

Aeroplanes are quoted at \$7,000, but they will probably come down.

Since we have the aeroplanes, dirigible balloons interest us about as much as velocipedes.

The milliners have solved the problem: What shall we do with our wastebaskets?

The desire to have the battleship Maine raised may be inspired by either patriotism or curiosity.

Notwithstanding the many railroads he has to look after, Mr. Harriman finds time to be an optimist.

"Get married," says Senator Depew. That is one of the brightest things he has thought of in many a day.

Mr. Harriman says he will resign if anybody can find a man to take his place. The man who could do it has a job.

Thieves stole a band stand in a New Jersey town, in the presence of a crowd and a policeman. The band escaped.

Count Zepellin's affair would not amount to much in war if the opposing army should happen to plant an apple tree in its path.

"With hard work," says Buffalo Bill, "a man should live to be 100 years old." But can't you think of some other way, Bill?

"Jack London writes from Sydney to a medical friend in Honolulu that he is suffering from five diseases." Otherwise he is all right.

James J. Hill advises the people to be more economical. Perhaps if we were to pay more attention to what Uncle Jim says we might be able to buy a railroad or two.

If \$40,000 be essential to proper drafting in New York, it is wonderful how many have managed to get along without essentials. Perhaps the dictionary needs revising.

An ordinance in Chicago prescribes that awnings must be raised to provide room for women's hats. This civic act should be supplemented by one to widen the sidewalks.

Rats annually cost the American people \$100,000,000 for gratuitous board and there is, apparently, no way that the Interstate Commerce Commission can reach them.

Crime has its social degrees and its aristocracy as well as its virtuous and law-abiding society. The footpad nowadays is but a despised worker by the side of the auto burglar.

George Ade, the humorist, is back on his Indiana farm from a trip around the world, and remarks that "Good old U. S. A." is good enough for him. It is for everybody, George.

Hereafter no placard or poster which pictorially represents the commission of crime may be publicly exhibited in the District of Columbia. The District authorities have recently promulgated an order to that effect. A similar order ought to be made and enforced in every community in the country.

Fifty young women have sworn not to marry men who will not work for the suffrage. If old Dame Nature has a sense of humor she probably got a right good chuckle out of that, for, as a certain canny Scotsman once remarked, "The best laid schemes of mice and men," etc. Why not of maidens also?

A California woman who had fallen in alighting from a street car, wounding her person and her pride, sued the company, and was met by its attorney with the plea of "contributory negligence," which meant that she was wearing such high-heeled shoes that she could not step safely. She lost her suit and had to pay the costs—so it appears that there is at least one human agency, the law, which is more powerful than fashion.

It must be remembered that New is probably the most strict state in its marriage laws. It grants an absolute divorce for only one reason, and the charge must be clearly proved, and by competent witnesses, whether the defendant puts in an answer or not. If Justice Dowling's rulings were more liberal to Mr. Gould's side, the peace and continued existence of a great many married unions would soon be attacked. The road to a separation would lie through getting one's husband or wife a little tight upon one or two occasions.

The income tax as it exists in Great Britain, and as it has been proposed in this country, is a small matter when compared with the same tax in Japan. Mr. Adachi Kinoshita, editor of the Far East, thinks that the people of his country who have incomes of \$50,000 or more pay 68 per cent of such incomes to the government, and this rate is graded down so that the man with a yearly income of \$500 pays about 17 per cent. The average is about 20 per cent. With such an exhibition of patriotism and equanimity under great public burdens it is small wonder that Japan has made stupendous strides in its progress from medieval conditions to civilization and power.

It is not likely that there ever will be an agreement among military experts as to the measure of General Slessova's responsibility for the fall of Port Arthur, but the feeling of the Russian people was made manifest in the great ovation given him when he was released from prison the other day by order of the Czar. An immense crowd gathered to do him honor, and he was hailed as a national hero. On the other hand, Rear Admiral Nebogatoff, who was pardoned at the same time, was welcomed by only a few near relatives—showing that the Russians blame the officers, rather than the system and the bureaucracy behind them, for the disaster which befell Rozhdestvensky's fleet.

When King Edward was Prince of Wales he is reputed to have spoken jestingly of a coming time when thrones would be "put up at competitive examination." Thrones are not so numerous in these days as they once were, and although not yet open to public competition, royalty seems to be forestalling a possible evil day by following the nobility into trade. Prince Henry XXXII of Reuss, one of the oldest ruling houses of Europe, has recently finished four terms at the Cologne Commercial High School, taken his examinations, and received the mercantile diploma. If, like his father—who at the time of the young man's birth was the German ambassador to Turkey—he enters the diplomatic service, his knowledge of commercial usages will manifestly be useful. If, on the other hand, he ever comes to reign over the little principality at the north of Bavaria, he should be able to give it a business administration.

The problems of the boy criminal are many and serious. They are ever present. Two entirely different phases are emphasized by the news items of a day in Chicago. The more sensational was connected with the killing of a lad of 14 years who was imitating the criminals of the Black Hand type. The other phase was reflected in the act of a Municipal court judge, who fined two first offenders and then gave them a chance to reform without having the prison stigma attached to them. The story of the Black Hand blackmailer has familiar features. It reveals the impressionable character of youth. It tells again the tale of the imitiveness of youth. The sentiment sometimes prompts boys to run away from home in order to go out West to fight Indians. In the latest case it inspired these two with the thought of seeds of criminal daring and adventure at home. The threatening letters, the arrangement of a meeting with the victim, and the empty revolver pointed at his body, all have the spirit of "Deadshot Dick of Sleepy Hollow." Evidently the story of alleged Black Hand plots as outlined in the newspapers had influence with these imaginative boys. The killing of the lad is to be regretted. It seems a dreadful fate for one so young. But it may serve a useful purpose as a warning to other boys who are cultivating criminal instincts. The intended victim thought men were in the plot against him and the peace and quiet of his home. The shadows of darkness serve to make the outlines of the figure indistinct as a criminal runs away from the sharp hall of the detective. The flying form may be that of a mere boy or it may be that of a man of 40. It is safer for man and boy to keep out of such situations as the one in which this boy criminal placed himself. There are gangs of bad boys in many of our cities and villages. They make a dangerous element in the community. Some of their constituent members are hopelessly bad. They have had their criminal instincts too well developed. Others may be reached by kindness and attention. The problem is a great one. The home influences must be watched, the associations guarded, and the ever present temptations of youth appreciated. The importance of the work that is being attempted by various organizations for saving the boys receives fresh emphasis in the untimely end of a juvenile blackmailer.

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PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

HUMANITY APPROACHING DIVINE IDEAL.

By the Rev. R. F. Campbell. Humanity is progressing towards some great end, an end higher than the perfecting of separate individualities. One generation sees on where another leaves off, and unfolds the divine ideas a little more fully. Some day, we may hope, this idea will be realized in a human society as nearly perfect as the limitations of earth permit. We may reasonably hold that those generations which have passed on have not stood still either, and are still concerned with the work of evolving humanity, a mighty whole, one with and in the glorified Christ.

When we come to the question of the survival of individual consciousness after death we can say no more than that the evidence which would satisfy the ordinary religious mind might fall with the uninformed by the religious temperament. Nevertheless the lack may be in the latter rather than the former. The plane of spiritual experience is real and is felt by most to be higher than the purely intellectual, and it is in the plane of spiritual experience that certitude regarding the immortality of the soul has hitherto generally been attained.

AMERICAN PRODIGALITY MOSTLY MYTHICAL.

By Guglielmo Ferrero. In Europe one is fond of speaking of the "barbarian extravagance" of the Americans. Naturally, there are men and women in New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, just as there are such men and women in Paris, London and Berlin, who delight in spending their money foolishly. It is perhaps even true that there are more of that class of men and women in America than there are in Europe. But it is equally true that this class of people in America as well as in Europe form only an insignificant minority and their folly could not be taken for a normal phenomenon of American life in general.

THEN SHE PADDED.

Orme—I suppose you are one of those fellows who likes to paddle their own canoe. Fred—Well, I would rather see the girl paddle this one. Orme—And why?

ALPINE ADVENTURE.

In the northeastern corner of the Tyrol is the best skee-garden in Europe, writes W. A. Baillie-Grohman in "Tyrol." The region has many lofty peaks, which makes mountain climbing of interest. The author gives one of his adventures on a peak near the village of Kitzbuehel.

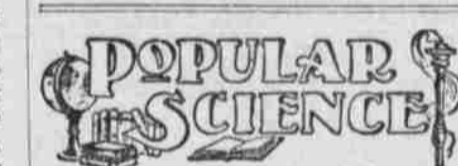
which are inhabited by people who have much smaller fortunes than the great New York banker. Near his house Mr. Morgan has built a large library, where he amasses various collections of books, manuscripts and relics which ought to cost a great many millions. But this library is not a part of his house; it is a sort of public monument.

WHAT UNIVERSAL PEACE REALLY MEANS.

By Baroness Von Suttner. The whole object of the peace advocates consists in turning the people and the governments to kindness and mutual love. They strive to show how much pleasanter, more comfortable and healthier it is to live in peace than it is to quarrel and fight. The public imagines the peace advocates to be a sort of wishy-washy flock of sheepish men upon whom our war lords look down with contempt and whose arguments are now and then refuted by historians and other learned men. This conception of the peace advocates, however, is wrong. The peace advocates as the public thinks of him is only a phantom. He is only a caricature created by those who know nothing whatever about the movement and agitation for universal peace.



Government experts have discovered a new kind of food. It is said to be palatable, wholesome, nutritious, and ought to be reasonably cheap. The food in question is furnished by the seeds of the great yellow water lily, which in Southeastern Oregon have been gathered for many centuries by the Klamath Indians, who depend upon them to a considerable extent for their winter provender. They are so delicious, and so obviously available for consumption by civilized people, that it is thought there would be profit in collecting them on a large scale, preparing them for market by modern methods and putting them up for sale in neat and attractive packages, as a new food luxury.



Calculata is to spend nearly half a million dollars for a 9,000-gallon tank for its filtered water supply. The tank will be elevated 100 feet above the ground on steel columns. To facilitate its telephone service, the British postoffice department is experimenting with a slot machine device into which two pennies are dropped when a call is made. If the line is busy the money is returned.