

The moving sidewalk of the Paris exposition was a great success; 6,694,808 persons paid for the privilege of using the platforms, while only 2,635,567 used the railway that carried passengers in the other direction.

The Argentine republic is rapidly becoming an Eldorado for people who are interested in the exploitation of electrical schemes. Enterprises of this sort recently undertaken in the republic represent an invested capital of \$40,000,000.

There is said to be a wide-spread feeling throughout Canada in favor of continuing the celebration of the queen's birthday. The Toronto Globe thinks such a perpetuation of the custom "would resemble the homage paid by Americans to the majestic figure of Washington."

The reported offer of an opal for the English regalia by the commonwealth of Australia is looked upon with disfavor by the superstitious, as the stone is said to be unlucky, except to those born in the month of October. None of the children of the late queen or of the present king were born in that month.

That stirrer-up of human emotions, the baseball umpire, is about to take his position on the "diamond." Had Shakespeare foreseen the antagonism the arbiter of the national game may excite, he could not better have expressed its extreme form than when he makes a character say: "I can hardly forbear hurling things at him."

The geographical congress of Italy, which will be held at Milan this spring, has authorized the Touring club of Italy to organize a special exposition of the methods of locomotion used for long voyages during the nineteenth century. The Touring club has received the idea with enthusiasm, and will endeavor to make this exposition as complete and as interesting as possible.

One of the special bicycles built for the use of the British troops in South Africa which went through the campaign with Gen. Ian Hamilton's column was recently exhibited in London, where its excellent condition, considering the knocking about it has received, excited general comment. England seems busy with the organization of cyclist soldiers, and many companies of wheelmen figured in the Easter maneuvers.

The constitution of the United States, in prescribing the methods by which it may be amended, virtually forbids amendment in one particular. No state is to be deprived without its consent of its equal suffrage in the senate. The first state to ratify the constitution was Delaware, and yet the senate has no members from Delaware. It is greatly to be regretted, even if Delaware's failure to be represented is by its own consent.

President Hadley of Yale made a striking classification of society in a recent address on the development of a public conscience. Humanity, he said, is made up of two classes. Individuals of the one participate in the business of life for what they can get out of it, of the other for what they can put into it. It is not, however, a paradox that those who put most into life are also, in the largest and best sense, those who get most out of it.

The smallest man in this year's batch of conscripts in France comes from Cunel, near Montaucon, in the Department of Meuse. He is named Emile Mayot, stands only three feet nine and three-quarters inches in height, and weighs forty-two pounds in his clothes. He is, however, declared to be constitutionally quite sound and has never had a day's sickness in his life. The biggest man comes from the Department of the Herrault. He stands six feet six inches, and is named Eugene Casanave. As usual, a girl has been by some accident inscribed on the lists.

Prof. Gustava Bischof of the Glasgow university has invented a new process for the manufacture of white lead. His plan is the conversion of metallic lead into litharge, by means of water gas at a temperature of 300 degrees centigrade, to suboxide. Sufficient water is then added to moisten this suboxide, which is converted into hydrate. This substance is then inserted into a gas-tight apparatus, and by means of carbonic and diluted acetic acid manufactured into white lead. Under the old process white lead occupied from two to three months in its manufacture, but Prof. Bischof is enabled to make a purer article within less than forty-eight hours at a much cheaper price and with perfect safety to the employees.

The defense of Gibraltar is now made more complete by a provision to keep mosquitoes from introducing germs of disease into the huge reservoirs which have been cut out of the side of the rock. Each tank is rendered mosquito-proof by means of gauze wires. The millions of gallons of water, which a siege would render an important resource, may be reckoned among the assets of defensive works which are a symbol, the world over, for impregnability. Not even the mosquito will be permitted to capture the stronghold.

TARIFF RETALIATION

ALARMS CONJURED UP BY FREE TRADERS.

No Basis in Fact or Probability for Their Predictions Regarding the Formation of a European Trade Alliance Against the United States.

Those who so confidently prophesy foreign tariff combinations against the United States may be rightly suspected of allowing their wishes to influence their judgment. Apparently they would like to see what they expect to see. The dire possibilities of international trade war are conjured up by free-traders and former protectionists as the strongest possible argument—in favor of the abandonment by the United States of the protective policy. So we are told nearly every day that European countries are conducting secret negotiations looking toward a trade combine against this country, and that our only safety in this emergency is to repeal the Dingley law and get right down to an unrestricted trade basis.

First of all, there is no evidence whatsoever of the existence of a plot to form a continental tariff alliance against the United States. Still less evidence is there of the contemplation of a European alliance. If a European combine should be attempted, Great Britain would have to be left out of it, and Great Britain is very much the best customer the United States has among European countries. England must have our foodstuffs and raw materials, and she is not going to join anybody in a scheme whose object is to make these commodities cost more in the British market.

Coming to the possibility of a continental combine, we find little more likelihood of it on the continent than in Great Britain. Germany has been making some experiments along the line of discrimination against American products, and her experience is instructive. Consul Diederich writes from Bremen to our state department some pertinent facts relative to the operation of the inspection law whereby importations of American corned beef and other beef products are prohibited.

Not long ago Dr. Karl Frankel, professor of hygiene in the University of Halle, declared that this law is nothing more than a cloak, faded and worn, hung over the agrarian idyl. He showed that while the government had declared that the passage of the law was required in the interests of public health, "nothing suffered more from said law than did the public health of the nation. The prevailing high prices of meat necessarily lessened its consumption, while the health of the nation demanded an increase." As a matter of fact, fully one-half of Germany's population is to-day suffering hardships by reason of such tariff discrimination as Germany has thus far seen fit to impose against American foodstuffs in obedience to the demands of the German agricultural interests, and it does not seem probable that the situation will be subjected to any additional strain of the same sort.

Excepting Russia, all the continental countries of Europe are more or less dependent upon the United States for their food supplies and certain raw materials; while Russia, albeit independent of us in the matter of subsistence, must either buy a considerable line of manufactured products from us, or else pay a higher price for them elsewhere. The situation and outlook as to a European trade alliance of any kind against the United States are well summed up by the Baltimore Herald, as follows:

"When it comes to building universal tariff walls, this country might suffer a depression in trade, a slackening in industrial progress; but Europe would sustain from such a course not stagnation alone, but utter prostration. In any case, we would have an abundance of all things for the home supply. Another result would soon ensue—the underfed millions of Europe would begin to swarm to our shores in an increasing ratio, looking for relief from unbearable home conditions. If any nation can stand alone and depend entirely upon her own resources, this nation can. Most surely in the squeeze of a tariff war we should not be the first to cry quits."

THERE IS BUT ONE WAY.

Only by Reducing Wages Can Free Trade Engage in Meet American Competition. The pressure of the industrial competition which Great Britain feels is indicated by the reduction of the wages of 225,000 workmen a few days ago. The average reduction was only about 50 cents a week, but to men who have been earning not more than \$5 to \$7 a week that is a serious item. It is, however, the British method of meeting the competition of the best paid labor in the world, whose pay is twice the figures here quoted.

The question naturally arises, how can the manufacturers in the United States compete with those of Great Britain when paying double the wages? Several elements must enter into the answer. First, the British workman, having been for years the best in the world, has assumed that under no conditions can there be a better. He has obstinately clung to methods that are worn out. He will not yield to new inventions and processes. The result is that from being the best workman a third of a century ago he is now inferior to his American and German competitor. Again, good wages, with the prospect of better things, has appealed to the ambition of the workman, consequently he is more intelligent and more energetic.

Instead of resisting innovations, he uses his skill and intelligence to turn inventions and new methods to his advantage. By making the best use of new appliances the American workman can turn out enough more goods to enable the manufacturer to pay from 50 to 100 per cent more wages to skilled labor.

But another powerful factor in creating this difference is the much-denounced policy of Protection. The United States is by far the best market in the world. The 76,000,000 of people in the United States consume as much in value of the products of skilled labor as twice as many people elsewhere. It may be said to be the American policy, in contradistinction to the British or Free Trade policy, to reserve as far as possible, this best market in the world for the producers in the United States; so at the very outset, for all the products of skilled labor, we have a wider market than any other nation in the world. Now it stands to reason that the certainty of a market that consumes three or four times as many goods as the market of any competing nation affords enables the American manufacturer to thrive on a profit on each pound, yard, etc., much smaller than can his competitor in any other country.

It is the quantity sold that makes the price. To illustrate, the shoe manufacturer who can put upon the market 100 cases a week cannot sell at so small a profit as the manufacturer who makes 1,000 cases a week. Still further the Protective Tariff has always enabled the manufacturer to pay much higher wages than are paid elsewhere in the world. The workman who earns these wages has twice as much money to spend for the products of other labor. Cut the wages paid in the United States 30 to 50 per cent, and consumption of merchandise in many lines will be reduced in like ratio. Thus in a two-fold measure the much-denounced Protective policy is the cause of the high wages in the United States.

Great Britain, driven into close quarters by adhering to its Free-Trade policy by competitors created by the Protective policy, has but one way of meeting the ruinous American competition, and that method is the reduction of wages, thus to some extent curtailing the capacity of labor to consume its own products.—Indianapolis Journal.

WORLD A GOOD CUSTOMER.



Reciprocity vs. Protection.

The mental attitude of American free-traders on the subject of tariffs and reciprocity treaties is clearly defined by the Milwaukee News. With a degree of candor more commendable than common in the discussion of this question the News says: "Protection and reciprocity will not and cannot mix. Reciprocity will be possible when our tariff laws are framed with the distinct understanding that they are intended for trading purposes and not to give to American producers a monopoly of the home market. To make reciprocity a success, the republican party must abandon protection."

This is why our domestic free-traders on an accord yearn for reciprocity. They perfectly well understand, what some protectionists seem to overlook, that if a protective tariff law can be nullified, a little at a time, by means of reciprocity treaties, it will not take long to repeal, abrogate and entirely destroy the effectiveness of that law. The kind of reciprocity that takes away from American producers the control of the home market is the kind free-traders favor. Well and truly do they maintain that to make that kind of reciprocity a success the republican party must abandon protection.

The Scepter of Power.

Over and above the excess of exports which our own country shows in comparison with Great Britain and Germany, it has this great advantage—namely, a large balance of trade in its favor, as against a small balance for Germany and a balance the other way for the British islands. The great American trade balance stimulates home industry, protects its money supplies and is steadily making the world its debtor. The scepter of commercial and financial power, so long in the hands of England, is being transferred to this nation, which, from all present indications, will hold it for generations to come.—Topeka Capital.

A Colossal Failure.

The talk, during the campaign of 1900, about the danger of imperialism in the event of McKinley's election, was the worst kind of political demagoguery. Some people may have believed such silly twaddle, but men possessing the intelligence and information of William J. Bryan knew it to be merely a fabrication, a scheme to deceive the people, but, as such, it was a colossal failure.—Hermitage (Mo.) Index Gazette.

HAS HIS GRAVEYARD

Marshal Who Has Killed Many Bad Men.

Hee Bruner, a United States marshal of Indian territory in the early days, enjoys the rare distinction of having a cemetery named after him. And the strange part of it is that no one is buried there except his own victims. There are twenty-eight mounds in the cemetery. Under each lies the bones of some bad man who brushed up against Bruner and got the worst of it. When Bruner was marshal the Indian territory was about as wild as a country ever gets. It was filled with horse thieves, cattle thieves, train robbers and desperadoes of all kinds. A law abiding peaceable citizen did not stand much show. Murders were so common that they were not considered news. Thiefs attracted no attention whatever except from the ones who suffered loss. The country was run as near along anarchistic lines as the most ardent anarchist of New York or Madrid could hope. Little attention was given to the "consent of the governed." The desperado with the quickest movement of his shooting hand and the most nerve ruled the roost. That was the condition until Hee Bruner was appointed United States marshal. When he took charge of the office he decided to revolutionize things and make Indian territory "a good place to live in." His friends laughed at him, although they knew he had nerve. To go up against the notorious gangs of the country, they said, was foolishness. It might result in cleaning out a gang or two, but in the end would result in the marshal being wiped off the map. What was the use to endanger one's own life in order to make trouble for the desperadoes, they would ask. To this Bruner replied that he would drive the opening wedge toward civilizing the territory if it cost him his life the first day. He stuck to his resolution, and he did not lose his life, either. But he had several narrow escapes. He was punctured by bullets until his frame could be "used for a sieve," and he had his blood spilled in many a fight, but not enough of it at any one time to make him bite the dust. While the desperadoes were making it interesting for Bruner he was keeping them busy. He was a dead shot, and whenever he pulled the trigger on his man it meant a separation of soul and body. There was no discount on that. Bruner began to hunt down the desperadoes. The first one he killed was buried in a grove south of Tahlequah.

The second one was also laid there and so it went until the carcasses of twenty-eight bad men who had met death at the hands of Bruner while he was acting in the line of duty were buried in that grove. A rail fence was run around the graves and the cemetery was named "Bruner's graveyard." Only one grave in the yard is marked with a marble stone. That is the grave of a noted horse thief. His pals chipped in and bought the tombstone because he was a "good fellow." All the rest of the graves are marked with wooden slabs. Many of them are inclosed with slab fences, while others are inclosed with rails laid in hogan fashion. After Bruner got his graveyard pretty well filled up the desperadoes began to realize that he meant business, and whenever one would hear that Bruner wanted him he would come into town and give himself up rather than run the risk of being the next one to occupy space in Bruner's graveyard. From that time on Bruner had an easy time. He had accomplished his object. He had driven the entering wedge in the civilization of the toughest country the sun ever shone on.—Kansas City Journal

He Could Abbreviate.

An amusing story illustrating British officialism comes from South Africa, and will bear repeating. The colonel of a pioneer regiment, repairing the railroad after one of Gen. DeWet's many breakages, discovered a fine empty house, which he proceeded to occupy as headquarters. When the news of the colonel's comfortable quarters reached Bloemfontein he received a telegram which read: "G. T. M. wants house." The colonel was unable to make out what "G. T. M." meant, and inquired of officers, who translated it "General Traffic Manager." "All right," said the colonel. "If he can use hieroglyphics so can I." So he wired back: "G. T. M. and G. T. H." Two days later he received a dispatch from Bloemfontein ordering him to attend a board of inquiry. On appearing in due course he was asked what he meant by sending such an insulting message to a superior officer. "Insulting," repeated the colonel, innocently: "it was nothing of the kind." "But what do you mean," demanded his superior, "by telling me I can 'G. T. H.'?" "It was simply an abbreviation," replied the colonel. "G. T. M. (general traffic manager) can G. T. H. (get the house)."—New York Herald.

Grow Careless of Danger

Constant Handling of Explosives Make Men Reckless.

"After a miner has handled dynamite for eight or ten years without a serious mishap it is a good idea to put him to doing something else about the works," says one who has had a great deal of experience with high explosives. "The chances are 100 to 1 that his long immunity from accident has given him such a contempt for danger that he is an unconscious menace to everybody on the premises. He will do things that not only imperil his own life, but the lives of his comrades. To give you an illustration, I once had an old Cornishman at work at a mine in which I was interested and had intrusted him with a general supervision of all the blasting. He had been handling dynamite for twenty years or more and was justly regarded as an expert. During the entire period he had never had an accident worth speaking of, and by degrees the care and vigilance that were responsible for his excellent record had worn away until he was beginning to entertain the delusion, common to old hands, that the danger of the stuff was much exaggerated.

"One day I was passing through a cut where some blasting had been going on and noticed the old Cornishman hammering a drill into what seemed to be a boring in the ground. I asked him what he was doing and he told me coolly that there was a cartridge in the hole that had failed to explode and that he was 'just knocking it out the tamping to reprime it. I was horrified, for at every blow he

was liable to explode the dynamite, and I ordered him sternly to stop and never to repeat such a performance. The proper method would have been to have drilled a new hole near by and exploded the first cartridge with a second blast. He obeyed sullenly, grumbling to himself, and in less than a month afterward was blown up while doing exactly the same thing. He lost his left arm at the shoulder, his left eye and part of his left ear. He also lost his contempt for dynamite, and when he finally emerged from the hospital I gave him back his former job. I never had a more scrupulously careful employe than he was from that time on. It seems a brutal thing to say, but there is nothing that does an old dynamite hand as much good as to get blown up once or twice."

Weird Tale from the Pacific Coast.

The Chinese residents of North Yakima have many sacks of rice supposed to have been poisoned by the officials and missionaries in China. One merchant has twenty sacks put away, and refuses to eat any or sell to the Chinese. Those who claim to know say that at least \$500 is invested in poisoned rice in that city. The rice is sold to Americans, but the Chinese purchase their supplies from local merchants. They say that six years after eating the rice the victims die. The object of the poison, it is said, is to kill off all the Chinese in the United States.—Portland Oregonian.

North and South They Go

Hardy Explorers of Many Countries Seeking Polar Centers.

The geographical prize of the century is the discovery of the North Pole. It will be quite a feather in the cap of the nation whose flag is first planted on the northern center of the earth's axis. The United States is a sharp competitor for this prize. Lieutenant Peary is now somewhere in the frozen regions and intelligence from him is anxiously awaited. Two European countries are now represented there by Capt. Sverdrup and Baron Toll. Members of one of these expeditions might have already reached the coveted spot. Their return or a report from them is quite certain during the summer. In a short time another American expedition will start under command of Evelyn E. Baldwin, who has had a great deal of experience in Arctic explorations. William Ziegler of Philadelphia has placed \$1,000,000 at the disposal of Capt. Baldwin and no expense

will be spared to insure the success of the undertaking.

An expedition is fitting out in Scotland and another in Germany for trips to the Antarctic regions. With the knowledge and experience of the last century to aid them, it is probable that the scientists and explorers who are starting in so early this century will come pretty near reaching, if they do not reach, the two flat areas of this old earth's surface.

A German Fashion Exhibit.

Germany will endeavor to be its own "mold of form and glass of fashion." Berlin will soon see a fashion exhibit by which it is hoped that special fashions for German women will be established. The managing committee will include members of the highest society.

MOST PEOPLE LOPSIDED.

Difference Between Legs, Eyes, and Ears of Men and Women.

The two sides of a person's face are never alike. The eyes are out of line in two cases out of five, and one eye is stronger in seven persons out of ten. The right ear is also, as a rule, higher than the left. Only one person in fifteen has perfect eyes, the largest percentage of defects prevailing among fair-haired people. Short sight is more common in town than among country folk, and of all people the Germans have the largest proportion of short-sighted persons. The crystalline lens of the eye is the one portion of the human body which continues to increase in size throughout life and does not cease with the attainment of maturity. The smallest interval of sound can be better distinguished with one ear than with both. In fifty-four cases out of 100 the left leg is stronger than the right. The bones of an average human male skeleton weigh twenty pounds; those of a woman are six pounds lighter. That unruly member, the tongue of a woman, is also smaller than that of a man, given a man and a woman of equal size and weight. It may be appalling to reflect, but it is nevertheless true, that the muscles of the human body exert a force of over 500 pounds. The symmetry which is the sole intelligible ground for our idea of beauty, the proportion between the upper and lower half of the human body, exists in nearly all males, but is never found in the female. American limbs are more symmetrical than those of any other people. An average head of fair hair consists of 143,040 hairs, dark hair of 105,000, while a red head has only 29,200. Fair-haired people are becoming less numerous than formerly. A person who has lived seventy years has had pass through his heart about 675,020 tons of blood, the whole of the blood in the body passing through the heart in about thirty-two beats. The heart beats on an average of seventy times a minute, or 36,792,000 times in the course of a year, so that the heart of an ordinary man, eighty years of age, has beaten 3,000,000 times. The heart beats ten strokes a minute less when one is lying down than when one is in an upright position.—Chicago Journal.

SKUNK FARMS DO NOT PAY.

Official Report on the Subject to the Secretary of Agriculture.

A newspaper story of the profits made by raising skunks for their skins is giving officials of the agricultural department no end of trouble. It first bobbed up about a year ago. It set forth that the agricultural department had been studying skunk culture, and had found that the beasts were more profitable than a gold mine. As a result of the story the department has received many letters of inquiry. T. S. Palmer, assistant chief of the biological survey, wants to correct this misapprehension. In a report to Secretary Wilson he says: "Misled by the statements about the rapid increase of skunks and the high prices paid for their skins, many persons seriously considered starting skunk farms. For several years a list has been kept of such farms located in various parts of the country, but so far as can be learned, most of them have been abandoned. Raising fur-bearing animals for profit is not a new idea. The industry, however, has apparently never advanced beyond the experimental stage, except in the case of the farms for raising the Arctic or blue fox, established on certain islands of the coast of Alaska. Minks and skunks breed rapidly in captivity but the low price of skins make the profits rather small. Last season the highest market price for prime black skunk skins from the northern states averaged about \$1.45 each, but white skins sold as low as 15 to 20 cents apiece. Skins that have much white or which are obtained from the southern states usually bring less than \$1 each, a price that leaves little margin for profit after paying the expense of raising the animal in captivity."—New York Sun.

"Lobster Face" Is Not Slenderous.

The slander suit of Foster against Foster was heard yesterday afternoon before Justice William T. Connor, says the New London Telegraph. The suit is for \$100 damages. In the complaint it is alleged that the defendant called the plaintiff a "lobster face" and a lobster face." The plaintiff was under the impression that lobster face was intended as a slur on her character, "and from the said words she suffered great anguish of mind and humiliation." A demurrer to the complaint was entered by the defendant that even if the allegation was true, there was no ground or basis for the claim that the expression "lobster face" carried with it any derogation of character. The demurrer was sustained by Justice Connor, and the case will probably end here.

Pacific Coast Needs Manufactories.

The future of the Pacific coast, if it is to have any worthy of the name, is dependent on the manufacture of the raw material produced within its limits and drawn from outside to supply the wants of its own production and those of the available foreign territory. In other words, the Pacific coast must have such a future as is connected with the history of the industrial, commercial and financial supremacy of Great Britain during the nineteenth century, such a future as is visibly dawning for the United States, with its center on the Atlantic seaboard, during the twentieth century—or it must remain forever in a condition of commercial subservience.—Engineering Magazine.