

# New News of Yesterday

by E. J. Edwards

## Famous Expose Was Made

E. J. Edwards Tells of Senator Dorsey's Confession of the Way in Which He Captured Indiana for Republicans in 1880.

One of the famous political exposes of yesterday was that in which Stephen W. Dorsey, United States senator from Arkansas during the reconstruction period, told how, as secretary of the Republican national committee in 1880, he had collected and used \$200,000 in new two-dollar bills for the purpose of influencing the state of Indiana to return a safe majority for the Republican presidential ticket of that year. Now, for the first time, is told in print how Senator Dorsey came to make the confession which created such intense excitement throughout the country in the summer of 1883.

Early in Garfield's administration the so-called Star Route frauds were brought to light, and in connection with them Senator Dorsey was indicted for conspiracy. At the first trial the jury failed to reach a decision, but upon a second trial, in 1883, he was acquitted. I reported this second trial for the New York Sun on orders from Mr. Dana direct.

It was late in the day that Senator Dorsey was acquitted. About 10 o'clock that night there came a knock on the door of the hotel room I was occupying, and opening the door in response, I was confronted by Senator Dorsey's negro valet, "Sensatah Dorsey wants to see you all at once, sah," he reported. "He done sent me to tell you-all so."

Deeply wondering at the message, I went immediately to Senator Dorsey. He received me cordially, and at once began to explain why he had summoned me.

"I have now read every day your report of my trial," he said. "All through yours has been the only true report of the trial. You have told exactly what happened, what was said and done. You have not colored your reports at the instigation of those of my political enemies who caused my indictment when they should have defended me from the charges brought against me. I am grateful to you for your fairness to me, and I am now going to prove my gratefulness. I have just finished a statement in which I tell why I was indicted and tried. In it I charge that all this trouble was brought upon me maliciously by my political enemies. Here is the statement. You alone of all the newspaper men who reported my trial will get it. Send it to your paper if you like, and you can assure Mr. Dana that he will have the exclusive publication of it. At mid-

night I leave for my ranch in New Mexico. Good-by."

I had tried to report the trial impartially, and I believe that Senator Dorsey was not quite accurate when he charged that all the other reports had been colored against him. Yet this I know absolutely for a fact: I hardly took time to thank the senator for giving me the exclusive use of his statement, so anxious was I to put it on the wire after he had handed it to me. And next day, when it was published in full, its accusations against the senator's former political associates and its vindictive tone caused it to be the sensation of the hour.

A day later I received a wire from Mr. Dana instructing me to call on Senator Dorsey while he was in a vindictive mood and get him, if possible, to describe how the doubtful and crucial state of Indiana had really been influenced to go Republican three years before. I telegraphed back that the senator had left for his ranch in New Mexico an hour or so after he had given me this statement, and in a short time word came from Mr. Dana to follow Senator Dorsey thither at once.

A week or so later I was sitting with the senator on the porch of his ranch house.

"Senator," I said, "I have been sent

## Plumb Kept Tab on Kansas

He Had Every Newspaper in the State Sent to Him at Washington and Read Local News With Utmost Care.

United States senator from Kansas from 1877 until his death in December, 1891, Preston B. Plumb was one of the most interesting men to be found in the national capital during that period, and that was the time, too, when John J. Ingalls was in the heyday of his national glory.

Senator Plumb was in striking contrast to his distinguished colleague, Ingalls, a fine scholar, a student of the classics, and one of the best orators the senate ever had. Plumb was anything but a brilliant speaker, and he delivered his speeches so rapidly that they were caught with difficulty by the senate stenographers. Ingalls was fastidious in his dress and his personal habits. Plumb was not at all particular about the style, cut or condition of his coat. Meeting Ingalls on the street, and not knowing who he was, you would at once have set him down as a man of parts. Meeting Plumb under like conditions, you

would have placed him as a plain farmer.

Again, Ingalls was not especially interested in political patronage, or in any of the minor political duties with which senators are so often burdened. In patronage and the details that its distribution brings, Plumb was deeply interested, and in this connection his intimate knowledge of his own state was constantly a source of wonder to his colleagues, and a good deal of a mystery.

"I had occasion to call upon Senator Plumb one evening at his rooms. When I opened the door and walked in in response to a loud and hearty summons to enter, I at first saw no one. But I had never before seen such a collection of newspapers and unbound documents as the room contained, not even in the office of a newspaper exchange editor. They were scattered about everywhere; the floor was literally carpeted with them, and they were stacked up in the corners and on shelves placed against the walls. For a few moments I gazed about me in silent wonder. Then, hearing a rustling in an alcove of the room, as of some one turning over a newspaper, I walked thither and discovered an open newspaper and dashed through it at breakneck speed, seemingly talking in an entire column at a single glance of the eye.

"Well, Senator," I said, in my surprise, "this is somewhat unusual."

He smiled. "This is where and how I keep in touch with my state," he said. "I have every newspaper published in Kansas, daily or weekly, sent to my office. I read every one of them faithfully. I do not look at the Associated Press reports or at the reprint matter, but I read the original copy of the local news, and I am especially particular to scan the columns contributed by what are called the country correspondents, who are never so happy as when they are telling all they know about everybody they know. Through them I have come to know about their neighbors just as much as they do themselves.

"I also read the editorials very carefully. I am especially careful to read the editorials of the Democratic press. In this way I am able to keep abreast of the latest thing in Kansas thought, just as from the local news columns and the letters of the country correspondents I learn of the latest happenings to and views of John Smith and John Jones.

"They say in the senate, I believe, that I know everything worth knowing about Kansas. Well, I try to learn all about it that is worth knowing; and it is only by taking and reading thoroughly the papers of the state that I have been able to keep in touch with it, its people and its prevailing opinions. But it's a job. It keeps me busy evening after evening; it turns my quarters into an old paper sack heap." And the junior senator from the Sunflower State looked ruefully at the mass of discarded papers hiding the carpet completely.

Utilize Manufacturing Waste.

To utilize manufacturing waste is in some cases a serious problem, and a committee of the American Chemical Society, under the chairmanship of G. A. Alfahan, Southmore, Pa., has undertaken a solution. Manufacturers are to capture the waste available. Each plant will be given scientific investigation, and it is expected that materials which heretofore had been discarded as waste will become economical sources of chemical elements and of various profitable new products.

Non-Flammable Celluloid.

A non-flammable celluloid has been developed by Prof. A. Gaultier, of the University of California, in making celluloid for use in the manufacture of celluloid as a substitute for wood in the construction of airplane parts. The celluloid is made by means of a special process.

Russian Footwear.

All Russians have a weakness for handsome footwear and the result is that there are more pairs of showy boots worn in the czar's empire than anywhere else on earth. This preference extends to the women as well as to the men.

Which is Fortunate?

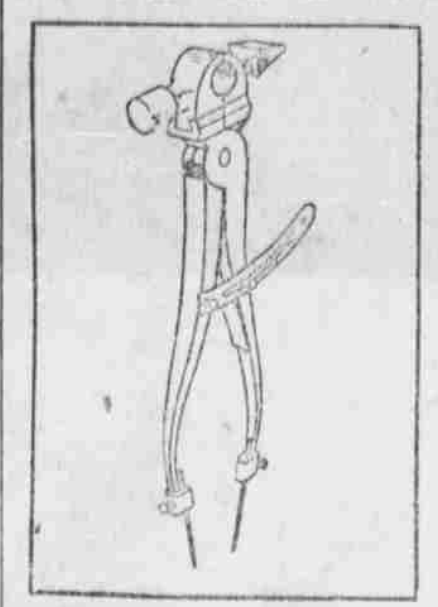
Conversions are fortunately for gotten as soon as they are over, otherwise people would be so mortified over their insane remarks that they would seek new friends every day, fearing to meet old ones.

## INDUSTRY AND MECHANICS

### LOCKING PINNERS IS LATEST

Little Tool That Locks When Closed Requires Considerable Force to Open Just Invented.

A pair of pincers that lock when they are closed and that require considerable force to open have been invented by a California man, and men who use pincers that need a tight grip will appreciate the invention. The jaws are locked by dovetail tongues that enter sockets at their inner ends. Nor is



Locking Pincers.

This tool only to be used as pincers. On either side of the jaws are a hammer and punch, and the dividers are removably attached and are held in place by thumb screws so that they can be taken out at any time when they are likely to be bent by the work to which the tool is being used or to scratch the user. Midway up the handle, too, is the rule by which the spacing of the dividers can be regulated. Going back to the pincers it should be mentioned that their jaws are so curved that when closed they surround a circular opening by means of which pipes or other round bodies may be accommodated, though, of course, the jaws will not lock if they do not meet at the outer ends.

### ATTACH WHEELS TO SLEIGH

Conveyance That is Handy When One is Caught Miles From Home After Snow is Melted.

Any person who has been sleighing up to the eleventh hour and got caught miles from home after the snow had melted will appreciate the invention of a Minnesota man here described. This invention is nothing less than a wheel attachment for sleighs which enables the driver to get home without difficulty, even if the snow is all gone. Two pairs of wheels are attached to the body of the sleigh, with the front and rear crank axles mounted on pivots. A



Sleigh With Wheels.

bar running through the two axles is adjustably connected to the rear support of the sleigh body. A strong spring keeps the wheels clear of the ground when they are not in use, but when needed they are let down, and the connecting bar locked so that the sleigh rests on the wheels and the runners are several inches above the ground. It takes only a few minutes to make the change and the vehicle may be used comfortably in places where the conditions of the road vary.

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## TEMPERED COPPER PUZZLES

Excavations in Babylon Territory Revives Old Problem—Jewelry 6,000 Years Old.

Recent archaeological investigations in the Babylon territory have made in the lowest stratum of the ruins of several ancient cities, notably Nippur, Bismya and Telloh, and with the excavations the old puzzle of tempered copper has once more been brought to the attention of students and workers in metal. The implements which were found and the jewelry are about 6,000 years old, and just three metals seem to have been known at that time—silver, rare gold in abundance, and copper for all practical as well as ornamental purposes.

Bronze was quite unknown, but the remarkable part of the copper implements is that they seemed to be so tempered and hardened that the jewel cutters and camera engravers were able to cut the hardest substances as delicately and intricately as a modern artisan can with all his appliances. A careful analysis of the copper tools gives no evidence of an alloy, and the last process remains a mystery to moderns.

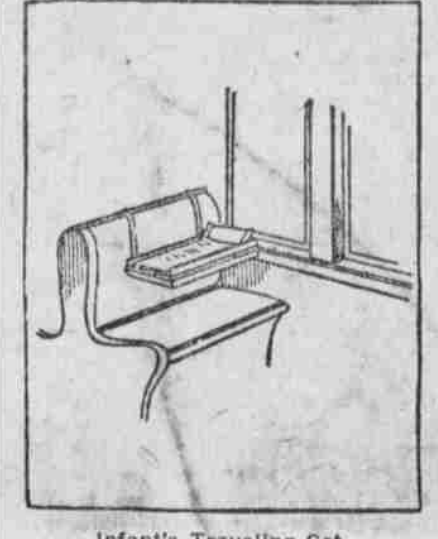
The jewelry discovered, including gold filled hair pins, necklaces and numerous beads, copper rings of all sorts, and pins and gold rosettes set with stones, is beautifully designed and proves that the smiths of that most remote age were skilful and artistic workers.

Even such implements as scythes and other implements of agriculture as well as weapons have been found made of pure copper and hardened to wear and cut like steel.

### COT FOR TRAVELING INFANT

Can Be Hung Over Back of Car Seat—Permits Child to Sleep in Peace and Comfort.

The problem with what to do with baby on a long railroad ride has been solved by a California man. He has devised a collapsible cot, which can be hung on the back of the seat in front and in which the child can sleep in peace and comfort—for himself, his parents and the other passengers. This cot or berth consists of a bottom to



Infant's Traveling Cot.

support a tiny mattress and hinges slides to fold down upon it when not in use and opens up for supports when the cot is in use. Around the whole affair goes a metal hanger frame, from which arise two U-shaped hooks, which hook over the back of the seat ahead and support the little berth without interfering with the occupants of the forward seat. As this article takes up little room when folded, it will be found a blessing by mothers who have to take infants on long trips, as it can be adjusted in a few moments, and the little one allowed to take his rest without encumbering his parent.

Hardened Steel Dies.

Hardened steel dies are produced by electrolytic etching in a recently patented German process. A die-block of hard steel is first made, and this is placed in contact with a plaster of Paris reverse model made conducting by saturation with sal ammoniac. With the special dynamo, with a capacity of 30 amperes at 1 to 15 volts, the die-block is etched to a depth of one-sixteenth inch in four or five hours.

## INDUSTRIAL AND MECHANICAL NOTES

Sugar increases the adhesive power of mortar.

More than two miles of silk frequently are taken from a single cocoon.

The United States fishing industry employed 229,119 persons at last report.

Ball bearings for street car axles are being tried out by a big car building concern.

The Chilean government has under construction 16 different railroad lines or extensions.

Nearly 600,000 cycles are manufactured in the United Kingdom in the course of a year.

The world's product of gold since the discovery of America is estimated at \$13,000,000,000.

Clark, if sunk 200 feet deep in the ocean, will not rise, on account of the pressure of the water.

A species of willow grass, which grows abundantly in India, is used for sticks in making crutches for the country.

The new machine, which is described in the article on page 10, is a great improvement over any other machine of the kind, and it is expected that it will be widely used in the future.

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## TIMELY SUGGESTIONS THAT WILL HELP THE HOSTESS

Greetings for the New Year.

Child of eternity, child of the silence,  
Fair New Year,  
Wine with the wisdom songs have left thee,  
Hond time ear,  
Lift up the veil that covers thy features,  
Strange New Year,  
Rainbow a promise over the darkness,  
Lest we fear,  
Bury our yesterdays, foolish and empty,  
Fathoms deep,  
Leaving the mound unmarked, unended,  
Where they sleep,  
Then shall the morrows find us valiant,  
Scorning fear,  
Meeting thy glance with glance undaunted,  
Glad New Year!

This charming welcome to the New Year was written some time ago by Ellen Burns Sherman. May we all meet this first day of 1911 with courage and confidence, forgetting all the sadness and sorrow, remembering only the joy and gladness in the days that are past.

We all need to forget. It is an art much in need of cultivation, especially in our social life. To be a gracious hostess, to keep our entertainment simple, to extend true hospitality is an art and aim worthy of all. Madame Merri's great wish is to come closer to every reader of the department, to be a real friend and a real helper in every problem that comes to puzzle either old or young, rich or poor. If cards need immediate attention, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope, otherwise questions and answers will appear in the department as soon as possible after being received; space being limited. It is often several weeks before they appear. May this New Year bring health, happiness, joy and peace to all. "God bless us, every one."

### A New Year's Toast.

Here's to the old year, drink boys, drink,  
Here's to the days that have fled,  
Old friends, old wives, old memories,  
Drink to the joys that are dead.

Here's to the New Year stretching ahead,  
To the days that are blithesome and gay,  
May the joys of the old be the joys of the new,  
Not its sorrows fade gently away.

### A New Year's Party.

All over the world New Year's day is a joyous season and the custom of giving presents is a most ancient one. In olden days the Romans carried gifts of dates and figs wrapped in gold leaf to their senators with small bits of money. In the time of Shakespeare there were some very old gifts associated with New Year's day, among them, an orange stuffed with cloves, or a gilt nutmeg. Perhaps with this in mind a clever young hostess has devised this party to be given during the week. The Christmas greens will be left up as it will be before the 6th

when, according to tradition, they must all be burned as will be seen in the description of the "Twelfth Night" party.

In the dining room the table is to be in yellow, with a small tree for a centerpiece trimmed with gilt tinsel and small crepe paper oranges, each one containing a small gift; in gilded walnut shells on the tree, there will be a "wish" for each guest. In fact the hostess calls it a "wish tree." The favors are to be dainty calendars, with the ice cream a "Prophecy" cake is to appear, containing a number of small articles, like a ring, heart, wishbone, thimble, button, coin, etc., are concealed.

### Twelfth Night Party.

The 6th of January is "Twelfth Night," or "old Christmas," and offers opportunities for a party out of the usual order. In England and many places on the continent Twelfth Night was the time to hold the most elaborate masquerade balls.

An immense cake was always served containing a ring, and the "king" or "queen" for the evening was the guest fortunate enough to obtain it. In history we read how Mary, Queen of Scots, honored her maid, Mary Seaton, by robing her in her own royal apparel to be the "Queen of Twelfth Night."

Tradition says that on this night every vestige of Christmas green must be taken down and burned. This piece offering to witches and evil spirits assures "good luck" to the household throughout the year.

Invitations for a Sixth of January party afford a chance for the pen and ink artist to show her skill; wittches, bonfires with holly wreaths and Christmas trees for fuel are appropriate subjects for the cards. If there is no open fireplace for the burning of the greens, there may be a back yard even to the city apartment, where they may be burned with due ceremony.

A chafing dish supper or oyster roast, with coffee and cider, not forgetting the cake, are most suitable for Twelfth Night parties. Half the fun is to permit the guests to take down the greens from pictures and windows, even to stripping the Christmas tree of its branches. The crackling fire caused by the pine tree boughs gives a fine blaze for roasting marshmallows. Request each guest to tell a story or give a toast while his or her special artful is burning.

MADAME MERRI.

For dancing frocks for young girls the boxered chiffons or plain or flowered nets made over china silk offer splendid possibilities at a low cost.

## Striking Design



Large Black Velvet Hat, Crown of Opium, Cluster of Dull Silver Chrysanthemums in Front.

## IN VOQUE

New Feather Fans.

The new feather fans will arouse the ire of the Audubon society. They are not only made of tails, but heads as well. This gives a queer effect, and it would take a hardy woman to wield them with a light heart. One's companions can be saved a bit when only feathers are used, but when the whole bird is in one's hand it makes one uncomfortable.

Those that are made only of feathers possess much of the beauty of the old-fashioned fans, with an added smartness of their own. They are smaller than usual, and are not made of ostrich tips, but of a smoother feather. Some have rows of peacock's eyes bordering their edges, with handles and sticks of tortoise shell or ivory. They are artistic, and go in well with the barbaric note that runs through the winter fashions.

Silver Dress Trimmings.

Silver dress trimmings may be cleaned by covering them with powdered magnesia and leaving them for two hours. Rub the magnesia well in and brush it off with a brush.

With street suits there are invariably carried muffs. They can be of fur, of combinations of cloth and fur, entirely of cloth or velvet and of satin and lace.

Among the newest hats are those mounted with birds' heads, small tufts of fancy feathers, a pair of tiny outspread wings and a hundred and one other varieties.

Black velvet holds first place; then comes myrtle green; "paton" named from the grayish tan of the dog 11 "Chanteclair," and a soft golden brown are the favorite colors.

Frocks of velvet have been so much worn that little costumes of tweed, serge or other woollen are a trifle more novel. The divided skirt worn in Paris is certainly practical and might well be adopted for hard wear.