

Limburger cheese as a cure for cancer looks feasible. It would drive any thing out.

Something worse than a bookworm in the matter with Breathitt County, Kentucky.

Nine feet of water in the Ohio would have the effect of keeping that river wet all summer.

Fewer marriages in Great Britain, says the statistician. Now will the suffragettes be good?

What is the man who puts his money in a stocking instead of banking it, pessimist or optimist?

It is a sweetly solemn thought that the people who have started a crusade against pie are not making much headway.

"Blot" may be reformed spelling, but it is in the dictionary long before Mr. Carnegie and Mr. T. Roosevelt got on the job.

The death of one man is credited to suerkrant. He may or he may not have died happy. That is another question of taste.

Before the millennium breaks any speed laws getting here it will be necessary for all reformers to think alike and act in harmony.

English suffragettes have abandoned hatches and batpins and are now using corrosive acid. Later they may get around to galling guns.

Suffragettes assert that there is no good reason why women should not vote. None at all, except that in most states the law provides that they shall not.

Some fellow is going to start for the pole with a lot of polar bears as companions, and the question is, when their food gives out will the man eat the bears or the bears eat the man?

If there were any way of impounding the aurora borealis that causes so much winter trouble and of selling it to the consumer for light and heat, the business would make a splendid public service corporation.

A Yale student has married a lady who is 70 years old, and some of the young man's friends suspect that it was not a love match. Some people will not be convinced that soul mating may result from intellectual attractions.

A Denver scientist says limburger cheese will cure cancer. If cancer seizes from a specific microbe and that microbe is a self-respecting bug, the introduction of a slug of limburger in the theater of his activities should cause him to withdraw in high indignation.

A pestiferous itch for something different seems to have beset the artistic souls responsible for the issue of our money and stamps. Our gold pieces first felt the innovator's touch, and since then the artists of the treasury and the postoffice have eagerly seized upon every pretext to foist the unfamiliar into our purses and upon our letters. Presumably the end is afar.

A chemical analysis of the human body results in some interesting disclosures. We are told that the normal, healthy man who weighs one hundred and fifty pounds is the exact equivalent, chemically speaking, of one thousand hens' eggs. He consists of thirty-eight quarts of water, which makes up over half his weight, sixty lumps of sugar, twenty spoonfuls of salt, iron enough for seven spikes, two pounds of lime, thirty-five hundred cubic feet of gas, oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen, over twenty pounds of carbon, or enough for about ten thousand lead pencils, phosphorus enough for eight hundred thousand matches, and starch, sulphur, chlorid of potash and hydrochloric acid in lesser quantities.

Under the lately adopted amendment of the constitution of Maine, providing for a popular referendum on legislative enactments, three measures, passed by the legislature of that State last winter, will now be submitted to the people. In each case there were the necessary ten thousand petitioners within three months after the adjournment of the legislature. Two of the matters upon which the whole State will now vote are purely local in character—one being the proposed division of the town of York and the other the so-called Portland bridge bill, and the third is a bill which declares intoxicating, within the meaning of the law, all drinks with 1 per cent alcohol. As Maine is the first Eastern State to adopt a general initiative and referendum scheme, this test of its operation will be watched with widespread interest. Its friends hold that it will prove a curb to the passage of improper laws, but others insist that it will become a general nuisance, and will result in careless and inefficient legislation. Thus far the initiative part of the plan has not been invoked in Maine.

Governor Deane of Illinois said of the lynchings at Cairo that they grew out of atrocious crimes that shocked the community and that they indicated a lack of confidence in the outcome of criminal processes and a sentiment that in cases of intolerable atrocity the law's uncertainties and delays justify a recourse to mob violence. Put with this statement an assertion that was made by a New York paper recently: "More crimes of violence, venality and corruption go unpunished in New York than in the whole of Great Britain, with ten times the population." The law which should mean protection for society and for the innocent falls of its object. It has become a refuge for

wrongdoers, and so actually encourages crime. In saying this we should, of course, take note of the fact that many crimes are committed without thought of the consequences, but in the long run a lax administration of the law must have its effect on the criminal disposed, and it is certain that its influence is felt when lynchings are advocated. They are often justified by the suggestion that the criminal is likely to escape with light punishment or to go free altogether if he is not dealt with summarily. We are not interested in justifying a plea to prevent lawbreaking by lawbreaking, but the more horrible the acts of the mob the more imperatively does civilization demand that we should seek a permanent preventive, something in addition to the immediate punishment of mob violence. That permanent preventive, as the governor says, is the improvement of our criminal jurisprudence and greater certainty and celerity in its administration. If murderers were brought quickly to trial, if the trials occupied a small fraction of the time that is now given to them, if there were fewer loopholes for the accused, this would probably not be such a notorious murder country, with its homicides exceeding 10,000 a year, against a comparatively insignificant number in England, and mobs would not undertake so often to do what the courts fail to do. While we are discussing politics let us not forget the subject of law reform, with all that it implies as to crime-and-justice.

LEGAL INFORMATION

Conducting the business of pool-selling and book-making in the State of Kansas, except within the inclosure of a race track for not exceeding two weeks in any year, was prohibited by the passage of this law.

In Levy vs. Kansas City, 189 Federal Reporter, 524, plaintiff sued the city for the \$5,000 paid to it for the license. The Circuit Court of Appeals held that, as plaintiff was guilty of a violation of a general law enacted to effectuate the public policy of the State of Kansas, his action arising from his own moral turpitude was not maintainable.

In Biermann vs. Guaranty Mutual Life Ins. Co., 129 Northwestern Reporter, 963, payment of insurance was denied for the alleged reason that deceased, a drunkard, had represented that he took a drink occasionally, but not to excess. The Iowa Supreme Court, allowing a recovery by the widow of the insured, remarked that sufficient disclosure was shown to suggest to a discreet person the advisability of further inquiry if the subject was of vital importance. What constitutes "excess" in this respect is largely a matter of opinion, and varies all the way between a "drink" and a "drunk"; while an occasional glass of beer may mean anything from a glass once a month to one every 15 minutes, according to the capacity of the individual, or perhaps according to the liberality of his views. Although testimony was elicited showing deceased to have been a drunkard when he applied for insurance, it is apparent that the company had means of knowledge of this fact when it made the contract.

While a buggy in which were a man and a boy was being driven on a highway, a heavy automobile tried to pass it, but struck its rear wheel. The boy was thrown beneath the feet of the frightened horse, and literally kicked to death. The owner and driver of the machine were convicted of manslaughter in the second degree. In People vs. Scanlon, 117 New York Supplement, 57, the defendants appeared from an order denying a new trial. The New York Supreme Court, affirming the conviction of the chauffeur, said that it was the reckless driving which is the cause of many accidents, and which should disqualify any one who practices it. With a heavy machine, weighing 3,000 to 4,000 pounds, going at the rate of 26 miles an hour, it is indefensible negligence to attempt to pass a buggy within a few inches. The owner of the machine, who was sitting next to the driver, had given orders to give full leeway to passing vehicles. He was powerless to deflect its course in time to avoid the catastrophe. The whole thing was, as it were, instantaneous, in the control of the chauffeur, but in no way in the owner's control. The conviction of the owner was reversed, and a new trial granted.

The successful housekeeper was planning a dinner for a few of her husband's friends.

"I must have apple pie and cheese for dessert," she remarked without a flicker of indecision.

"But I should think you would want something more dainty this time of year," suggested the woman who always worried herself sick over a company dinner, "an ice or a frozen pudding."

"Oh, but apple pie is my husband's favorite dish. When he has company I always serve what he likes best; then he thinks his guests have had such a good dinner, and everybody is happy. At least my husband and I are happy, and if the guests aren't I am the wiser."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

When a man marries a woman older than himself the couple is never mentioned without some comment on their difference in ages.

Editorials

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

THE CENSUS.

BUSINESS man in the East who had retired after amassing a fortune decided he would employ his first leisure in looking for a brother whom he had not beheld or heard of in forty years. He traced him to Nevada and finally came across him on the edge of the desert, quartered in a tumble-down cabin, bearded and unkempt and yoked to a wife who looked like the offspring of a cyclone and a weathered flagstaff. Her features suggested chaos. Her eyes were like two bullet holes in a barrel. The Nevada brother proceeded to brag about his helpmate.

"It was nip and toss," he said, "whether I'd take her or her sister."

"I never saw the sister," said the man from the East, "and don't know anything about her, but I know this, I'd a darn sight rather have married her."

The new census is to be taken next year. It has been divorced, or at least tentatively separated, from politics. New methods, new machinery, nearly everything new and reformed, is promised for it. This can be taken with a liberal application of salt. But when you think of the last enumeration, its slowness in reporting, its rank errors and statistics of which no little was ridiculous, your preference for the new census, untried, is fixed and unalterable.—Toledo Blade.

CONSERVATION OF LIFE.

IT IS not time that the discussion of politics and personalities in the controversy over the conservation of the natural resources of the country give way to a real conservation movement, such as the conserving of the lives of the toilers in the mines? A report from the Geological Survey, entitled "The Production of Coal in 1908," makes the grim announcement, in the most casual manner, that 2,450 miners were killed in the coal mines last year and 6,772 injured. The chapter detailing the accidents is treated as but an incident in the production of coal, several thousand words telling the condition of the coal business in the various States. Yet, to the men who work in the underground pits there is a terrible meaning in the figures. There is further significance in the statement that the death rate in the mines of the United States for the year was 3.6 for every 1,000 men employed. In Europe the death rate in the coal mines is one in 1,000 employed, and not more than two under the most unfavorable circumstances.

Why is it that Americans are so much more careless of this most valuable of all resources? Do we value human life less than they do in European countries? Are we ahead in industrial progress, scientific achievement, and everything else that goes to make life

worth while, except regard for the life of the man himself?

Here is a fine opportunity for the leaders of the conservation movement to do something real, something tangible. The saving of a single human life means more than all the talk of policies. It perhaps means one less widow thrown, with her family, upon the charity of the world. Multiply this saving by 1,200 or 1,400 (and this is the number of miners whose lives would have been saved had we the same standards as Europe), and there would be a conservation movement worth all the rest.—Washington Post.

THE NEED OF FARMERS.

GEORGIA newspaper, commenting on the cry from one of the counties of that big State for 1,000 more farmers, remarks that there are 146 counties in the State which need as many. All the Eastern and Northern States sadly need good farmers, competent, intelligent, up-to-date men to till the soil properly and get from it the largest and best crops with the least possible expenditure of toil and money. A fair share of both capital and labor is needed in agriculture, of course, but intelligence, a good measure of enthusiasm, the will to learn and the ability to apply learning practically are more essential.

New York State needs farmers of the best sort as badly as Georgia needs them, though perhaps not so many; 146,000 sweeping down at once on the abandoned, neglected or ill-managed farms of the Mohawk valley and the upper and lower tier counties would scarcely be able to find land enough to work on. There are some intelligent farmers in New York and New England, but not many in comparison with the poor and thriftless ones. The modern farmer must adapt himself to modern conditions. He should know how to market crops as well as grow them. He should not be content to do things the way his honorable, but benighted, forefathers did them. He need not, if he have his wits about him, be controlled by middlemen. His market opportunities are enormous. The development of chemistry and mechanics has greatly increased his chances of making agriculture profitable.—New York Times.

IN THE LOG CABIN COUNTRY.

WHEN we celebrate prosperity we seldom save anything for a rainy day. The man who works for the best generally gets it while the other fellow is hoping for it. The man who can make a pillow of his conscience need not envy the millionaires of this world. When you lay up treasure in heaven the only way to be happy is to forget that there is any interest coming on it.—Atlanta Constitution.

Bits for Bookworms

Mr. Kipling's forthcoming book will contain not only short stories but various pieces of verse. He has given to it the not particularly happy title, "Actions and Reactions."

Another English novel which is on the way is Douglas Sladen's "Tragedy of the Pyramids." There is much warfare in the book, which has, by the way, an American heroine.

The autobiography of Henry M. Stanley, which has been edited by his widow, is to be brought out soon. The volume is said to contain much inner history not made public heretofore.

The first novel of a new American author is on the press. It is written by Miss Elizabeth B. Dewing and its title is "Other People's Houses." The book is described as a study of women, their motives and points of view. From America and from Europe the author has derived her scenes.

M. Leonce Benedite, the official at the head of the Luxembourg, has written a history of art in France and abroad which covers the entire period of the nineteenth century. He is also producing a volume dealing with the painting of that century—a volume which will contain numerous reproductions of the pictures of the French, English, Dutch, Belgian, Italian and Spanish schools.

Interest in Spanish life and letters is very keen at present and students of the language of Spain are continually increasing. Modern Spanish plays have not been available to those who would read them because they were not to be found in American editions. Prof. F. W. Morrison, of the United States Naval Academy, has edited and will bring out this month "Tres Comedias Modernas," by some of the best known of the modern Spanish dramatists. It contains Carrion's "La Muera del Juicio," Cocati y Criados, "Las Solteronas" and Barranco's "Las Pantalonas."

Writing in an introduction to a new edition of "Swiss Family Robinson," about to come from the Harper's, Mr. Howells thus expresses his appreciation of that famous classic of adventure: "In these happy pages there is never any want of work or play, never any lack of sport. The lovely family life of the Robinsons is never insidiously sweet, but is full of true affection and willing subordination. The children, who are different enough in other things, are alike in loving their father and mother, as the Good Book bids them. The father leads the boys in their adventures and enterprises; the mother welcomes them home and spreads the table with rich and wholesome abundance. For the honest-hearted, home-loving boy, it is like being under his own roof, with a boundless range of field, forest, and sea, and every harmless delight of them." Mr. Howells also confesses that he never read the book before

HOW TREES WITHSTAND WIND.

Box Elders and soft Maples are easily uprooted.

The big wind that passed over the Twin cities recently taught much about what trees to plant for permanent shade and other effects. One might easily have expected the softer varieties of wood to break first, says a writer in the Western Architect, but would hardly be prepared to see the ease with which box elders and soft maples are uprooted. When it is left alone the former likes to branch near the ground and it can be seen on the prairie more like a gigantic bush than like a tree. This habit of growth would not call for any great spread of roots except in capturing nourishment, an operation in which the tree is supposed to excel. We have known a tree of the kind to send its roots to almost any length in the seams of a quarry yet in well-sodded and watered lawns it is the first to give way at the root. It should be less missed than any other sort.

Among the indigenous trees the elms hold an intermediate position, furnishing not much more resistance to the winds than the sorts mentioned. This is a pity, they being such universal favorites for shade trees. Conifers trees and the larches seem to hold up well against winds as do the ash and white walnuts, although so few of the latter are used for shade that one cannot speak with confidence of their performance. Coming to maples in the track of the storm seemed to suffer much more than their numbers would warrant, but the oaks preserved their reputation for sturdiness, while the humble hackberry held its own as well as any.

By the way, oaks of some varieties are by no means so slow of growth as imagined by some, nor are they so averse to the ways of civilization as has been taught.

COST OF WOMAN'S BONNETS.

Dress Bills of French Royalties Compared with To-Day's Prices. The importance of feminine headgear is an old story in many lands, but in none is it more interesting than in France, where from the immemorial the women of all classes seem to have given it their particular attention, the Pall Mall Magazine says.

The Empress Eugenie and the Princess Mathilde, it is well known, were never women to waste money on frivolities such as poufs, sentimentales, although the descendant of Worth, the first man dressmaker in Paris, has many converts of the Empress Eugenie in his early days. At that time 200 francs was a very high price to pay for a bonnet, and in the records of a fashionable woman of the day are the following details: A white straw bonnet trimmed with lavender ribbon and rosebuds, 100 francs; a wreath of roses for evening wear, 27 francs, and a nightcap of fine lace and lawn, 25.

Compare any of these prices with those of to-day and it will be seen that the increase of late years is considerable. The feather hats of last season were sold for enormous prices, some

being as much as 1,000 francs and none being under 300, the most simple of morning hats run between 100 and 150, and an evening culture can quite easily mount up to 200.

Yet it cannot be that material is so very much dearer, for the same old record tells us that broad satin ribbon cost from 8 to 15 francs a yard, white crepe 20 and feathers varied between 45 and 100. It must be, therefore, that the work girls are better paid than they were, and in this case we have nothing to say. Unfortunately, however, higher wages always create new wants and there is the same story of poverty to be told all over again.

POWER FROM DEAD LEAVES.

They and Kindred Materials, Returned to Gas, Will Run Motors. The use of dead leaves, straw or hay as a source of power is the latest contribution to practical science made by French experimenters. Henri de Parville, writing in the Journal des Debats, Paris, vouches for the truth of this announcement. The experiments are being carried on by M. S. Bordenave, says Public Opinion, who has found it possible to produce enough gas by the combustion of vegetable matter to run a small but serviceable motor. The different materials used were straw, leaves, hay, etc., compressed into bales.

M. de Parville says that the following results were obtained in practice: "With hay it was found that one horse power could be obtained by using a little over two pounds of combustible, which, being valued at 10 francs per ton, made the cost of each single horse power .04 francs. With the labor and other accessories the cost of the horse power was raised to .05 francs for each horse power for one hour. If for the average quality of hay at a cost of 25 francs per ton be used the horse power for one hour costs .076 francs.

"Wheat and oat straw may be used to greater advantage. Here the power is obtained with a little over two pounds of material. The value of the straw being estimated at 25 francs per ton, the cost of the horse power is .063 francs. With oat straw the horse power costs .057 francs. The experiments with leaves gave a horse power at a cost of .043 francs, while the power was obtained with a mixture of sawdust and shavings at a cost of .05 francs.

"With other material the results were in every way satisfactory from both an industrial and financial standpoint. It is claimed by the experimenter that the new process will be particularly useful to farmers who are in need of small motors and who have great quantities of refuse vegetable matter from which to obtain the power.

Made the Parrot the Scapgoat.

Father—What did the teacher say when she heard you swear? Small Boy—She asked me where I learned it. Father—What did you tell her? Boy—I didn't want to give you away, pa, so I blamed it on the parrot.—Detroit Free Press.

Proof Positive. "I believe I once had the pleasure of meeting your wife." "If you consider it a pleasure, it was not she."—Simplicissimus.

CORNER IN 3-CENT PIECES.

Was the revolutionary work of a Dime Slot Machine Company. The disappearance of the 3-cent piece has for years been a matter of mild speculation. The New York Sun says persons are aware that a large proportion of the coins of this denomination which remained in circulation when the government stopped issuing them were peacefully alumbering in sundry large fat canvas bags in the vaults of a certain electrical manufacturing company of Chicago. They are not for sale just yet.

Each of the coins is an evidence of petty larceny. Years ago the company equipped many telephone pay stations with dime slot machines. It was supposed that they could be worked only with dimes. The 3-cent pieces were becoming rare and no thought was taken of them.

Hardly six months passed before one of the telephone companies discovered that the collectors were yielding a harvest of 3-cent pieces. Then from all over the country came similar complaints.

Each company forwarded the pieces to the manufacturing company and more or less politely asked that a corresponding number of dimes or a check for an equivalent amount be sent back in exchange.

A council was held at the office of the manufacturing company. The cost of correcting the boxes was compared with fairly trustworthy information of the number of 3-cent pieces in circulation. It was found that a balance was in favor of the 3 cents and it was decided to accept the pieces as dimes.

Gradually the inpour of 3-cent pieces narrowed down to an intermittent current. The company seemed to have about all the pieces.

It is said that if ever the premium on 3-cent pieces goes high enough the coins will be offered to collectors at prices based upon the original cost to the company, plus 6 per cent a year, plus cost of storage, plus cost of guarding, plus cost of carrying the fund upon the books. Long ago the slot machines that collected them were relegated to the scrap heap.

QUEER STORIES

Prince Edward Island's annual catch of lobsters amounts to 20,000,000.

As many as 125,000 boxes of Tasmania apples have arrived in a year in England in perfect condition.

Receipts from Suez canal shipping in the first nine months of the year amounted to \$17,768,000, against \$16,029,000 in 1908, and \$17,268,000 in 1907.

Miss Ivy E. Woodward has been admitted to full membership in the Royal College of Physicians of London. This is the first time that the coveted M. R. C. P. has been conferred upon a woman.

The high price of wheat has caused the British farmer to alter greatly the layout of his yearly crops. In the last year the acreage under wheat in England increased no less than 12 per cent, or nearly 200,000 acres.

The province of British Columbia is now receiving the attention of investors from eastern Canada, the United States and England, and with the further development of its rich resources of coal and other minerals, timber, etc., its wealth and population should steadily increase.

No creature is more apt to become a hopeless dipsomaniac than the honey bee. The flowers deliberately trade on the weakness and make their honey intoxicating simply to give the bee an irresistible lustre for it and induce the deluded insect to make continual calls at their bar.—London Globe.

The United States has been making increased purchases of lambs from Canada, amounting to about \$1,000,000 annually for the three fiscal years 1908, 1907 and 1906. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1909, however, the amount was not quite \$500,000. The chief ports of entry have been in New York state.

Out in Colgrado an inventor got a patent on a flashlight on smaller arms, even pocket pistols, so that wherever the searchlight strikes there the bullet hits, making the taking of aim unnecessary. This pistol method was devised by the inventor for policemen to use on burglars and other night felons.

Poor John.

A Philadelphian who was formerly a resident of a town in the north of Pennsylvania, says a writer in Lippincott's, recently revisited his old home town after an absence of many years. One day he was talking with an old friend about various people he used to know.

"What became of the Hoover family?" he inquired. "Oh," answered the latter, "Tom Hoover died very well. Got to be an actor out west. Bill, the other brother, is something of an artist in New York, and Mary, the sister, is doing literary work. But John never amounted to much. It took all he could lay his hands on to support the others."

Supply and Demand.

"We could all live on 10 cents a day if we would cut out high-priced meat and eat beans and rice." "Aw, come off. If 90,000,000 people each ordered a bushel of beans to-morrow, beans would go to 20 cents a piece."—Kansas City Times.

Rehearsing.

First Golfer—Who's the turf mover? Second Golfer—He's an actor—plays the gravedigger in "Hamlet." First Golfer—Wish he'd find some where else to rehearse.—Punch.

Wayside Woes.

"I told them people I was wif' Cook." "And didn't it give you a handout?" "Naw; they're on the Peary side of the controversy. It's a hard world."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

MAKING A JOURNALIST.

Dr. Warren Admits It's Difficult to Mold Raw Material.

Up at the New York university department of journalism was initiated this year, with Dr. Frank J. Warren in charge, says the New York Times. Seventy-five pupils have been enrolled and it is Dr. Warren's hope to make regular newspaper men out of them in a short time. "Just the same," he admits, "it isn't any fun to make a reporter out of a raw youngster, who has not the slightest knowledge of the manner in which newspapers get or handle their news. It makes me think of the experience of a conferee of mine in the Missouri College of Journalism. He put his students through a course of theoretical sprouts," said Dr. Warren, "and after they had achieved a moderate degree of knowledge of the business it was his custom to send them out to report events for the daily newspaper of the college. The paper handled the news of the vicinity just as a real daily would. On one occasion he sent out a student reporter to report a big railroad wreck near the city, in which a number of cars were in flames and several people were reported killed. Time went on and nothing was heard from the student reporter. Finally, in desperation, the dean telegraphed him. 'What is the matter?' he demanded briefly. 'No story yet; edition soon go to press. Rush, rush, rush!' By and by he got a jaunty little message from the student reporter. 'I have not written story yet,' said he. 'Too much excitement here. I am all of a tremble. Soon as things quiet down I will ask some questions.'"