning the whole amount to the treasury.

The Rev. James Woodrow, who died recently, was deposed from his professorship in a northern theological seminary and convicted of heresy about twenty years ago for advocating the doctrine of evolution.

COLD HURTS CROPS.

WEATHER FOR MAY WORST IN 25 YEARS.

Wet Fields Full of Rotting Seeds and Many Farmers Face Crop Failure—Theory as to Cause of Chilling Blasts.

The unprecedented cold weather which has held the entire country east of the Rocky Mountains in its grip for the last two weeks has wrought enormous damage to crops of every kind. The Washington weather bureau reports that not since 1882 has the abnormal weather of the present year been approached in severity.

As to the cause of the unseasonable weather conditions now prevailing the experts of the weather bureau have two facts and one theory. One fact is that practically every bit of the cold air that has been rushing down from the Northwest has come from the direction of Siberia. Another fact is that it has come in such great volumes that it has leaped over the natural barriers found in the mountains of British Columbia and spread over the Northwest, the middle West, around the great lakes to New York and New England, and as far south as Kansas.

"We have an idea," said Professor H. O. Frankenfeld of the forecast division of the weather bureau, "that an extraordinary amount of snow has fallen in Siberia during the last five or six months. All the heat has apparently radiated from it, leaving an intensely cold mass covering the earth. Arctic winds blowing over that mass of snow and ice do not have their temperature raised to any appreciable extent before they hit the American continent. The winds that blow across from Siberia apparently are without moisture. The result is a high pressure over the northern part of the American continent, while in the south there is a low pressure. Atmosphere, like water, flows to the lowest point. There is no doubt about the course of the cold winds that have served to make the oldest inhabitants speak of this spring as if it were the coldest in human experience, which it is not."

Conditions in Many States.

The following reports, showing crop conditions for various sections of the country have been received:

Peoria, Ill.—The abnormally cold weather in this section of the country has played havoc with crops, and not more than half a crop of oats and wheat is expected. What is known as "the green bug" is working in the wheat and oats and the cold weather has retarded the growth of the cereals to such an extent that the insect has gotten in its work with disastrous results. In central Illinois not even half a crop is expected. The cold weather has left the ground in poor shape for planting corn, and the farmers report the outlook discouraging.

La Crosse, Wis.—