

# Loup City Northwestern

J. W. BURLEIGH, Publisher.

LOUP CITY, - - NEBRASKA.

History has been made rapidly since Admiral Dewey sailed for Manila six years ago.

A woman can't help having faith in a man who notices when she has on a new gown.

After a young man makes up his mind that he is not a genius he stands a chance to earn his living.

The advent of the odorless onion is announced. It will mean the death of the popular diversion known as the onion social.

Thanks to its suggestion of comic opera, the news of the death of the king of Cambodia will make a good many people laugh.

A scientist says that larks rise to a height of 2,000 feet. That must be why, when people go out on a lark, they have a high old time.

If the hoped-for boy turns out to be a girl, the czar may feel quite in the mood to proceed personally to the scene of the war in August.

There is said to be a flood of counterfeit money in New Jersey. Something of that kind might be made useful in watering trust stocks.

A New York man proposes to use tame snakes to clear houses of rats and mice. He will probably also clear them of women by this method.

Boys have begun to run off with the circus again. Boys are as much given to "the mad chase after pleasure" as their parents, in these days.

The patent office at Washington during 1903 granted 31,699 patents, and if only Langley's airship had done its duty they might have made it an even 31,700.

So great is the demand for crude rubber for use in manufactures that the price in New York has advanced to something like \$1.25 a pound. Save the bands.

It is not improbable that future naval wars may be fought out with torpedo boats, torpedo boat destroyers, and destroyers of torpedo boat destroyers, and so on.

Another uprising is reported in Hayti. This seems to disprove the recent rumor that Hayti was in an extraordinary state of confusion. Its condition continues to be normal.

Barnum's circus will this season "travel with a chaplain and be opened by prayer at each performance." Adults who go "just to take the children" may usefully bear this in mind.

Can the sociological experts tell us why mankind appears to take so much more interest in the trial and execution of a bad man than in anything that can possibly happen to a good man?

Chicago now announces the theory that disease is plainly indicated by the thumb nails. This doesn't come from one of the professors of the university of Chicago, but it sounds as if it did.

The man who sells cakes of soap wrapped in \$10 bills usually explains that he is animated by a desire to benefit the purchasers, yet few of the victims have ever been able to figure out a profit.

Editor Bok prints in his Ladies' Home Journal the pictures of "the most beautiful children in the United States." They number two or three dozen. But Editor Bok always was a fearless man.

It has just become known that a gripman on a San Francisco street car is a descendant of a royal family of Serbia. Probably he kept his identity secret for fear he might have to go home and be king.

Principal Tompkins of the Chicago normal school says he doesn't think it necessary that children should be taught to spell unusual words, and he particularly mentions "syzgy." By the way, can you define it?

A farmer of Nevada, Ohio, a dry town, having been arrested the other day for passing around a bottle supposed to contain whisky, made the defense that it really contained hard cider. Speaking of technicalities!

The careful, conservative plodder who makes fifteen or twenty millions in stocks during five or six years always has the utmost contempt for the simpleton who loses his money fooling with a get-rich-quick scheme.

The great novel of the year is coming at last. Its identity is revealed by the fact that the manuscript has already been rejected by no less than three great publishing houses. Sure sign of greatness!

The emotion aroused in the housekeeper's mind by seeing the first fry of the season isn't of the sort that will remind her that her husband has already seen the same thing at the ball games.

On the theory of averages, last year's total fire losses in this country should have been \$75,000,000. Instead of which they were \$225,000,000. Talk of the costliness of war! It is nothing to the costliness of carelessness.

A discrepancy of over half a million dollars in the expense accounts of the Nordica-Doemes shows that there must have been an irreconcilable difference of opinion between them as to which of the two was the firm.

# LABOR AND INDUSTRY

**If Satan Should Come.**  
Old Satan, through God's gracious favor, flung his manacles aside and made his way forth from the gloomy depths and stood among the people in the teeming city. They knew not, because he came in manly guise. That hell's dread ruler loomed before their eyes.

The arch-fiend gazed upon the bent old man who lolled with weary hands and munched their crusts. He saw them get their pittances, and he scanned the mighty profits of the trusts. He stood within the noisome precincts, where the hours dwelt, and viewed the horrors there.

He saw the pale-faced little children go to labor for their profits who were high. He saw the laws enmesh the poor and low. Those self-same laws he saw the rich defy. He viewed their splendors for whose profit they whose sunken breasts were hopeless toiled away.

And after he had scanned conditions, when he beheld the glories of the proud, Had learned how men deal with their fellow men, He watched the children toll, and mused aloud: "This where they call themselves ennobled, free! No wonder men have lost belief in me." —S. E. Klier.

## NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD.

**Items of Interest Gathered from Many Sources.**

Cigarmakers of Boston have started a co-operative cigar factory.

The United Garment Workers' International union has increased in 12 years from 3,000 to 50,000.

The International Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' Association will hold its annual convention at Buffalo in June.

Louisville, Ky., Employers' association declared for the open shop and also for the establishment of trade schools.

An international labor congress at St. Louis during the World's fair has been proposed by the central body at Milwaukee.

Judge Kavanagh in an injunction against the Chicago solar plate workers, especially states that picketing is permissible.

Boot and shoe workers' union spent \$404,322 last year. About equal sums were spent for sick benefits, strikes and advertising the union label.

As a result of the meeting of the miners and operators of Beaver Valley, Pa., the miners in the vicinity returned to work pending the consideration of the new scale.

The miners of Christian County Coal company's mine at Taylorville, Ill., who have been on a strike since the strike for that district was agreed upon, returned to work.

Two hundred molders and pattern-makers of the Fore River Shipbuilding and Engine company, at Quincy, Mass., joined the strikers, making a total of 3,000 men now idle.

The dissatisfaction of the sheet and tin-plate workers over the reduction of 18 per cent seems to be increasing. The Griffith plant at Waynesburg, Pa., has closed. Others will follow.

The United States Commissioner of Education says school teachers average per month \$49 for men and \$40 for women. Twenty-eight per cent of the teachers of the country are men.

At Lawrence, Mass., the Arlington cotton and worsted mills will curtail production, operating but four days a week, because of lack of orders. Fifteen hundred operatives are affected.

The Indiana block coal miners, District No. 8, have voted to reject the proposition of the operators for a two years' contract under last year's conditions, with a 5 per cent reduction in wages.

Bakers' joint executive board has received word from San Francisco that many bakers there are unemployed and warns fellow workers of New England against going to California.

The Amalgamated Association of Sheet Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, Theodore Shaffer's union, has accepted a wage reduction of 18 per cent. The cut is operative until the last day of June of this year.

On June 9 next the Order of Railway Telegraphers will celebrate its eighteenth anniversary, having been organized at Cedar Rapids in 1886. Last month 1,070 new members were added to the order's rolls.

Brush Makers' International union has requested organized labor to assist that union in having the authorities revoke their determination to introduce the manufacture of brooms into the Minnesota state prison.

From a toiler in the machine shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy to the presidency of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railway, which is one of the Burlington's chief competitors, is the career of B. L. Winchell.

An American steam thrashing machine has been taken into Damascus, which is said to be the oldest city in the world. On its way to Damascus the heavy machine broke every bridge and attracted the attention of the entire country.

A strong fight against unionism is now being made by the Draper Machine company of Hopedale, Mass. Employees are being compelled to sign an agreement that they will not join a union as long as they remain in the employ of the company.

Dressler & Hollender, contractors of Perth Amboy, N. J., obtained a verdict for \$500 damages against the walking delegate and members of the Bricklayers and Plasterers' Protective union of Perth Amboy for damages resulting from a boycott.

The general strike and lockout of lithographers was officially declared off, the unions by a clear majority having voted for the arbitration agreement recently submitted in a referendum vote. The 10,000 or more idle employees throughout the country were ordered to return to work.

Two hundred boiler-makers employed in the local shops of the New

York, New Haven & Hartford railroad at New Haven, Conn., went on strike as the result of the company's refusal to grant them a nine-hour day and a 15 per cent increase in wages.

Out of every dollar that the American nation makes each year the railroads get about 12 cents. And out of every dollar that the railroads get the employers get 66 cents and the government gets about 3 cents in taxes. The total income of the railroads last year was nearly \$2,000,000,000.

The strike of the truckdrivers at Kansas City, which has been in progress for several weeks, has been declared off by the Truckdrivers' union, the strikers being advised to make peace with the employers and each striker instructed to secure employment on any terms that he may choose.

Every man or woman who holds stock in a company is responsible for the acts of that company, says Henry White in a recent editorial. Those who receive the profit of child labor and sweat shops and the oppression of the poor should be held responsible for these social evils.

The negotiations between the National Metal Trades' association, the employers' organization and the International Association of Machinists have been abandoned, with the result that the strife which has characterized the relations of the two organizations during the last few years will be renewed.

In Brantford, Canada, there is a co-operative binding twine factory that is owned and operated by 8,000 farmers. It was started twelve years ago, so that it is no business bubble. Last year it paid 34 per cent profit, and sold twine lower than any other twine company. The 8,000 farmers are about to start a co-operative factory to manufacture their own farm machinery.

"The National Metal Trades' association has found agreements with labor unions in most cases worthless. They are not lived up to and afford no protection to our members. The association discourages the signing of new agreements. It is safe to say that but few will be made this year," said Secretary E. F. Du Brul of the association, after the negotiations had ended.

There are now in Belgium four schools for the instruction of fishermen. The pupils are taught how to read weather charts, how to make the best use of currents, what the bottom of the sea is like, how to manage their own nets, how to manage a boat in a storm, how to use the latest inventions in the line of fishing apparatus, etc. There are about 250 pupils now in these schools.

A proposition to form a wage workers' anti-high-rent union to demand a reduction of 25 per cent in rentals was not approved by the New York Central Union. Telegraph operators have demanded \$250 per month from the elevated railroad systems of New York. The only labor bill to pass the New York legislature was one to punish counterfeiters of union labels.

"Trades unions cannot be destroyed," says the editor of the Clothing Trades Bulletin. "Unions represent the upward striving mass of the people. They have brought the benefits of progress to millions, and they can never be broken up. The union is firmly implanted in the soil of our industrial system, and looting off a branch here and there will not destroy unionism."

In this month's Federationist President Gompers says: "Organized labor will resist any attempt at wage cutting just as it has prevented wage cutting in the past, and preparation is necessary to accomplish this. Just as sure as the sun rises and sets, just as sure as the tide ebbs and flows, there will come an industrial stagnation in our country. We should be prepared for it and let the burden of it fall on those who are directly responsible for it and not on the working men and wage earners."

The A. F. of L. exhibit at the St. Louis fair has been arranged. It will contain 54 articles, forms of commissions to organizers, forms of certificates of membership, forms of obligations and methods of procedure, instructions to locals, histories and methods of all the affiliated international organizations, photographs, constitutions, label bulletins, trade banners, the original charter of the National Labor union, organized in 1866, and a chart showing the growth in membership of the American Federation of Labor, from a few thousand in 1881 to nearly 2,000,000 in 1904.

Alleging that the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America "is a trust, an illegal association, a combination against public policy and contrary to law," a petition was filed in the office of the circuit clerk at St. Louis by the William G. Frye Manufacturing company, the Charles A. Oleott Planing Mill company, Fox Brothers Manufacturing company and the Lohse Patent Door company, asking a restraining order and injunction, pending action seeking the dissolution of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, against the Carpenters' District council of that body.

President Gompers of the A. F. of L., in addressing the United States Senate committee on the Foster bill for compulsory arbitration, stated that he had been placed in a false light before the committee by Mr. Foster, who had quoted him as saying, "strikes are a good thing." Mr. Gompers stated that the workmen would continue to strike as long as they had grievances. No man in the country has done more to avert strikes than he has done he said. "But it will never be possible to eliminate strikes," he continued, "so long as a man shall have divergent interests in buying and selling his power to labor." The best possible way to prevent strikes, he maintained, was to prepare for them through organization.

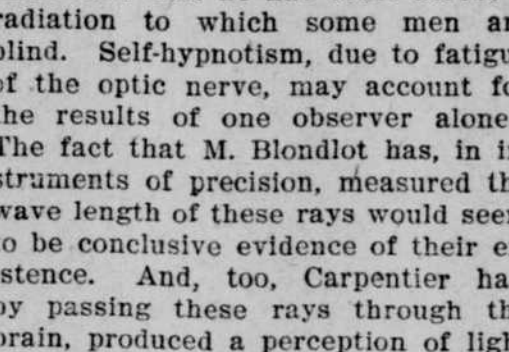
# SCIENCE and INVENTION

Doubt Value of "N-Rays."

The existence of the rays discovered by Blondiot, of Paris, and named by him "N-rays," about which much has been written lately, is seriously questioned by an eminent German physicist, who thinks M. Blondiot has suffered from optical illusions, owing to the fact that in manipulating the screens the experimenter turns aside and this causes an apparent increase in the light on the test object. John Butler Burke, who is one of the wide-known English observers who has been unable to produce those rays, says: "I am at a loss to find any other explanation of M. Blondiot's results than that he has come across a radiation to which some men are blind. Self-hypnotism, due to fatigue of the optic nerve, may account for the results of one observer alone." The fact that M. Blondiot has, in instruments of precision, measured the wave length of these rays would seem to be conclusive evidence of their existence. And, too, Carpenter has, by passing these rays through the brain, produced a perception of light which changed the size of the pupils.

**New Thimble Attachment.**  
When we hear of a poor bachelor sewing on buttons, mending rips and tears, pricking his fingers and breaking his needles, we are inclined to get married and let his wife do the mending. But how about the woman when she has to do this work? Of course, she is more experienced by long years of practice and can handle her needle more deftly and perform neater work than the man; but even she will sometimes break needles in striving to work them through an extremely hard piece of cloth. Some one may say that here is where the thimble comes into play, and that the man does not know how to use that device, any way. But, even with the aid of the thimble to force the needle through as far as possible, it is more than likely that trouble will be encountered in pulling it through, as the pointed end affords so little chance to secure a hold which will not slip on the smooth surface.

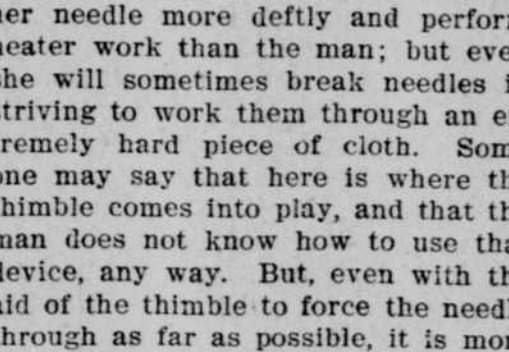
Here is where the advantage of the device shown in the picture makes itself appreciated. In one side of the thimble, near the base, will be seen a projecting knob, in position for the



thumb to exert a pressure on the end of it. At right angles with this knob a small hole is drilled through the base of the thimble, in which the thimble can be inserted. The inner end of the knob is slightly serrated, to enable it to grip firmly a needle inserted in the aperture beneath. The seamstress has then only to use the thimble as usual, until the needle sticks in the cloth, when she inserts the sharp point in the aperture, depresses the clamping button with her thumb and pulls the needle through.

Cleveland Hemenway of North Adams, Mass., is the inventor.

**Clamp to Grip the Thimble.**



Testing Incubator Eggs.

In the absence of an egg tester, which is usually supplied with an incubator, a simple tester may be made by using an ordinary lamp. The lighted lamp should be set in a box in a dark room; the side of the box should have an opening about the size of an egg and before this each egg to be tested should be held in front of the eye. Eggs which are fertile and contain live germs show, in seven or eight days of incubation, a black spot with spider-like legs radiating from it. The stronger this appears the stronger will be the chicken. Eggs which are clear or contain no spot are infertile or dead, and should be thrown out.

**Stall for Breaking Milch Heifers.**  
L. C.—Kindly advise how to make a stall for breaking heifers in to be milked.

We know of no special stall for breaking a heifer. A very good method of fastening a cow so that she cannot kick while being milked is to place her head in a stanchion so that she cannot jump forward and backward; then attach a strap with a ring around the left hind leg just above the hock; to the ring in the strap fasten a rope and tie this to the top of the stanchion, just short enough to raise the foot slightly off the floor. A cow fastened in this manner cannot kick and will soon give up trying if kindly and quietly treated.

**Quantity of Cement for Cellar Wall.**  
How much cement would be required to build the walls of a cellar, 12 feet square and 6 1/2 feet high, the walls to be ten inches thick at the base and seven at the top?

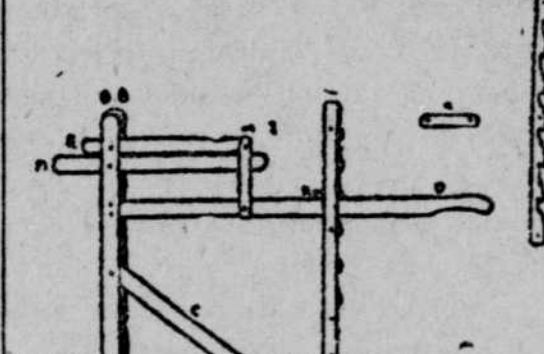
It would take eight barrels of natural cement or six of Portland for your work.

**Powerful New Poisonous Drug.**  
Lascellus Scott of England has recently published some startling facts about cyanid of cacodyl. It is a white powder, melting at 33 degrees and boiling at 140 degrees, which, when exposed to air, gives off a slight vapor, to inhale which is death. Its effect is so powerful that Mr. Scott states that he has seen the one-monthly pill of a gram of the drug instantly kill four dogs when they were introduced into an airtight cage with it. While but little known, it was made many years ago by a noted French chemist, Cadet. He combined potassium acetate with white arsenic, producing a fuming liquid, oxid of cacodyl. This, when combined with cyanogen, a radical of prussic acid, produces cyanid of cacodyl, thousands of times more poisonous than the pure prussic acid.—Albany Medical Annals.

## HOME-MADE WAGON JACK.

Simple of Construction, and Will Lift Much Weight.

A reader recommends the accompanying jack, which he claims to have used for many years, raising at times as much as 800 pounds. The dimensions of the parts are as follows: A, base, 2 ft. 10 in. long and 6 in. wide; B-B, uprights, 2 ft. 2 in. long; C, brace, 1 ft. 8 in. long; D, hand lever, 3 ft. 6 in. long; E, upper life for hind axle, 1 ft. 7 in. long; F, lower life for front axle, 1 ft. 10 in. long; G, lock standard, 2 ft. 2 in. long from base; 1 in. 1/2 inch with a plate of iron 1 1/4 by 3/4 inch with six notches to hold lever where desired; H, connecting rods, 10 in. long, with holes for one-quarter inch bolts; J, lock plate screwed on to G; K, plate on hand lever to fit into notches. When an



axle is to be raised, the lift E or F is placed beneath it by raising the hand lever D, which is pressed down and hooked under the notch in the plate J.

**Feeding and Watering Steers.**  
It makes little difference whether the water or chop is given first, provided water is given as frequently as it should be, so that a very large quantity is not taken at once. Chop should not be given in its pure state, but be mixed with a more bulky food, so that it will be returned to the mouth for mastication. In the watering of stock the animals themselves are the best judges, and they should be allowed to drink when disposed. Where no succulent food, such as roots or ensilage, is given, a drink should be allowed before feed, then coarse fodder, such as hay, followed by the chop, mixed with cut hay or chaff. If succulent food is given, the animals will not require water until two or three hours after they are through feeding. It is well to allow them all the water they wish at least three times daily, if all the food is dry, and if roots are fed they should drink once or twice daily, according to the quantity of roots given.

**Mating Poultry.**  
L. M.—I am much interested in poultry raising, and would be much obliged for the following information: 1. How many hens can be mated with one rooster? 2. At what age will a rooster be too old for mating? 3. Kindly answer the above two questions also for geese, turkeys and ducks.

1. From 5 to 9 of Asiatic varieties; from 7 to 8 of American, and from 9 to 13 of Mediterranean. This is for fowls in limited runs. If at large a greater number of hens may be kept with one male. 2. Male birds should not be used as breeders after they are three years old. 3. Turkeys, one male to 10 females, the male not to be over two years old. Ducks, one male to 10 females, the male not to be over two years of age, with 5 or 7 ducks, if birds are in confinement; if running at large, 10 or 12. Geese, one gander, from 2 to 7 years of age, with 1 to 4 geese.

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# WITH THE WORLD'S BEST WRITERS

POLITELY DISOBEDIENT.

Twenty years ago a famous American millionaire, speaking of his unruly and pampered little son, said with a smile: "Yes, Harry is a politely disobedient boy." The other day, after a disgraceful career extending over two continents, that boy was placed behind the bars, a prisoner of justice. His polite disobedience was but the seed of future lawlessness. Obedience is not only the soldier's first duty, as we have been told, but the first and most important duty of all of us; and the place to learn it is in the home; and the time, when we are children, says Robert Webster Jones in the Housekeeper. The danger of acquiring the vice of disobedience is not confined to the children of the rich alone. It is a constant menace in homes of all grades of society. No greater harm can be done to a child than to permit him to be disobedient, either politely or impolitely. There are many troubles laid up for him who has not learned early in life to obey. Obedience to parents, obedience to teachers, obedience to employers, obedience to the law, are all allied. Failure in the first means failure in all.

The question is often asked whether the children of the present generation are as obedient as were their parents and grandparents. Certainly there is not the outward reverence that characterized the children of a former generation, but we need not say that the feeling of respect and the desire to obey are not there. The danger, however, is right here: that the omission of the outward appearance of reverence and obedience may lead, in time, to the omission of those virtues themselves. The parent who permits a child to grow up without learning and learning thoroughly, this great lesson of obedience, commits a crime against society. There are prisons waiting for the "politely disobedient boy."

**THE DANGER IN KISSING.**  
A new danger has been discovered in kissing. The discovery is made by a scientist, of course. All these deadly dangers in kissing are discovered by scientists.

The New York Medical Journal announces that to the danger from germs "is superadded, in the case of the neuropath, that of shock highly injurious to the nervous system."

This, if true, is bad for the neuropath. But is it necessary that anybody should kiss as a neuropath?

That a shock comes with kissing, many people know. But would any of them have it dispensed with if he could? No, indeed. A kiss without a shock would be a dull affair.

That there are actual dangers in kissing it has not remained for modern bacteriologists to discover. If we might project the imagination back to most primitive man we would perhaps see there and then, as we do here and now, a thousand things for kissers to be afraid of.

The old man's boot and the rival young buck have become traditional among a multitude of other dangers.

The men of all ages have felt fear of these dangers, far more material and threatening than mere germs, and braved them. So will they ever meet and face them.—Chicago Journal.

**"A TERRIBLE BUSINESS."**  
"It is a terrible business," wrote Lord Elgin nearly fifty years ago, "this living among inferior races. I have seldom, since I came to the East, heard a sentence which was reconcilable with the hypothesis that Christianity had ever come into the world. Detestation, contempt, ferocity, vengeance, whether Chinamen or Indians be the object. There are some three or four hundred servants in this house. When one first passes by their salaaming one feels a little awkward. But the feeling soon wears off, and one moves among them with perfect indifference, treating them, not as dogs, because in that case one would whistle to them and pat them, but as machines with which one can have no community or sympathy."

Yet, it is a terrible business. And now, for many generations, large and ever-increasing numbers of our yellow countrymen have come back from contact with "inferior races," bringing with them contempt for the rights of human beings whom they deem lower than themselves in the scale of humanity. And the poison has spread through all ranks of society.

"What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" A nation, no less than a man, may ask the question.—London New Age.

**NON-SINKABLE BOAT.**  
The Board of Supervising Inspectors of Steam Vessels of the United States has indorsed the merits of the Englehart collapsible boat, and authorized the adoption of the same on passenger steamships. A contract for building one of the boats has already been awarded. The question of providing sufficient lifeboats on trans-Atlantic and coastwise steamers has for a number of years been a serious one. The ordinary lifeboat takes up too much room, and it was in hope of providing something more compact that a number of inventors have for several years been experimenting along these lines. Capt. Valdemar Englehart of Copenhagen, Denmark, has been one of the most successful of these in his experiments. He has invented the boat mentioned above, which not only presents excellent features in taking up one-third the space of an ordinary lifeboat, but is said to be unsinkable. The new boat is even considered seaworthy if its sides were torn, its bottom crushed and the plugs gone.—Boston Journal.

MID-OCEAN DAILY PAPER.

The project to publish a daily newspaper on board all great Transatlantic steamships while at sea is expected to be in operation next May. News is to be furnished by the Marconi wireless system. The Marconigram says:

"The newspaper will be of standard size, and will contain full telegraphic reports from the Associated Press. Its advertisements will be contracted for ashore, and it is expected that a very profitable business will thus be established. The combined circulation of this journal on board all steamships will be large enough to warrant its use by advertisers, whereas the issuance of different papers on board each separate vessel renders none of them a profitable medium, by reason of the comparative small circulation of each. The projector of this publication is said to have contracted with the Marconi company to receive as many words per day as the company can transmit with its present facilities at a rate per word which will prove extremely profitable to the company. The same matter will be printed in each edition of the paper, whether issued on board the Lucania, the Kaiser Wilhelm or the Minnehaha."

"The editorial rooms will be located ashore, either in America or Europe, and the news, editorials, and miscellaneous matter for each edition will be furnished fresh each day by wireless, as well as the changes of advertisements. There are at times a population of 20,000 to 30,000 people afloat in ocean steamers between the United States and Europe. To furnish this vast multitude with a summary of the day's happenings, in various languages, is an enterprise which cannot fail to become popular."

**THE AGE OF HURRY.**  
There is no backwater to which this impetuous tide of hurry has not penetrated; and if we try to find one wherein we may lie in a punt on pink cushions under a tree we are certain to be made restless by the long single boot of a fussy steam launch or the short double one of a tearing motor car, and instead of lying still we jump up and cry, "Oh, wait for me and take me! I'm in a fearful hurry to get there and do it with you!" And when we are taken in and have recovered our breath and are well on our way there to do it, we remember to ask where we are bound for and what we are going to do!—"A Countess" in the London Outlook.

**AN OCTOGENARIAN'S MEMOIRS.**  
In comparing the manners and customs of my youth with those of the present day, I should say one of the chief differences is in the attitude of children toward their parents. Certainly my father's word was law which we never dreamed of disputing, and a girl never acted independently of her mother. At the end of each dance she returned to her chaperon, and I never heard of a young lady receiving presents from or driving in cabs with her partner before being engaged. In the matter of dress I think it was much simpler and less complicated than it is now; at least, I was never allowed to wear anything in the evening, winter or summer, but white muslin made low with short sleeves; and I remember that when my elder sisters were going out in London all their ball dresses and even their court dresses were made at home by the maid. Almack's was the fashionable rendezvous of the elite of London society; no one was admitted except by ticket from one of the lady patronesses. On one occasion my mother saw one of her friends, who happened to be very absent-minded, walk up the ballroom with only one stocking on, he having altogether forgotten the other one. The effect of the pink foot appearing in contrast to the white silk stocking on the other foot may be better imagined than described.—Pall Mall Gazette.

**THE BRITISH EMPIRE.**  
The British Empire occupies about one-fifth of the surface of the habitable globe and consists of the United Kingdom, with its attendant islands, and about forty-three dependencies under separate and independent governments, varying in size from Canada, which is thirty times the size of the United Kingdom, to Gibraltar, the area of which is two square miles.

Thus the area of the British Empire is ninety-eight times that of the United Kingdom, while the area of the self-governing colonies alone is nearly sixty times as large as that of the mother country.—Lord Thring in the Nineteenth Century.

**FORTY-TWO REVOLUTIONS.**  
Thirty years ago, visiting San Domingo in an official capacity, he was taken in hand by a newly appointed minister, who undertook to show him round. Coming to the courtyard of a prominent building, the guide pointed to a doorway and remarked, as complacently as if he were indicating the name of a street:

"That is where our last emperor was shot."

In the course of his sojourn he came upon an aged man, held in high esteem by the community, because he had been witness of a quite exceptional number of revolutions and lived to tell the tale.

"How many have you seen?" the visitor asked.

"Forty-two," the patriarch modestly replied.