Loup City Northwestern

J. W. BURLEIGH, Publisher.

LOUP CITY, - - NEBRASKA.

Trousers creased at the side will fill a long felt want for bandy-legged men.

Because a woman is a nice wife is no sign she is going to be that kind of mother-in-law.

Anybody can afford to buy an automobile, but few of us have money enough to pay the repair bills.

The first wireless dispatch has been sent from Nome city in Alaska, and it isn't a hard-luck story, either.

According to a feminine expert the average woman's idea of being real devilish is to order broiled live lobster.

The wicked generally get what they deserve in this world, but not always what their contemporaries think they deserve.

A Boston doctor states that common soda is "as good as whisky for snake bites." Of course he meant "as effective."

Russell is 88, and working harder than ever. Uncle Russell should learn to control that inordinate appetite of his.

A New Jersey professor has resigned his position to go on the police force. Means to hitch his wagon to a star, evidently.

There is said to be a shortage in the broomcorn crop this year. Evidently the broom handles will have to be made longer.

That Washington goat that is "charged with swallowing two sticks of dynamite" should be able to make a strong rebutter.

Doubtless the Harlem woman who soothes and sustains eighty cats has a kind heart, but lacks neighbors prepared to swear to this.

Edward Atkinson has not reached the summit of happiness unless he has learned to expel smoke through his nose and blow rings.

News from the far East says Japan's mosquito fleet is busy. New Jersey's mosquito fleet is also in action, and invariably puts the enemy to rout.

The prize monkey at the Philadelphia zoo is learning to write. It is expected to fit him eventually for a place as society reporter at Newport.

The technical journals tell us that "alcohol made from sawdust is already a commercial success." It seems almost impossible to fail to sell alcohol.

Somebody has discovered that there are no red-headed dolls. Like the taste for olives, the admiration for red hair seems to be the result of cultivation.

"By the way," asks the Boston Globe, "what's the duty on Guatemala ants? Do they come under the head of farming utensils?" Wild animals, more likely.

Harry Lehr overlooked the chance of a lifetime while the Igorrotes were visiting President Roosevelt in not securing their attendance at a "dog dinner" in Newport.

American soda fountains are being introduced in England. Gradually that country is advancing. The time may even come when they will be eating corn on the cob in England.

The mosquitoes of Panama view with much apprehension the request of Gen. Davis for 100,000 yards of wire gauze. Some of them even go to the extent of predicting a famine.

Four members of the Boston base ball club extinguished a fire in a Cleveland hotel the other night. It is to be hoped that the official scorer has credited each of them with a "put out."

The intention of the postoffice department to extend rural free delivery soonest where the roads are best will give the "good roads" movement a boost just where it is most needed, you see.

A report that the Princess Chimay had eloped again was circulated in Brussels the other day. It proves to have been a baseless and wicked fabrication. The princess hasn't eloped for six weeks.

At Chicago a cornet player has been assaulted and his instrument taken from him. The affair is charged to hold-up men, but the neighbors are observed to wear an air of grim satisfaction.

King Edward has gone to Marienbad, Bohemia, traveling incognito as the Duke of Lancaster. If there are any rich American girls at Marienbad they should at once be warned not to waste any time making it pleasant for the duke.

J. Pierpont Morgan has recently had narrow escapes in gasoline launches and automobiles. Russell Sage will be inclined to think it was good enough for him, as long as he wasn't wise enough to walk and save his money.

One of the Boston journals says that teachers were never so hard to get as this summer. And it adds that one of the principal reasons is that the pretty ones get married. But of course that can't affect the Boston supply very seriously.

The Hagerstown girl who wrote her name on a new five-dollar bill is now in correspondence with a New York banker. It may be after all that romance is not dead, but that we have merely not met its requirements in the way of modern conditions.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY

Over the Iron Trail.

Outward and outward on wings of steam
Over the iron trail.
While the hills and valleys drowse and dream,
With a greeting loud and hale.

The hosts of endeavor journey fast
And earth grows rich with gain—
While the room for the soul grows still more vast
On the face of the fertile plain.

For the trains that speed on the golden West
Carry the ages there—
The love that fashioned the plowshare best,
The good that makes life fair;

And with every thought that forms a thing,
With every deed that is done,
The notes of man's new song outring
And a victory glad is won.

There is knowledge to save the toiling hand,
Fine art to pleasure the eye,
And increasing chance for the faithful band
Who, yearning, try and try.

The poor grow braver, the rich more kind,
There's a growing love of love,
There's a saner trust in each creed defined—
A hope all hope above.

There's a bit less care, a grain more mirth,
A savor of sweeter rest,
As a truer culture rests on the earth
Ever along the West.

And they who live in the field or mart,
Honest and earnest and true,
With transfigured gaze see the old depart
And welcome in the new.

Thus a feeling is born within that shows
The spirit is key to life,
And the raptured soul still brighter glows
Despite the grasping strife.

And so, as the cars glide on and on
Over the iron trail,
They travel forever within the dawn,
And the peace of the world avail.

—Charles W. Stevenson.

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD.

Items of Interest Gathered from Many Sources.

New York city bricklayers receive 65 cents an hour, carpenters 56 cents and painters 50 cents.

The cotton mills of the Scott Manufacturing company have shut down, throwing 1,640 employes out of employment.

President Michael Donnelly of the butchers addressed strikers in South St. Joseph, declaring they were certain to win. Pickets were withdrawn.

The executive board, district No. 1, united mineworkers, met at Scranton, Pa., to consider anthracite grievances and it seems assured there will be no strike.

All Lincoln, Neb., street railway employes may strike unless an order which compels the motormen to keep check on conductors' receipts is rescinded.

Seven hundred members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers at the Lebanon plant of the American Iron and Steel company are on strike, charging discrimination against union.

Vice President T. L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers left Indianapolis for Pennsylvania to investigate the controversy between the miners and operators of the Lackawanna and Wyoming district over the payment of check weighmen.

There will be no miners' strike in district No. 1, according to President Nicholls, until the unions have investigated the conditions in the mines now balking on the check weighmen's and docking bosses' wages. The next meeting likely will be held within ten days.

Arrangements practically have been completed for the consolidation of the three large central labor organizations in the vicinity of Pittsburg, the United Labor league, Iron City council and the Building Trades Council, the three composing about 150,000 men.

"The lockout called by the Building Trades Employers' association which went into effect Aug. 5 involves 50,000 men and means a fight to a finish in New York city between capital and the building trades unions," said Philip Winsheimer, president of the Building Trades' Alliance.

War between the National Founders' association and the Iron Molders' union is believed imminent because the association has declared a cut in wages of 20 cents a day. The union declares the action has followed an arbitrary campaign waged by the association in regard to agreements.

The Bloomington (Ill.) street car men's union decided to call off the strike on the Bloomington and Normal Railway Electric and Heating company, which has been in progress since Jan. 1, having lost the fight for an advance in wages, recognition of the union, and easiest runs for the older men.

In order to help out some employers the members of the Housesmiths and Ornamental Iron Workers' union of Boston voted to reduce wages to 42 cents an hour. Some employers have been paying 45 cents and others 42, and the union thought it unfair to place the more generous ones at a disadvantage.

General President Dan Mahon of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railroad Employes of America shows in his annual report that, while $14,625 was paid out in 1903 for strike benefits, over $24,000 was given for sick and death claims. Sixty-seven deaths occurred during the year, of which nine were by accident.

The royal commission on labor disputes created in England last year is making little headway. Trade unions and labor organizations in all parts of the country have refused assistance and information of any kind toward making the tribunal of any value, owing to the fact that there are no representatives of organized labor on the commission.

L. J. Curran, the general president of the International Union of Interior Freight Handlers and Warehousemen, wishes to inform the members that the only official general convention is that to be held at Kansas City, Kas., in January, 1905. The organization holds biennial conventions and certain members criticised the general officers because no convention was held this year.

The secretary of the navy has sent a letter to the protesting local labor unions giving as his opinion that the ten-hour workday in force in the construction of the League Island drydock is not a violation of the federal eight-hour law, since that law only applies to work done by the government and not to work done by a contractor for the government.

J. W. Johnson, international secretary-treasurer of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' Union, reports that the recent vote for affiliation with the proposed Structural Building Trades' Alliance was 6,135, of which 3,527 were in favor of the affiliation and 2,608 against. He announces that the final vote will show the affiliation carried by a vote of four to one.

Samuel Gompers, president of the A. F. of L., was asked to explain unionism. In a sentence he replied: "The labor movement has for its purpose the securing of the best possible economic and social conditions for the masses; and the attainment of these with the least possible friction, the meeting of problems as they confront us; the making of the day after this a better day than the one preceding."

The Journeyman Tailors' National Union was formed at a convention held in Philadelphia in August, 1883. Local unions of tailors existed in this country when trade unionism was in its infancy. They were among the first skilled workmen to form a combination for protection. Previous to the year 1800 records are shown where unions of tailors existed in New York and Philadelphia, and a union was organized in Boston in 1806.

The number of divisions reporting donations to other unions of craftsmen not in the street railway service was 81 and the amount totaled $8,205.03. The report indicates 65 divisions working under written agreements with the companies. An increase was secured for 31,210 union employes, of from 1 to 5 cents per hour. Other help to the number of thousands were benefited by the unions' increase of wage efforts.

Members of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers in Dallas quit work in obedience to an order for a strike of all the telegraphers employed on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas system. At the office of Superintendent MacDowell it was stated that no interruption in the service was anticipated. The wage schedule, pay for overtime and shorter hours and promotion according to seniority of telegraphers to be station agents are elements in the trouble.

Many prominent men hold membership in the Brotherhood of Railroad Firemen. "We have lawyers, doctors and even clergymen in our organization," said Grand Master Hannahan. "We even have a priest. There are several legislators and nearly every line of business is represented in the membership. I can say without egotism that it is doubtful whether there is another labor organization in the world that can produce a better dressed or more intelligent lot of men than ours."

The three division plants of the International Harvester company in Chicago have been closed for a few days to arrange for repairs and an inventory according to the statements of the officials of the concerns. This closing order throws idle about 10,000 workers, nearly all of whom are union members. The union wage scale does not expire until Sept. 1. The company announces that about one-fifth of the employes will be furnished work on the repairs and that all will be back within a month. Relations between the corporation and the unions have been friendly during the year.

A proposition to organize the school teachers of the country along trade union lines created considerable discussion at the recent meeting of the National Educational association. The debate was precipitated by Miss Margaret A. Haley of Chicago, president of the National Federation of Teachers. She said that teachers should organize into trade unions in order to secure better compensation for their services. The pay they received was not commensurate with the services rendered, and the relief from these impositions lay in the field of organized labor. The salary of a teacher in some places, she said, is barely enough to keep a horse.

Carroll D. Wright, United States labor commissioner, gives the following four reasons why women workers receive smaller pay than men: First, the woman comes into the industrial system of to-day as an entirely new factor; second, she holds a lower standard of industrial demands, caused to some extent by a lower standard of life, both in physical and mental features; third, insufficient equipment, due not to incapacity, but to the thought that permanency of employment will be interrupted by matrimony, and also to the fact that she lacks, so far, the influence that comes from association and combination, and, fourth, she is not a political factor in society.

It is a settled policy of the labor movement that unions shall not pledge their members to work for certain employers only or to refuse to work for certain other employers. Frequently, when an agreement is being negotiated between a trade union and an organization representing a number of employers, it is proposed that the members of the union shall bind themselves to work for the members of the employers' association exclusively. These proposals are in most instances rejected as involving discrimination against other employers who may be willing to observe union conditions. Upon rare occasions, however, these proposals have been accepted, but the results in such cases have usually proved disadvantageous to the labor organizations directly involved and to the labor movement as a whole."—Seamen's Journal.

CHIVALRY IN POKER

PROOF THE GAME IS NOT OF NECESSITY A MEAN ONE.

Colonel Tells of Meeting Between Southern Gentlemen—Finer Feelings Displayed in an Act of Rare Generosity and a Silent Toast.

"Poker is a mean game," said the traveling man. "It doesn't give one's finer feelings any show. You can't be charitable, because if you try to lose you either win like thunder or the other sees what you are doing and gets sore. The game doesn't lend itself to delicacy."

"Ah'm sorry to heah you say that, sah," said the Colonel, "because Ah cahn't agree with you."

"You'll have to give us something in support of your opinion, Colonel."

"Ah should be delighted—an' Ah can vouch for the accuracy of what Ah'm about to tell, because Ah was there.

"It was two yeahs aftah the wah, gentlemen, that Ah happened to be visitin' an old friends of mine, whom Ah will call the Majah. Two othah gentlemen, the General an' the Captain Ah will call them, were also thar.

"We had known one another befo' the wah, an' been in the same regiment during the late unpleasantness, an' were dinin' together fo' the first time fo' many yeahs. Of course we were glad to see each othah, be we were feelin' powerful sad just the same.

"The Majah was plumb ruined. He only had the house he lived in, an' that mortgaged. It was especially hard in his case, because he showed us a great chest half full of Confederate bills.

"The Captain was livin' on what he made off raisin' a few racehorses, an' Ah was as po' as the rest.

"The General was the most uncomfortable of the crowd, because he alone was prosperous. Coal had been found on his estate, an' he was worth about a hundred thousand dollahs.

"Well, we kep' gettin' saddah an' saddah' ovah the change in the world until the mint juleps came in. Then we perked up, an' some one suggested a pokah game.

"It was the evenest game Ah ever saw, gentlemen, until a hand when the Majah an' the General both stood pat, raisin' one anothah till all the chips were in the pot.

"The Majah looked at his hand, regretful like, an' said he hated to stop, but he had no mo' moneh.

"'Ah beg of you,' said the General, 'not to let a small mattah like that interfeah with your pokah.'

"Gentlemen, Ah could see what the Majah was thinkin'—he was sayin' to himself: 'Ah have $12,000 life insurance that will go to mah daughter, an' Ah have a hand that cahn't be beat;' an' then he said:

"'Ah raise you $12,000, General.'

"'Ah call you with a low straight flush, Majah,' replied the General.

"The Majah tossed fo 'kings an' an ace into the discard, an' we all sat silent.

"Then the General spoke:

"'The wah is ovah, gentlemen,' he said, 'an' we are together heah aftah a long time. There ain't any mo' Confederate States except in our own hearts. There ain't much pleasure left fo' any of us, but Ah would like to considah this evenin' as bein' one back in the old times an' undah the old conditions. Majah, will you go to that chest an' bring me $12,000 in ouah moneh?'

"The Majah never said a word, just went an' brought twelve one thousand dollah Confederate bills to the General.

"Then somehow we found ourselves standin' an' drinkin' a silent toast, not to Confederacy, but to somethin' the end of the wah had not taken from the South."

And then the Colonel stopped short and looked solemn.

It was the traveling man that broke the silence.

"Colonel," he said, "I wish you would have a drink with me."

"I should be delighted, sah," said the Colonel, emerging suddenly from the brown study into which he had fallen.—New York Sun.

Curious Spanish Courting.

Courting in Spain is conducted on curious principles. The Spanish girl is almost always attended by a young man who is known as her novio, and who squires her on her walks, although the courtship seldom ends in marriage. The young lady is always accompanied by her mother or a maid, as well as by the novio. So long as this state of things continues the girl is loyal and obedient to her gallant.

Narrow Escape for George.

"I was trying to impress on one of my classes the other day the greatness of the southern confederacy, and at the same time to let it know how wonderful a man was George Washington," said a professor in a primary school in Paducah, Ky. "'If the confederacy had succeeded,' I asked, 'what would Washington have been the father of?' 'Twins,' was the prompt reply of one of the boys."—Louisville Herald.

First Lady Motorist.

The first lady motorist, it is said, was Mrs. John Biddulph Martin of Morton Park, Worcestershire, England, the widow of Mr. Martin of Martin's bank. Mrs. Martin was not only the first lady to appear on a motor car in Hyde park, but also the first woman to take a motor tour on the English country roads and to visit scores of lovely villages almost entirely unknown to travelers.

Cheese Over Ton in Weight.

One of the largest cheeses, if not the largest, ever made was manufactured at Altamont, in Daviess county, Missouri, recently at the factory of R. T. McCaskey. The curd was received from three different factories and hauled to a car near the depot. Here it was placed in molds and pressed. The cheese weighs 2,100 pounds.

Madrid an Unhealthy City.

Madrid now holds the record of being the most unhealthy capital in Europe. Its deaths were 9,374 last year in a population of little over half a million.

A BIT OF DIPLOMACY.

Husband's Suggestion at Once Decided Wife's Course of Action.

The modern man crossed his legs and looked intently at his wife, who was a modern woman.

"Here we are on the threshold of married life," he said, at last, "and, in the language of the poet, we are up against it the very first thing."

She shrugged her shoulders and suggested that it really wasn't her fault.

"I would be glad to help you, Fred, in any way I can," she continued, "but you must remember that I have had a college education. If there is anything at your office that you don't exactly understand, all you have to do is to say so and I will come down and help you straighten it out."

"But what I don't understand is here," he protested.

She shrugged her shoulders again.

"I know no more about it than you do," she said. "However, I can keep books for you, or run a typewriter, or——"

"Just the thing," he broke in, joyfully. "That little typewriter down at my office is the most womanly little creature I ever saw, and I'll bet she knows all about managing a house. We'll just keep her up here to make things look nice and homelike and you can take her place at the office."

But there was something in his tone that made her decide to look after the home-making business herself, even if she had to begin going to cooking school to do it.

ABOUT ST. SWITHIN'S DAY.

Ancient Superstition That Still Lingers in England.

St. Swithin's day was July 15 and in England there is a superstition that if it rains on that date the succeeding forty days will be wet and if, on the contrary, St. Swithin's day be fair then the succeeding two-score days will likewise be pleasant. The superstition is venerable, for one old historian remarks that "St. Swithin, a holy bishop of Winchester, about the year 860, was called the weeping St. Swithin, for that about his feast Praesepe and Aselli, rainy constellations, arise cosmically and commonly cause rain."

Another version of the story is that the good bishop left orders at his death that he should be buried in the open churchyard and not in the chancel. The monks, however, disobeyed the wishes of their head and laid him to rest on July 15 within the minster, whereupon rain fell heavily and continually till on the fortieth day, the offending priests became alarmed and hastened to fulfill their dead bishop's request.

Statistics furnished by the officials at Greenwich observatory discredit the accuracy of the whole tale. The figures for twenty years preceding 1861 go to show that the greater number of rainy days after St. Swithin's day followed a dry July 15.

Auto Rubaiyat.

Move!—or the Devil Red who puts to flight
Whate'er's before him, to the Left or Right,
Will toss you high as Heaven when he strikes
Your poor clay carcass with his mastermight!

A new Fool's every minute born, you say;
Yes, but where speeds the Fool of Yesterday?
Beneath the Road he sleeps, the Autos roar
Close o'er his head, but cannot thrill his clay.

Ah, my Beloved, fill the Tank that cheers,
Nor heed the Law's rebuke, the Rabble's tears.
Quick! For To-morrow you and I may be
Ourselves with Yesterday's Sev'n Thousand Years.

A pair of Goggles and a Cap, I trow,
A Stench, a Roar, and my Machine and Thou
Beside me, going ninety miles an hour—
Oh, Turnpike road were Paradise enow!

With Gasoline my fading Life provide,
And wash my Body in it when I've died,
And lay me, shrouded in my Cap and Cape,
By some not Autoless near Speedway's side.

Yon "Devil" that goes prickling o'er the Plain,
How oft hereafter will she go again!
How oft hereafter will she seek her prey?
But seek, alas, for one of us in vain!

And when, like her, O Love, you come to take
Your morning spin for Appetite's sweet sake,
And pass the spot where I lay buried, then,
In memory of me, fling wide the Break!

—Lippincott's.

Origin of the Double Eagles.

Both Russia and Germany display two-headed eagles on their standards. Yet this symbol is considered by some heralds to be merely the result of the heraldic practice of "dimidiation."

This was simply a child's way of impaling two coats-of-arms on the same shield by the primitive method of cutting each in half and taking the dexter half of one and the sinister half of the other and placing them back to back, as it were. Strange two-headed beasts naturally resulted—as, for instance, when a lion and an eagle were halved and joined together. The griffin is supposed to have been evolved from two lions rampant by dimidiation.

Berlin Funeral Pile.

When Frau Clara Hahn, the wife of a prominent Berlin gentleman, from whom she was separated, committed suicide, she left instructions in her will that everything she possessed should be burned on a funeral pile. The police carried out these orders to the letter, burning no fewer than eleven chests filled with dresses, some packages of linen, ten boxes containing hats, three dozen veils, and hundreds of love letters.

Robbers Cut Off Woman's Arm.

A Burmese woman was reclining in a third-class compartment of a train near Sitkwin, with one arm hanging out of the window, when some one passed along the footboard and cut the limb clean off, apparently with a sharp sword. The lost hand was covered with rings and bangles, so that robbery was evidently the motive of the outrage.—Indian Daily News.

City to Mint Its Own Coin.

Lubeck, a free city of the German empire, has recently reasserted its right to mint its own coin, a right unclaimed since 1801.

WITH THE WORLD'S BEST WRITERS

RUSSIA'S FUTURE.

Russian character is unknown to Europe and America. We know certain qualities, but we form no conception of the whole, as we do of a German, Frenchman or Italian. He is not more than half a European—probably considerably less than half. To the Western mind he seems strangely Oriental. Perhaps to the Oriental he seems Western. After Peter the Great broke down some of the barriers between his country and the outer world, the Russian upper classes took in considerable European culture from the French, but the effect went no deeper than the surface influence of culture. Russia, standing between the Orient and the Occident, looks to herself for her future—in contrast to Japan, which is ready to borrow from all the world. Japan is adaptable. Russia has genius. She has also an immense naive self-confidence, which shows trivially in her boasting and nobly in the calm with which she goes about her work and looks toward the future. Dostoievsky, among many, prophesies that the other powers of Europe will be worn out by struggles of their classes, whereas in Russia the populace is naturally content and the national mind so spiritual that a general humanitarian effort will form a contrast to the constant conflicts of Europe proper. "Universal democratic tendencies and absolute concord among all Russians, from the greatest to the least," was the unhesitating language of the great novelist thirty years ago. Would he say as much to-day? Probably yes, essentially, with explanations and modifications. Russia is kept one by her separate genius. The Russian peasants for generations have spoken of convicts as "unfortunates." Their sense of human brotherhood makes them sometimes weak, just as it has shorn Tolstoi of his strength. Tolstoi, however, remains great, and Russian history also promises to be great. A military check to-day is not likely to make Russia's future less spiritual or less useful to the world.—Collier's Weekly.

JAPANESE INVENTIVENESS.

It has long been supposed that the capacity for initiation is the characteristic of Western nations alone. According to some leading anthropologists, as one goes from West to East he finds this capacity disappearing and the capacity for imitation taking its place. The Chinese and Japanese are imitators, not inventors.

But the present war between the Russians and the Japanese is rapidly proving the idea to be mere assumption. It is the Eastern rather than the Western people which, in this contest, are exhibiting the capacity for initiation and invention. Their strategy is almost faultless, and it is their own. Their artillery is astonishingly destructive, and, in some of its most deadly features, is the product of Japanese invention. Their naval tactics have been so unexpected and successful as to promise a revolution in the future methods of naval warfare. When peace comes and the Japanese carry their genius into the industrial world, they will demonstrate perhaps in a more telling way that the capacity for initiation does not diminish as one travels toward the rising sun.—Church Standard.

THE WOUNDED EAGLE OF WATERLOO.

Eighty-nine years have passed since the great Napoleon—the incarnate god of war—was defeated and finally overthrown on the battlefield of Waterloo. In this epoch-making battle French valor shone brilliantly, and although the eagles of France went down in disaster no dishonor attached to their defeat. Recently a monument in memory of Napoleon's soldiers who fell at Waterloo was unveiled on the field of that historic struggle. The monument was placed near the farmhouse where the "Old Guard" made its last stand. The design of the memorial is a striking one—a wounded eagle surmounting a tall shaft. Since Waterloo the eagles of France have been stricken even more grievously than they were by Wellington in 1815. In 1870 an army of 173,000 men surrendered at Metz to the German conqueror. It is impossible to conceive of the first Napoleon giving up a fight with an army of 171,000 valorous Frenchmen to follow his lead. The "Old Guard" of 1815 was composed of men who were willing to die, but never to surrender. France honors herself in honoring the vanquished heroes of Waterloo. Sentiment is not extinct in the Gallic heart. It has survived Sedan and Metz. The "Wounded Eagle" may one day recover his strength and revive the glories of the "Old Guard."—Baltimore Sun.

IS OXFORD TRAINING USELESS?

The average citizen, if asked what was taught at Oxford, would probably reply: "Useless learning." And in many ways it is a true answer, for its aim is not to turn out doctors, lawyers and merchants, ready-made, but men with carefully-trained minds, fitted not for this or that profession, but for the whole conduct of life. It is contended that such a man will insensibly take a wider view of his subject than the specialist, for he approaches it from a different standpoint.—London Outlook.

RUSSIAN NECESSITY.

Von Plehves are necessities of Russias. They are indispensable to despotisms. Somebody must do the work at once dirty and dangerous that is called for by a government that leaves no safety valves for agitation. The dead minister held his appointment of the czar. He had no other commission than imperial favor, and what he did he did by his master's authority and in his name.—Boston Transcript.

WAYS OF THE SILENT JAP.

Whatever we may think of the little yellow man who holds the center of the world's stage just now, whether we believe him to be right or wrong in his quarrel, we are bound to applaud him for his stolid persistence in holding his tongue. He is fighting out his fight in his own way; he asks advice from nobody. When he wins a big victory he does not care whether the world knows it or not. He has been smiling and courteous to the correspondents. Half of them he has corralled a few miles from the front, where they see or tell nothing; the others are feasted and complimented and—shut up in Tokio. He is indifferent to the fame which they alone can give him. Nothing concerns him but his work.—New York World.

A BAD COMBINATION.

The automobile, as it stands alone and motionless in its shed, is a thing of glittering and innocuous beauty. It fills the eye with aesthetic contest, and it couldn't hurt a child. The naked fool, detached from his kind and without a weapon to express his folly, is not a thing of beauty, but he is at least harmless. But the combination of the two is deadly, like the chemical unions that blow up laboratories and demonstrators together.

The fool always delighted in the unloaded gun and the unlabeled poison bottle; but he never found a weapon so completely to his taste and so terrible to the human race in his exulting hands as the automobile. The automobile, in rational hands, is a tool of high utility and a means of pure delight. In the hands of the fool it becomes the most perfect expression of the total depravity of inanimate things; a piece of gleaming and painted mechanism instinct with the vitality of a fiend.—Minneapolis Tribune.

HOW FATE TRICKED FINLAND.

If Napoleon had had his way in the year 1812 the aspirations of the Finns to have their land incorporated with Sweden would have been accomplished, and there would now have been no Russification of the country crushing down the national sentiment, and of course no murder of the Russian governor. Sweden at that time held the balance of power in Europe, and both sides were bidding for her support. Napoleon offered Bernadotte Finland and the country between the Elbe and the Weser for 40,000 Swedish soldiers. The Czar Alexander offered him Norway, and dazzled him with prospects of accession to the throne of France itself. Bernadotte decided to throw in his lot with the Allied Powers, and this decision was the principal factor in Napoleon's ultimate ruin.—London Chronicle.

STUDY OF DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

Regarding domestic science as a profession, Anna Barrows, writing in the Chautauquan, says that the young woman of average ability and education, who has taken two years of special training in the arts and sciences underlying the routine of daily life of a household, large or small, who does not expect a position made to suit her, but who is ready to cope with difficulties, will find the world waiting for her help in several directions. She may teach domestic science in public or private schools or lecture before women's clubs. She may direct the dietaries and feed large numbers of persons in hospitals and schools, or send into other homes food prepared under her own roof. It is doubtful whether there are any occupations in the world which are so certain to be lasting as those that deal with our daily food.

CONCORD'S GREAT MEN.

Eighty-seven years ago H. D. Thoreau was born, the most delightful writer on nature produced by America, perhaps by the world. He was one of that Concord community which boasts (only that it never did boast of anything) the names also of Emerson and of Hawthorne, and to which only yesterday at the luncheon of the Society of the American Ladies in London a high tribute was paid. Where, asked the speaker, can you match that group of dwellers-together? Others have gone into the desert to save their souls, others have gone out from civilization because they could not endure its restraints. But at Concord were men who sought no immunity from law, who loved peace and loved man and led the Simple Life. "Talk of heaven—you are not good enough for earth," exclaimed Thoreau to the people who desecrated nature. And his words will yet inform the heart of man.—London Chronicle.

SEVEN MODERN WONDERS.

The seven world wonders of antiquity were the Pyramids, Babylon's Gardens, Mausolus' Tomb, the Temple of Diana, the Colossus of Rhodes, Jupiter's Statue by Phidias, and the Pharos of Egypt, or, as some substitute, the Palace of Cydus.

The seven wonders of the Middle Ages were the Coliseum of Rome, the Catacombs of Alexandria, the Great Wall of China, Stonehenge, the Leaning Tower of Nankin and the Mosque of St. Sophia at Constantinople.

How will these compare with the seven wonders of the modern world? Perhaps there may be a difference of opinion as regards the latter-day wonders, but the following are substituted: The steam railway, the telegraph, the telephone, the wireless telegraph, the ocean steamship, the submarine man-of-war and the airship.—Kansas City Independent.

The great guiding landmarks of a wise life are indeed few and simple—to do our duty—to avoid useless sorrow—to acquiesce patiently in the inevitable.—Lecky.