



People and Events

Has Our Engine Failed?
The Midland Railway Company of England has administered a cold douche to our pride of industrial conquest by announcing that the American locomotives tested by the road have cost from 20 to 25 per cent more than the British in fuel, 50 per cent more in oil, and 60 per cent more in repairs. Against these fatal defects are to be counted only the trifling offsets that the American locomotives were delivered in a few months instead of in three years and that their price was less than that of the British by \$2,000 apiece. It is explained that in American railroad practice engines are made to be worked to death and thrown on the scrap heap. English locomotives are expected to become holedoms. But there is probably something more than that behind the Midland's figures. In all neutral markets the American machines give perfect satisfaction and are crowding the English out. That is the case even on the state railroads of British colonies. Before our manufacturers admit that their products are failures on English roads they would probably like to see them tested by American engineers and firemen.

The "Shamrock" Countess.
The beautiful countess of Limerick has well earned the title of "The Shamrock Countess," for, thanks to her efforts, one of the British war funds has acquired this spring a substantial addition to its funds owing to the sale of the "dear little shamrock" so cleverly organized by the mistress of Dromore castle. The young countess—before her marriage Miss Burke-Irwin, the daughter of one of Ireland's most popular sportsmen, and herself, both as a girl and since her marriage, one of the straightest riders to hounds in the Emerald isle—early joined the group of those energetic persons who do all in their power to improve the lot of their poorer friends and neighbors. The Shamrock League has succeeded beyond the wildest dreams of its promoters, and during the days which preceded March



COUNTRESS OF LIMERICK.
Lady Limerick and her friends worked hard all day trying up tiny nosebags of Ireland's national green blossom and dispatching it to all corners of the world.

The New Explosive.
If the claims made by officials of the war department concerning the efficacy of a new explosive are borne out by subsequent tests, the United States may possess a secret which will have important bearing on the international politics of the future.

Warships and fortifications which have heretofore been regarded impregnable will be at the mercy of American guns. It has been demonstrated that the thickest Harveyized armor will not withstand the new projectile when hurled by one of the great guns and, what is more important, that the explosive with which the projectile is loaded will be discharged immediately the armor is pierced.

Maximite, this new death-dealing explosive, is called after Mr. Hiram Maxim, its inventor. Mr. Maxim is the inventor of smokeless powder and has made a specialty of high explosives. It is announced by the officials in charge of the tests which have been made on the Sandy Hook proving grounds that the results far surpass anything heretofore attained in any country. Experts express the opinion that the building of battleships and fortifications may be revolutionized as the result of the discoveries made by Mr. Maxim.

To the Girl Leaving College.
Aim for success. Do not select a calling which is beyond you. It is better to be a good housekeeper than a poor teacher. It is better to be an expert stenographer than an inferior lawyer. It is better to be an efficient nurse than an inefficient doctor. Perhaps the more ambitious calling will bring a slight notoriety in the beginning, but if a girl wishes to take a worthy place in the world she must not follow her bent, she must consider whether she has strength for the long race.—Temple Bailey in Woman's Home Companion.

President of New York Central
William H. Newman, who has just actively entered upon the duties of his new post as president of the New York Central and Hudson River railroad, is, as may easily be imagined, one of the cleverest and most thoroughly trained railroad men in America. He has worked his way up practically from the bottom. It is more than thirty years ago since he began his career in his profession as local



WILLIAM H. NEWMAN.
Ticket agent on the Texas and Pacific. In three years he had been promoted to the post of general freight agent, and he was next made third vice-president. The Chicago and Northwestern offered him a similar post, which he at once accepted, and in 1896 the Great Northern road elected him its second vice-president. Three years ago he was elected president of the Lake Shore, in which position he was serving when called to the presidency of the New York Central. His knowledge takes in all departments of a railway.

Disadvantages of Co-Education
For the great majority of girls over fifteen years of age a girl's school or college is much to be preferred, in the opinion of one person, at least. I can speak only what I think in this connection. I know that many of the wisest and best men and women will not assent to my reasoning or my conclusions. It should not be forgotten that the emotional life is growing in and dominating the life of all young creatures. Girls can think and study better away from the society of youths of their own age than they can in company with them. To get the best results from study the mind must be kept as free as possible from distractions of an emotional nature. The associations of school life should be calm, healthful, cheerful and free from all that is exciting or premature of development. The "flirtations" of school and college life are confessed by every one to be out of place and out of time, yet when young men and young women are together nothing can prevent such episodes. This one fact alone tells against "co-education," and so strongly that nothing can entirely offset it.—Ada C. Sweet.

All Over a Poster.
Is it possible to be driven insane by a poster? This is a question which is being much debated at present in Des Moines, Ia. Miss Bertha Atkinson of that city believes that she will go mad if a poster opposite her window is not removed. So real, so vital, so appalling has become her horror of the painted placard that her friends have come to share in the apprehension. Accordingly a protest has been made to the municipal authorities, and



THE OBJECTIONABLE POSTER.
The poster may be removed. Meanwhile Des Moines is agitated by intense feeling. The contagion spreads daily. No epidemic of disease, the authorities say, ever spread so rapidly. There are eight submarine cables of over 2,000 miles in length.

SAYINGS and DOINGS

Adams' "Kidnapped Millionaires."
Frederick Upham Adams, the author of "John Smith, President," and other stories, has just finished a story that is likely to prove his masterpiece as a writer of spirited fiction, and one that will firmly fix his status as an exclusively original theme. It is entitled "The Kidnapped Millionaires," and its five hundred pages tell the story of the kidnaping of certain American millionaires by an enterprising newspaper man who is a monomaniac. It is a succession of dramatic situations from cover to cover. The charm consists in the impressive probability of a plot which at first glance would seem impossible. By a natural chain of events there is evolved a situation splendid in its dramatic intensity of its interest. The scenes in the New York newspaper office, the inception and execution of the plot to kidnap six great millionaires, the Wall street panic which followed, the dismay of the magnates when they



FREDERICK UPHAM ADAMS.
Author of "The Kidnapped Millionaires."
found themselves captives on the high seas, the cruise of "The Shark," the landing on Social Island, its exploration, and varied adventures which befell Palmer J. Morton, Andrus Carmody, John M. Rockwell, Hiram Haven, R. J. Kent, and Simon Pence (the six kidnapped millionaires), the super detective work of the New York Record and Mr. Bernard Seymour, the rescue of the marooned magnates and the subsequent attempt at their capture, are but a few of the incidents. The first edition which is out this week is for 25,000 copies, the largest first edition of the year.

Frightening of Children.
Fear is the most dreaded of human sensations, and children suffer from it more keenly than others. Stupid mothers and nurses frighten little children with lies about bears and bogies and ghosts and policemen. In every conceivable way fright is made the strongest possible factor in child-life. The child is told that he will go to hell if he tells lies. He knows that he has told lies, and therefore concludes that a horrible fate awaits him. This is stupid and harmful. He is made to fear his father by a foolish mother, who threatens whippings when the father comes home. The whippings are not always forthcoming. The terror is produced none the less. The other day in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., a child saw his playmate drown, but gave no warning because he was "afraid to tell." Fear had been implanted in him so thoroughly that his own instinct was to avoid trouble for himself. If you have young puppies or chickens growing up that you care for, you do not allow your children to frighten them. You have brains enough to know that fright is bad for young puppies and young chickens. Why haven't you brains enough to know that it is bad for your own children?—Ex.

To Be Roosevelt's Guest.
Among the guests who will assemble in Colorado Springs this month for the annual reunion of Roosevelt's Rough Riders will be Miss Dorothy Flynn, the dashing western girl, whose father, D. T. Flynn, represents Oklahoma in congress. "The Honorable Dot," as she is called by her friends and her admirers among those who followed Roosevelt to Cuba, is sponsor for the Rough Riders, and at the reunion many dinners and dances will be given for her. The vice-president and the sponsor of his



DOROTHY FLYNN.
regiment are great friends. Recently at her Oklahoma home Miss Flynn, who is an expert with the lariat, roped a wolf and sent it to Oyster Bay.

SOONERS MUST GET OUT

Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock has requested Secretary of War Root to send into the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache reservations, in the Indian Territory, a body of United States troops to clear these reservations, which are soon to be thrown open for settlement of squatters, or "sooners," as they are known on the frontier. More than 1,000 of these "sooners" have entered the Wichita mountains and taken up mineral claims. The district, which is to be divided into homesteads of 160 acres each, is in the Oklahoma country, and is regarded as the most desirable farming land in the southwest.



CARNEGIE'S CASTLE.

Andrew Carnegie is continuing in Scotland the munificent generosity to the aid of education as he began in the United States. We were told recently of his donation of \$500,000 to establish branch libraries in Glasgow upon the same plan for which he gave \$3,000,000 to Greater New York. Last week came the news of his gift of \$10,000,000 to establish free scholarships in the historic Scotch universities for poor young Scotchmen.

Of course, this is a materialistic age, and no one, on this side of the Atlantic at least, pays any attention to superstitions. But there are folks in Scotland (no insinuation is meant against the Scotch, but their old legends have greater influence than in this new country, especially among the folk on the country side)—who believe that by these donations, Andrew Carnegie will lift the curse from Skibo Castle, the old estate which he has purchased as his home in the Highlands.

Every one north of the Tweed is cognizant of the fact that a blood-curdling curse rests upon Skibo Castle, and the Scots are asking whether this curse will work against the American owner in the same way that the curse pronounced against the third Lord Byron (who made a drinking cup of the skull of one of the old Abbots of Newstead Abbey), continued to blight not only all the subsequent owners and occupants of Newstead Abbey, including the poet Lord Byron, until the late Colonel Webb a few years ago found the long lost drinking cup in an old curiosity shop in London, and by restoring it to the Abbot's tomb at Newstead put an end to the curse that rested on the place.

The ban resting upon Skibo Castle dates from the early part of the eighteenth century, when by some foul wrong the Grays, who had owned the castle for several hundred years, were deprived of their ancestral possessions

when Oklahoma was thrown open to settlement shall be repeated. A plan has been devised whereby each claimant will have an equal chance with every other claimant, although only a small percentage of those filing claims will secure homesteads. Already the applications on file exceed by many thousands the number of tracts of 160 acres each which are to be disposed of to claimants.

The town of Duncan, Okla., has made a protest against the location of 20,000 acres of grazing land directly opposite and adjoining the military forest reserve, because it raises a wall against the town in communicating with the new reservation when settled. It is claimed that the land is too valuable for pasturage and could be easily settled with a prosperous population,

which would do business at Duncan. On the other hand a protest has come from Texas because the location of the main pasture of 400,000 acres on the Texas boundary interferes with free intercourse of Texas people with the new settlement and likewise rears a wall against the people of that state.

Secretary Root has directed that a troop of cavalry from Fort Sill, I. T., be sent into the reservation to clear them of the lawless element that has entered. The soldiers will probably be kept there until the day the lands are thrown open to settlement.

In the meantime the Kiowa Indians have sent a representative to Washington asking that the opening day be postponed until Congress can examine the treaty under which the act was passed.



CARNEGIE'S CASTLE.

by the family of Doull. Misfortune overtook the latter, and since that time the curse has been fulfilled in this that no family has possessed Skibo for more than one generation.

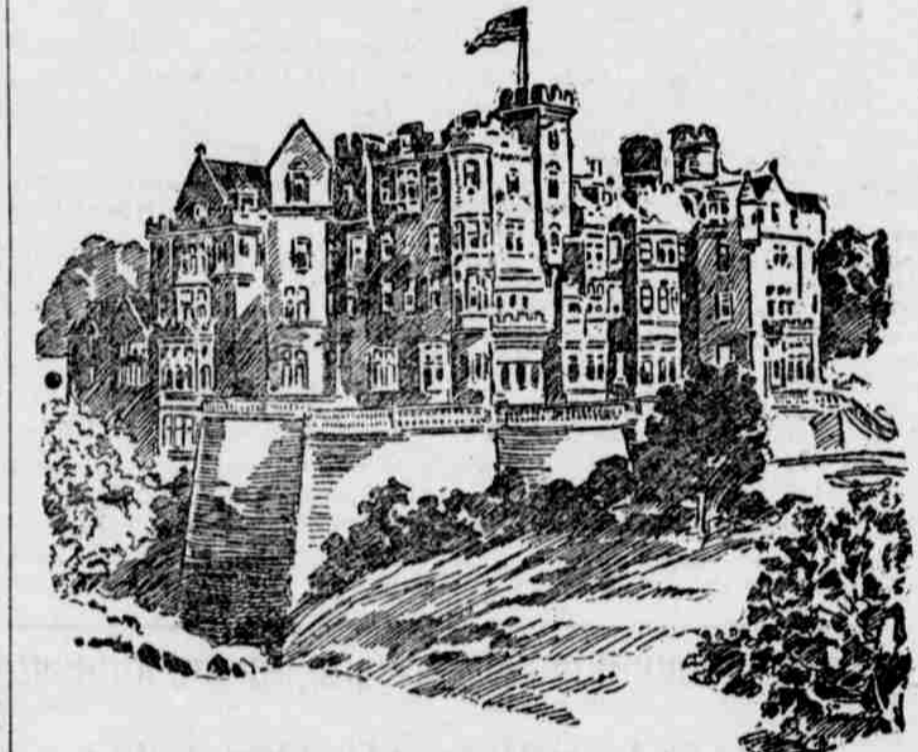
It has passed through many hands, including the Mackays, the Gordons, the Dempsters and the Chirnsides, Ill-luck pursuing them all, until the place was acquired by Andrew Carnegie, who apparently is not superstitious, as he assured his tenants and neighbors the other day that he intended Skibo to be the home of his family "for many generations."

He is very popular in the district by reason of the money he has brought into the country, and is known there as "Skibo," in the same way as most other territorial magnates are known

by the name of their land, rather than by their patronymic.

Arbitration for China.
If the international tribunal established by the conference at The Hague has any practical usefulness the dispute among the powers at Peking affords an opportunity to put it to the test. The suggestion of the United States to refer the question of indemnity to this tribunal is worthy of a civilized nation. Its adoption is scarcely probable unless the powers should find it impossible to reach an agreement in any other way.

The island of Chios, in the Aegean sea, has an oak the age of which is believed to be twenty-two centuries.



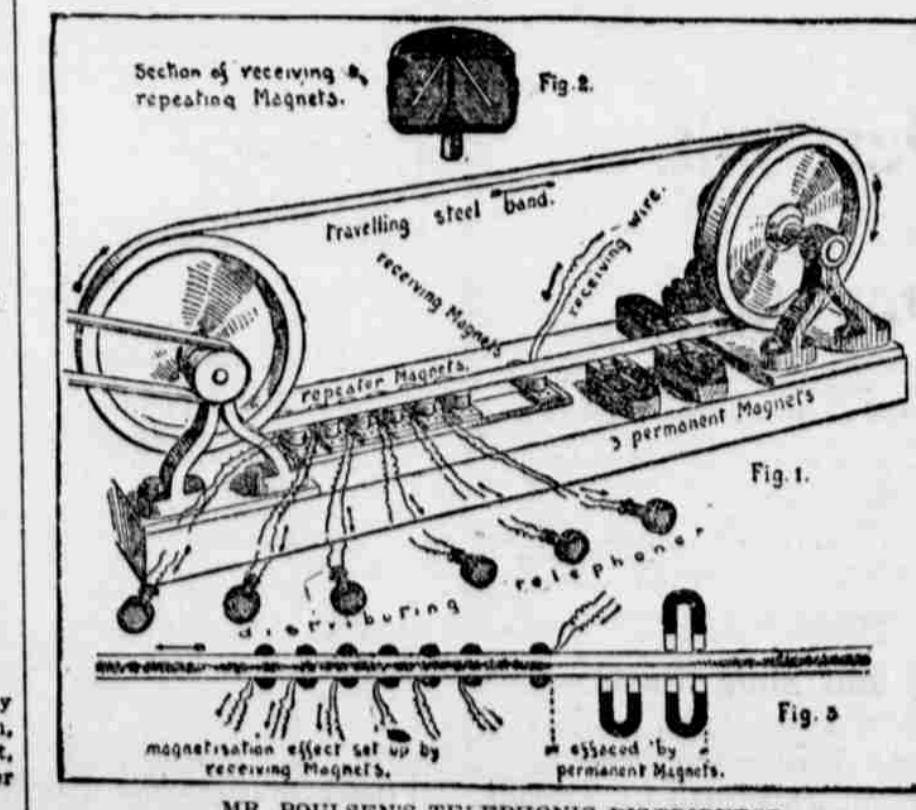
SKIBO CASTLE—ANDREW CARNEGIE'S SCOTTISH SEAT.

Many-Tongued Telephone.

One of the most striking inventions recently made is the telegraphone, which may be described as a combination of telephone and phonograph. It was devised by Mr. Poulsen of Copenhagen, Denmark. The telegraphone distributor, as the instrument is called, enables any one to send a message to a number of destinations by speaking once. The instrument depends for its action upon the fact that the variations of the magnetic field of an electro-magnet are so accurately represented by the magnetization of a steel wire which is drawn through it, that if the wire be again passed through the field, currents exactly similar to those which reproduced the magnetization of the wire are repro-

duced in the coils of the magnet. A steel wire is wound in spiral grooves, on a revolving non-magnetic drum. Upon this wire rests two poles of an electro-magnet connected with a microphone transmitter. Any sounds such as vocal speech, or instrumental music, actuating the diaphragm of the transmitter, are transferred as magnet impulses to the electro-magnet, which, when the drum is set in motion, at once communicates them to the revolving wire. The two poles of the magnet gripping the sides of the wire are carried along a sliding rod laterally, until the end of the coiled wire is reached. Thereupon a device shunts the carrier—i. e., the traveling electro-magnet—on to another mechan-

ically revolving spiral, which quickly takes the carrier back to its original position. The instrument is now ready to reproduce all that the wire has received. Connect the magnetic-carrier to an ordinary telephone receiver, and, traveling over the same ground as before, the poles will be actuated this time by the magnetized wire, and will retransmit to the receiver what they had previously imparted to the wire. The result is that the telephone receiver now speaks everything that had been spoken into the microphone transmitter. In the distributor a number of electro-magnets take the place of the second (re-transmitting) magnet.



MR. POULSEN'S TELEPHONIC DISTRIBUTOR.

Always Two Sides.
Many seem to think that there is but a single side to the question of electing senators by direct vote of the people. The National Civic Federation recently undertook to get an expression of the popular sense on this subject. They held a kind of referendum and, in reply to their inquiries, received a great many replies. There are two sides to every question and they ascertained that there were two also to this.

Mrs. Hanna Omeger of New York city, according to Law Notes, recently recovered \$750 damages for injuries sustained by an icicle falling from a tank on top of the defendant's building through the skylight of her house and striking the good dame on the crown of her head. She was not only knocked senseless, but was interrupted in the midst of her dinner, which, when she recovered, had grown cold. For all of these things she asked \$15,000 damages.

Professors George F. Jewett of Youngstown, O., who recently resigned as principal of the Raven High school, has accepted the presidency of La Salle Seminary for Young Women in Boston.