

Sometimes they do things very well in Michigan. As everyone is aware, Michigan, like New Hampshire, is very solicitous for her forests. Again, like New Hampshire, Michigan is disturbed from time to time by forest fires, and every loyal Michigander is expected to prove his willingness, whenever occasion may demand, to join his neighbors in fighting those fires, says the Manchester Union. In fact, a Michigan statute specifically provides punishment for refusal to assist in suppressing a forest fire. Never, however, until recently, has it been found necessary to invoke this statute, and then a man was sentenced to 90 days in the Detroit house of correction. It is, of course, conceivable that a rigid enforcement of such a law as that might work severe hardship in some individual cases. For example, it would be obviously unjust and inhuman to impress into fire-fighting service one whose physical condition plainly incapacitates him from that service, or one who is occupied with the care of the sick. On the other hand, it is always to be expected that careful judgment will be exercised in the enforcement of this law, as of any other.

That "unlucky 13" superstition is getting no end of sideswipes as a result of the increasing intelligence of the age. A married couple in Tronton, N. J., have just become the proud parents of their thirteenth baby, and instead of being considered a case of bad luck, the coming of the youngster seems to be regarded as uncommonly fortunate, says the Troy-Times. At all events not only are the father and mother delighted beyond measure but they have received offers from all over the country to take and adopt the child, those offers evidently being inspired by the belief that the infant will bring good luck. One ardent bidder tenders the parents \$10,000 for the little ones. As all offers have been declined the parents of the thirteenth evidently intend to keep the luck in the family.

Another step has been taken in the direction of improving waterways. The secretary of war has approved the plans submitted by a board of engineers for the construction of a sea-level ship canal across Cape Cod between Massachusetts bay and Buzzard's bay. This work is to be done by a company formed for the purpose, though the canal eventually no doubt will form a link in the interoceanic system which is now under consideration. The Cape Cod canal will shorten by many miles the distance by water from Boston to New York, besides enabling vessels to avoid the greater marine dangers of the outside route at certain seasons.

Intimations that the disclosures in the "Black Hand" conspiracy in Ohio may lead to the exposure of a far-reaching plot and that the trail if followed may end in the discovery and punishment of men connected with the assassination of Lieut. Petrosino, the New York police officer who was murdered in Sicily, are not surprising. There seems to be no doubt that a criminal organization exists, and when that fact is established and the proper threads are found the whole mystery may be unraveled. And when this is accomplished there is likely to be a blow dealt at "Black Handism" that will teach a greatly needed lesson.

The new president of Brazil, succeeding Dr. Penna, deceased, announces the intention of pursuing the policies of his predecessor. These policies aim at promoting peace at home and abroad and general good understanding as conducive to progress and prosperity. He will find no heartier indorsement of that program than he will get from the people of the United States. Brazil is the largest country in South America, and with institutions modeled after those of our republic there are special reasons why this nation should take a warm interest in the political and material development of that region.

The Germans have chosen three sonder boats to represent them in the racing off Marblehead. They have been successful thus far in the handling of this type of racer, which depends for her speed on the prevalence of conditions for which she was constructed. Small yachts are more closely subject to weather conditions than are their big sisters.

American statesmanship and financial skill have apparently scored a substantial victory in connection with that railroad loan by the Chinese government. Certain European powers had attempted to shut out the Americans, but the United States, standing by the open door and fair play policy, objected, and seems to have won. It is now practically assured that American financiers will have a chance at the loan on equal terms with those of other countries interested.

DOINGS AT THE CAPITAL

J. S. Harlan Mentioned for High Bench



WASHINGTON.—A very interesting bit of unusual summer gossip concerning changes in the personnel of the supreme court of the United States connects the name of James S. Harlan, member of the Interstate commerce commission, with an associate justiceship in succession to his distinguished father, John Marshall Harlan, who has been on the supreme bench since 1877, and who recently celebrated his seventy-sixth birthday. It would occasion no surprise should one or two changes in the personnel of the highest federal tribunal take place at the beginning of the fall term. Chief Justice Fuller, now in his seventy-seventh year, and Associate Justice Harlan have been credited with retirement inclinations at various times for some years past. It became evident, however, after much talk of this character, that there would be no retirements from the supreme bench during the Roosevelt administration and latterly it has been said that neither the chief justice nor Justice Harlan was disposed to relax the labors which are so congenial to them. But with Mr. Taft in the office of appointive power many are inclined to believe there is a probability of a change of mind, af-

fecting also by other developments.

President Taft, himself a former federal judge, sat in the same circuit from which Justice Harlan was appointed to the supreme bench, and there doubtless is what may be termed a bond of judicial interest between them. It is felt that should judicial distinction be bestowed upon James S. Harlan, who has inherited the judicial temperament, the honor would be something peculiarly appreciated by both father and son for obvious reasons aside from the general considerations pertaining to a supreme court appointment.

That conditions have arisen which may cause Justice Harlan to decide to take up duties in the service of the Presbyterian church, which would be possible only through his retirement from the bench, is part of the latest gossip. James S. Harlan, if appointed to the supreme bench, would take to that body expert knowledge of interstate commerce matters which will more and more occupy the attention of the court.

The late gossip also connects Chief Justice Fuller's name with revived plans to make an international trial court out of The Hague tribunal, which is said to be an aim of President Taft. Should matters eventuate as gossip suggests Illinois still would have a representative in the highest court of the land and the way still be open to fill another vacancy from the circuit of which Ohio and Kentucky—the latter the state from which Justice Harlan was appointed 32 years ago—form a part.

Diplomatic Sinecures to Be Abolished



HEREAFTER there will be no purely ornamental places in the foreign service of the United States. While this cannot be said to be new policy, it is the declared intention of the present administration, and especially of the state department, that there shall be no deviation from it. This rule will not be made to apply only to the diplomatic service, but to the consular offices of the United States from the highest to the lowest.

In years past there have been many complaints that the consular service of the United States was, generally speaking, inefficient and of a much lower grade than that of many foreign countries having representatives in the United States. The state department officials themselves in previous years have acknowledged this, and while the service has improved of late, it has not made the rapid advance that is noticeable in the service of some of our foreign trade competitors.

At present this government has in foreign countries 298 consuls and consuls general, with a large number of

vices and deputy consuls, interpreters, etc., making a total of about 1,200, and it is the expressed determination of the state department to elevate the service in every possible way. A working familiarity with the subjects with which they will have to deal is demanded to a greater extent than ever before.

It is the purpose of the state department to unify the work of the diplomatic and consular services in the interest of greater efficiency. For many years it has been a matter of regret to the government that so many native foreigners occupy subordinate positions in our consular service as deputies and clerks. This, however, has been largely a matter of inadequate compensation, but the policy from now on will be to substitute Americans for foreigners wherever it is possible to do so and considerable progress has already been made in this direction.

Within a comparatively short time the percentage of foreigners in our consular service has been reduced from 46.1 per cent. to 18.8 per cent., and the percentage of Americans in that service has been increased from 53.9 to 81.2 per cent. These percentages, however, apply only to clerkships paying \$800 a year or less, but the work of weeding out foreigners will continue as long as Americans of the requisite capacity can be obtained to fill the places.

Value of "Tariff Menagerie" Imports



THE "tariff menagerie," a term used by congressional humorists to designate a miscellaneous assortment of articles of import, threatens to be an issue between the United States bureau of statistics and the "funny men" of the senate and house in Washington. The management of the bureau, which keeps an accurate account of every article imported, its name, value and the duty paid, is perturbed because some of the articles in the menagerie list have been made the basis of many jests by the congressmen who see the humorous side of the thing. In a statement issued recently, the bureau maintains that these articles, which have a recognized value, illustrate the scope of the commerce of the United States and

present some ominous facts. For instance, reference is made to divi divi, leeches, rose leaves, dragons' blood, palladium, musk, birds, wild animals, chicle and cobras.

The value of the imports of the last decade of divi divi, which is used for tanning purposes, is placed at \$85,000. In the same period the value of leeches brought in was \$40,000; rose leaves \$20,000, and chicle, largely used in the manufacture of gum, \$8,000,000.

During the year 1908 the musk importations exceeded \$80,000, while the quantity of palladium, a rare metal used in the manufacture of astronomical instruments and by dentists, represented a value of \$700.

Pains have been taken to explain that dragons' blood is really not dragons' blood at all, but a mere name for a deep reddish resinous substance obtained from a variety of trees in the orient, and used extensively as an ingredient in varnishes, stains and for making etchings on copper and zinc. The value of the importations of this article during the last decade is placed at \$60,000.

Old Sea Dogs Are Learning New Tricks



A SOLITARY horseman rode rapidly down the street a good many times in Washington the other day. He was a solitary horseman because he was not particularly anxious to have any one ride with him. He could sail a man-of-war, maybe, and brave the perils of the briny deep, but his horsemanship was scarcely at par.

The solitary horseman was a commissioned officer in Uncle Sam's navy. On July 4 the order issued by President Roosevelt that these officers

should ride 90 miles on horseback in three consecutive days, walk 50 miles in the same length of time, or ride 100 miles on a bicycle in three consecutive days became effective. The order was issued January 4 last, but the president gave the officers several months in which to prepare for the tests. President Taft has been asked to rescind the order, but he has agreed with his predecessor that the tests would be of benefit to the navy.

A large number of ensigns, lieutenants, lieutenant commanders, captains and read admirals stationed in and about Washington have begun the tests. The state, war and navy building is the usual starting point. The younger men are essaying the horseback test, but the older ones seem to prefer walking. Possibly it is hard to teach an old sea dog new tricks.

Simple Blouses



These pretty simple blouses are styles that may be carried out in any blouse material, of which there is such a charming selection this season.

The one at the left side has a tiny square yoke of lace with collar of the same. Tucks are made over the shoulder to waist, back and front, also in center of front; insertion and buttons form the trimming.

The illustration at the top has a band of embroidery down center front, with three tucks each side; the long sleeves are close-fitting and are tucked. Below that the blouse illustrated has a yoke with plastron to waist, that might either be in lace or embroidery. Tucks are made on the shoulders and across bust, a strap outlining the yoke; the sleeves are finished at the wrists by a strap.

The blouse on the right is quite a simple style, with six small tucks on the shoulders; it fastens in the front, under a box-plait. The collar and cuffs are trimmed with insertion and lace edging.

Materials required: for each blouse, about 3 1/2 yards 28 inches wide; for No. 303a, 3 yards insertion and 3/4-yard piece lace; for No. 304a, 1 yard embroidery 5 inches in width; for No. 305a, 3/4-yard piece lace.

ADAPTED FOR FORMAL CALLS NOVELTY IN LACE INSERTION

Visiting Dress in Orchid Mauve Cashmere Trimmed with Buttons and Worn with Sash.

Orchid mauve cashmere is used here. The slightly high-waisted skirt is trimmed at the foot by one tuck, and a hem; it has a little train at the back. One tuck is taken over each shoulder, sewn to waist back and front. The yoke, which is either of

Simple Arrangement by Which Plain Dress Can Be Made into Ornamental Affair.

Lace insertion with both edges displaying little scallops appears on some of the Swiss evening dresses, and, what is more, in very showy outlines. On one dress of Swiss this lace featured the bretelles over the shoulder. The two long pieces meet at the waist line, where a belt holds them down, and they extend in two straight pieces, side by side, to the hem. A lace band encircles the dress at the hem and knee lines.

Wide laces with plain edges are made to produce jacket lines on the one-piece dress. This arrangement is worth mentioning, since it really makes a plain dress a very ornamental affair. The straight lines from shoulder to hip line outline coat edges. At the extreme edge they form points, extend straight across the hips and make a single point at the back. The front emplacements pass over the shoulder, form a V-shaped yoke, then one single portion of the lace extends to the edge of the coat, down the back seams. A tucked band of the dress material crosses the coat at the point of the yoke in the back, passed under the arms and is placed under the lace and over the bust. A narrow strip of insertion holds the insertion together at the lower ends of the front. This dress is made with a Dutch lace collar.

Ten Shoes Popular.

Tan shoes are more worn this summer than ever before, perhaps because they are commonly considered as cooler than black. For country wear they are more suitable and show the dust of walking much less than the black shoes.

Black buckskin and suede and gray suede are also much worn. There is an especial dressing for suede shoes and after it has been applied and before the shoe dries a coarse hand brush is used to brush the nap of the shoe the wrong way and restore the original slightly roughened surface.

These shoes are more porous and therefore cooler than the glazed or finished leathers and do not wrinkle in the way the others do when they are slightly large, as they should be for comfortable summer wear.

A Fascinating Hand Bag.

A hand bag that is delightfully summery can be made from heavy white flannel net with an all-over embroidered scroll running over it done in narrow white soutache braid. The net is doubled at the bottom and sloped at each end toward the top, which is at least two inches narrower than the bottom. Wedge shape ends of flannel are sewed in. The bag is made up over white linen, and the handle is of heavy white braid.

Development of Chest.

In the development of the chest there are many ways of obtaining the desired extra inches, but massage and deep breathing the all that is necessary, and if practiced regularly for six weeks the narrow chested woman would be surprised at the results.



Libby's Food Products

Libby's Vienna Sausage

Is distinctly different from any other sausage you ever tasted. Just try one can and it is sure to become a meal-time necessity, to be served at frequent intervals.

Libby's Vienna Sausage just suits for breakfast, is fine for luncheon and satisfies at dinner or supper. Like all of Libby's Food Products it is carefully cooked and prepared, ready to serve, in Libby's Great White Kitchen—the cleanest, most scientific kitchen in the world.

Other popular, ready-to-serve Libby Pure Foods are:—

- Cooked Corned Beef
- Peerless Dried Beef
- Veal Loaf
- Evaporated Milk
- Baked Beans
- Oxow Chow
- Mixed Pickles

Write for free booklet,—"How to make Good Things to Eat". Insist on Libby's at your grocers.

Libby, McNeill & Libby Chicago

HONORS WERE WITH FARMER

Mail Carrier Must Have Realized That He Picked Out Wrong Man to Have Fun With.

The new mail carrier on the rural free delivery route glanced at the name on the letter box by the roadside, stopped his horse, and spoke to the roughly attired farmer with the old slouched hat, who was resting his sun-browned arms on the gate and looking at him.

"I see," he said, "your name is Holmes."

"Yes."

"Beverly G.?"

"Yes, I'm the man that lives here."

"Any relation of Sherlock Holmes?" gravely asked the carrier.

"No, sir," answered the farmer, "but I'm detective enough to know that you're not a very good judge of human nature. You took me for an ignoramus because I've got my old working duds on. I'm Sherlock Holmes enough to look at a man's face and eyes before I size him up as a—Some mail for me? Thanks."—Youth's Companion.

OH, MY!



Ho—A woman is peculiar in way.

She—What's that?

He—She won't tear up a love letter, even after she's forgotten who wrote it.

Either Way.

Mr. Wilkins had been sitting quietly on a nail keg, poring a paper which he had found on the counter. The date of it he had not noticed. Finally he looked up with a puzzled expression.

"What's this wireless telegraph signal, this 'C. O. D.' they're talking about?" he asked.

"I guess it's 'C. Q. D.' ain't it?" suggested Holbrook, the grocer. "Anyway, it's a signal of distress," he added, moodily.

Every package of Post Toasties

Contains a little book—"Tid-Bits made with Toasties."

A couple of dozen recipes Of fascinating dishes, A help in entertaining Home folks or company. Pkgs. 10c and 15c—At grocers.