

OUR LINCOLN LETTER

Gossip from the State Capital, Legislative and Otherwise

The anti-free pass bill agreed upon by the sub-committee comprising Senators Gould of Greeley and Gibson of Douglas and Representative Marsh of Seward and Representative Knowles of Dodge, follows closely the national act on the same subject and the bill introduced in the senate by King of Polk. It goes a little further and provides that attorneys employed by railroads shall not be entitled to passes unless they are actually employed and receive a salary of \$400 a year. The sub-committee has agreed upon the following bill to report to the joint committee:

Section 1. No railroad corporation owning or operating any line or lines of railroad in the state of Nebraska or any officer or agent of any such railroad corporation shall issue or give any free ticket, free pass or free transportation for passengers except to its bona fide employees and their families, its officers, surgeons, who are annually employed, and attorneys who are actually employed and receiving a salary of not less than \$500 per year, ministers of religion, traveling secretaries of Young Men's Christian associations, inmates of hospitals, and charitable and eleemosynary institutions and persons exclusively engaged in charitable and eleemosynary work; to indigent, destitute and homeless persons and to such persons when transported by charitable societies or hospitals and the necessary agents employed in such transportation; to inmates of national homes or state homes for disabled volunteer soldiers and of soldiers and sailors' homes, including those about to enter and those returning from such institutions; to necessary care takers of live stock, poultry, and fruit; to employees on sleeping cars, express and baggage cars, and to linemen of telegraph and telephone companies; to railway mail employees, to newsmen on trains, baggage agents, persons injured in wreck, and physicians and nurses attending such persons.

Provided, further, that the provisions of this act shall not be construed to prohibit the interchange of passes for the officers and bona fide employees and their families of other railroad companies nor to prohibit any railroad corporation from carrying passengers free with the object of providing relief in cases of general epidemic, pestilence or calamitous visitation.

Sec. 2. Any railroad corporation violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and for each offense or conviction thereof shall pay a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000.

Senator Holdbrook will this week introduce a bill into the senate to establish a state fire commission, similar in function to the fire marshals of some of the eastern states. It is said to be backed by a number of fire insurance companies. The bill makes the governor fire commissioner and allows him a chief deputy and two assistant deputies. The chief must reside in Lincoln and is to receive a salary of \$2,000 a year. The assistants are to receive salaries of \$1,500 each.

In accordance with the recommendations of the state bar association, Representative Tucker submitted a joint resolution for an amendment to the constitution to reorganize the state supreme court. The bill provides for a supreme court of seven members, one of whom is to be a chief justice. Instead of the senior member of the court serving as chief justice he is to be elected for the full term of twelve years. Each of the judges is to serve the same length of time.

A reciprocal demurrage in the opinion of Senator Holdbrook of Dodge county would do away with the present objections to demurrage charges against shippers, and in accordance with his opinion he has introduced a bill applying the reciprocity theory to the unloading of freight cars. The bill allows a shipper forty-eight hours in which to unload each car consigned to him and provides that if the unloading is accomplished in less time the unused time shall be credited to him to offset delinquency in future unloadings.

The state board of educational funds and funds has authorized the purchase of another block of \$10,000 of bonds of the state of Mississippi to net the state of Nebraska 3.75 per cent interest.

The house finance committee has agreed to recommend an appropriation of \$75,000 for the state board of agriculture, if the money is to be expended at the discretion of the board.

There is disposition to have made ready the appropriation bill, so it can be discussed intelligently and not be rushed through at the last minute when all is excitement, thus allowing boards, superintendents of institutions and others to drag money out of the state treasury with impunity. Indications are that every request will be investigated thoroughly, and if the money is actually needed it probably will be appropriated, but if not the legislators doubtless will use the pruning knife freely and effectually.

By a vote of 10 to 4, the joint committee on direct primary decided to draft a bill state-wide in effect for submission to the legislature. The decision was reached after a general discussion of primary bills now before the legislature, together with methods for nominations employed in various states.

Wednesday of this week railroad bills pending in the senate will be heard in open session, at which time all citizens or representatives can appear and present their views.

The joint committee on railroads had a busy time with their work. The committee met sooner than was expected and succeeded in agreeing on a two-cent fare bill to be introduced in the house by Harrison of Otoe, and made some changes in the railway commission bill and heard the argument of railroad attorneys and managers against a reciprocal demurrage bill.

The two-cent fare bill will merely change the word "three" in the present statute to "two" cents and provide that half-fare tickets shall be given to children under 12 years of age, the latter being a rule now in force on most of the railroads in Nebraska. The bill will be introduced as a committee bill by Harrison of Otoe, chairman of the house railroad committee.

When it came to the committee, bill conferring power upon the railway commission, the joint committee succeeded in going through only about six sections of the proposed bill. The Aldrich bill has been followed in many particulars. The joint committee decided to give the commission a lump sum of \$6,000 a year for clerk hire instead of giving \$2,500 for one secretary and \$1,200 each for two clerks. It was also decided that instead of compelling the commission to inspect all railway bridges in the state twice each year, this duty is made merely optional.

The following provision is from Representative Cone's bill affecting weights: "It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation owning within the state goods or merchandise in original unbroken packages located within this state, to offer for sale any such 'original unbroken packages' unless such package shall have plainly printed or stamped thereon in the English language the full net weight or volume contained therein. Provided that the natural shrinkage in the course of handling such goods to the amount of 5 per cent of the net weight or volume thereof shall be exempt from the provisions of this act."

The claims committee of the house met at the Lindell hotel. Claims and deficiencies have been filed that at present do not aggregate as much as usual. Of the claims so far handed to the committee there is the one by Engineer U. G. Sawyer for \$750 for injuries received while a public employe, the old claim of Mrs. Mary M. Hoxie, for \$2,333.33 for salary as matron of the Kearney industrial school; by J. H. Mickey for \$191.83 for railroad fare paid while governor; for \$1,750 by the estate of John F. Cornell for expenses incurred when his office was investigated while he was state auditor.

Members of the legislative committee which inspected the Soldiers' home at Grand Island entertain differences of opinion regarding the appropriation which this institution should have. The commandant has recommended that \$75,000 be appropriated for permanent improvements, and some members of the committee believe such a large sum is unnecessary, inasmuch as the maximum of the number of old soldiers who will become members of the home is reached.

As a compromise between conflicting interests on the compulsory education bill which he introduced into the senate early in the session Senator Thomas has a new measure which he may offer as a substitute for S. F. 50. The new measure is not radically different from the old one, but it is not quite so rigorous. It provides that every child between 7 and 15 shall be required to go to school not less than two-thirds of the entire school year in his district or in any case not less than twelve weeks during the year.

The house indefinitely postponed the bill by Raper which abolished the present optional death penalty. The bill was recommended for passage on the previous day without discussion and some of the members said they were not aware of the scope of the bill at the time. Carlin of Rock moved to reconsider and after a long debate the bill was killed. The house killed the bill by E. W. Brown of Lancaster providing that judges of the supreme, district and county courts are ineligible to election to office save judicial positions.

Before a packed gallery and a crowd of lobby the senate laid the county option bill to rest by the decisive vote of twenty to eleven.

Though not much has yet been done in the legislature, the majority say all party pledges will be fulfilled before the close of the session.

The house got busy on the 5th and passed eighteen bills. Most of them, however, were of local interest.

The house passed Mr. Cone's bill providing that railroads shall not employ boys under 21 years of age as night telegraph operators or tower-men. Author of the measure declared that he believed many wrecks are caused because young and inexperienced men help in handling trains.

A bill to be forthcoming will revise present methods at the South Omaha stock yards. Fusion members are behind the measure, fortified by stock raisers of the western section of the state.

The senate passed S. F. 73, by King, relating to the descent of real property to decedents. The bill gives the surviving husband or wife a share in the fee of the property instead of allowing the wife the dower interest of one-third under the present law.

CLEOPATRA AS SHE WAS.

Historians and Poets Have Given Us Diverse Characters.

On the pages of Plutarch and Dion Cassius—so far as we are concerned—exists the one and only Cleopatra of history, writes S. R. Littlewood, in London Chronicle. Quite undoubtedly for any one who reads these without prejudice the Cleopatra of political necessity, the vigorous, able and unscrupulous queen, fighting for her throne and dynasty by every method in her power.

In the Cleopatra of the unadorned story there is remarkably little hunger and thirst after unrighteousness for its own sake. Each one of her immortal armours had its political purpose.

As for her suggested decadence, it is significant that she was a most excellent mother to her children—not only to Caesarion, but to the three she had by Antony, of whom the two eldest sons were twins. She is charged nowhere with any unnatural vices, and the money she lavished on Antony's pleasures was mostly his own. Also it is worth remembering that at her best she was not beautiful, but lively, racy and good company.

Now, out of this real, strenuous, practical Cleopatra what diverse wonders have not the poets created!

WAS TOO EAGER TO CONFESS.

Case Where Investigation Should Have Preceded Explanation.

A story is being told of a pickpocket who, when accused of theft, was touched on hearing that the watch purloined had belonged to his victim's mother, and caused it to be restored. If we were all arrested when appearances are against us many would risk being charged with pocket-picking, says the London Standard. Lord Russell of Killowen certainly would not have escaped—did not, in fact. As a young man he went to a theater, where he was wedged in the crowded pit, to hear a cry raised, "My watch is gone!" The man who complained declared that the thief was Russell or one of two men between whom he was standing. Russell suggested that they should go to the box office and be searched. As he led the way it occurred to him that if the man behind were guilty he would try to thrust the watch into his (Russell's) pocket, so he drew the tails of his coat tightly around him. To his horror he felt that the watch was already there! Luckily, as they approached the box office a detective recognized the man behind Russell as an old thief, and took him into custody. The other two received apologies and were permitted to depart. But the watch burned in

THE SUCCULENT MINCE PIE.

Ingredients Needed For This Most Appetizing Winter Dessert.

Weigh after it is chopped three pounds lean, tender beef. Add to it a pound and a quarter of suet, chopped and freed from strings, six pounds tart apples, preferably Baldwins or greenings, chopped, six pounds sugar, four pounds seeded raisins, three pounds currants washed and dried, one-half pound citron cut in thin shreds, three pints sweet cider, one quart of stock in which the meat was boiled, three pints cider boiled down thick, three tablespoonfuls powdered cinnamon, two tablespoonfuls cloves, one teaspoonful each mace, allspice and nutmeg, two tablespoonfuls salt, one teaspoonful white pepper, one pint molasses, three pints jelly and as much more juice of preserves or jelly as the housewife may elect. Brandy, sherry or rose water may be added at the last if desired. Chopped prunes are deemed better than currants by some cooks, while candied orange or lemon peel, a little cold tea or coffee may always be added with advantage. This mince meat may be scalded before putting in the brandy or simply canned in glass jars or stone pots without cooking, its richness insuring its keeping. For the flat dweller, with no stove room facilities, this amount of mince meat might have to be halved or quartered, but with a good cellar or cold storage room the amount will be found just about right to last the winter for the average family with normal appetites.

TO SERVE WITH ROAST BEEF.

New England Yorkshire Pudding a Palatable Accessory.

I often wished to have on my table the famous pudding which accompanies the roast beef of Old England, but in my modern American kitchen I had no way of suspending a roast over the batter while cooking. Besides, my taste ran to light fluffy things made with baking powder, and my one attempt at using the old English recipe for Yorkshire pudding turned out a heavy, soggy affair. One day I used a little ingenuity with my recipe and since then the pudding has been a welcome addition to a roast beef course in my home. I take a pint of sweet milk, a pinch of salt, three beaten eggs, a teaspoonful of baking powder, and enough flour to make a batter of the consistency of pancake batter. I pour about one-fourth of a cupful of hot gravy from the roast into a hot dripping pan, put the batter in, letting the fat gravy spread to the sides of the pan, and then I scatter more gravy over the batter in little puddles, and bake it 20 minutes in a hot oven. Cut into squares with a heated knife and served with the roast beef as hot as possible, it is very palatable—Housekeeper.

To Clean Rag Rugs.

A rag rug, after months of hard usage, should be thoroughly beaten, then hung up on the clothesline and a full force of water from a garden hose should be turned on it. After the rug is well dampened, a washing powder must be rubbed into the tufting and the water continued until the water that runs off begins to look clear. Let it drain well, then turn on a third stream for a final rinse. Leave it on the line until dry. Unbleached cotton and linen can be bleached in a similar manner and save much labor. Pin the cotton securely on the line, drench it thoroughly with the hose and leave it hanging; as soon as it is dry renew the spraying.

Tea Cake.

Sift four cupfuls of dried flour into a bowl and chop into it a scant cupful of butter. Dissolve half a yeast cake in four tablespoonfuls of warm water and stir it into two cupfuls of milk, or enough to make a soft dough. Roll this out into a sheet and cut into cakes as large as a tea plate and less than half an inch thick. Set them covered lightly in a warm place until they have nearly trebled in thickness. Bake in a floured pan. Keep them covered for 20 minutes, then brown. Run a sharp knife around the edge, tear the cake open, butter and serve upon a plate lined and covered with a heated napkin.

To Save Table Surface.

The old-fashioned crocheted straw mats to save the surface of a polished table from the damaging effects of hot dishes are no longer used by the up-to-date housekeeper. You can now get sheets of asbestos cloth, which can be cut up into any desired size and covered with white linen cases. They can be made plain or embroidered with an initial or monogram. The case is made to button at one end, thus allowing frequent laundering. These mats, already covered, can be bought.

Jack London as a Cook.

Jack London's recipe for the cooking of wild duck is so simple that it just misses attaining the distinction of being the easiest cooking formula known: "Stuff the duck with a bunch of celery, or spread the interior of the carcass liberally with celery salt. Then roast for 14 minutes." If you are duly exact about following this rule your duck will be blood rare, and, if you will do nothing to it save dust it with salt and paprika, it will simply melt in your mouth—February Bohemian.

Postage Stamps.

It is often desired to separate postage stamps that are stuck together without destroying the gum. This can be done by dipping the stamps in water for a few seconds until the shaking of the excess of water and heating with a match as much as possible without burning. The heat expands the water between the stamps and separates them, so that they can be easily pulled apart, and are ready for use.

Salad Dressing.

Two cups of milk, two tablespoonfuls corn starch, moistened with some of the milk, four tablespoonfuls of sugar, one tablespoonful of salt, one small eggbeaten, and three eggs beaten well, two tablespoonfuls of butter, one cup of vinegar.

DECLARES THAW AN EPILEPTIC



The greatest of living criminologists, Prof. Cesare Lombroso, has made public declaration that Harry Kendall Thaw, on trial in New York for the killing of Stanford White, is without doubt an epileptic.

WHEN DUTTON CAME BACK.

Explanations Were Neither Offered Nor Seemingly Wanted.

It is said that 50 years ago a man named Dutton lived on the present Squire Smith place, near the bridge crossing Sugar creek, on the road to Sean lake. One morning Mrs. Dutton had bread to bake and sent Dutton out after an armful of oven wood, as they call it over there—heavy wood to produce a lasting fire. Dutton was something of a slow poke, and as he went out his wife, who was something of a shrew said to him: "Now, don't be gone five years."

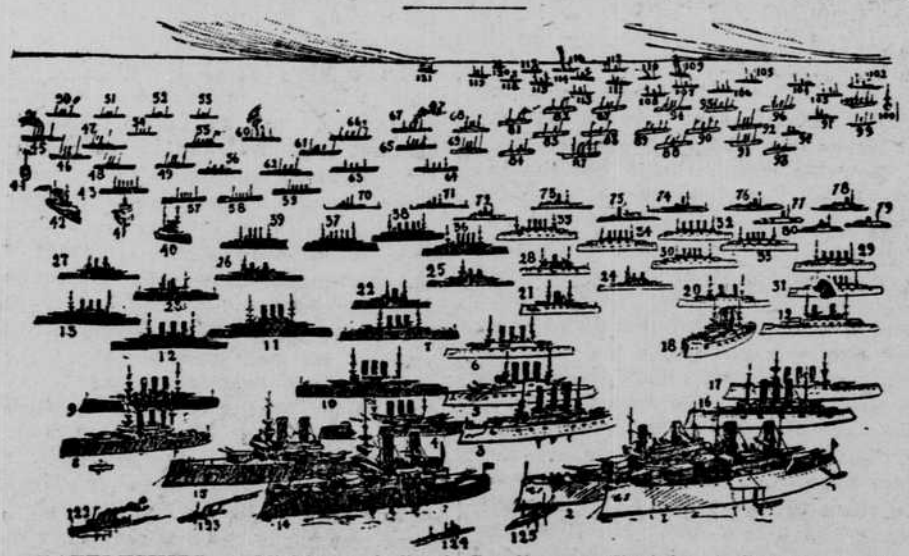
The husband did not return with the wood, and his disappearance caused a big sensation. Some said he had been foully dealt with, others said that he had eloped with a woman. But exactly five years later he walked into the house with an armful of oven wood, which he threw into the wood box of the kitchen stove. His wife displayed no astonishment, whatever her feelings might have been. "Now," she said, "carry the slop out to the pigs."

Dutton carried the slop out to the pigs, as directed, and resumed his old place in the household without comment or explanation.—Aitchison Globe.

The Snake With Bad Habits.

Better one thorn plucked out than all remain.—Horace.

NAVAL MIGHT OF THE UNITED STATES



BATTLESHIPS—1. Michigan, 2. South Carolina, 3. Virginia, 4. Georgia, 5. Nebraska, 6. Rhode Island, 7. New Jersey, 8. Connecticut, 9. Louisiana, 10. Kansas, 11. Minnesota, 12. Vermont, 13. New Hampshire, 14. Idaho, 15. Mississippi, 16. Maine, 17. Missouri, 18. Ohio, 19. Kentucky, 20. Kearsarge, 21. Alabama, 22. Wisconsin, 23. Illinois, 24. Indiana, 25. Massachusetts, 26. Oregon, 27. Iowa, 28. Texas, ARMORED CRUISERS—29. Washington, 30. Tennessee, 31. North Carolina, 32. Montana, 33. Colorado, 34. West Virginia, 35. Maryland, 36. California, 37. South Dakota, 38. Pennsylvania, 39. Brooklyn, 40. New York, CRUISERS—41. Charleston, 42. Milwaukee, 43. St. Louis, 44. Denver, 45. Chattanooga, 46. Tacoma, 47. Des Moines, 48. Galveston, 49. Cleveland, 50. Raleigh, 51. Cincinnati, 52. Detroit, 53. Marblehead, 54. Montgomery, 55. Columbia, 56. Minneapolis, 57. Salem, 58. Birmingham, 59. Chester, 60. Baltimore, 61. Newark, 62. Olympia, 63. Albany, 64. New Orleans, 65. Chicago, 66. San Francisco, 67. Philadelphia, 68. Boston, 69. Atlanta, COAST DEFENSE—70. Arkansas, 71. Wyoming, 72. Florida, 73. Nevada, 74. Meantown, 75. Monadnock, 76. Monterey, 77. Terror, 78. Puritan, 79. Amphitrite, 80. Yankee, 81. Yosemite, 82. Prairie, 83. Dixie, 84. Topoka, 85. Buffalo, 86. Reina Mercedes, GUNBOATS—87. Yorktown, 88. Concord, 89. Bennington, 90. Paducah, 91. Dubuque, 92. Versuvis, 93. Nashville, 94. Petrel, 95. Bancroft, 96. Millington, 97. Helena, 98. Vicksburg, 99. Princeton, 100. Newport, 101. Annapolis, 102. Castine, 103. Machias, 104. Wheeling, 105. Marietta, 106. Dolphin, 107. Mayflower, 108. Miranda, 109. Vixen, 110. Gloucester, 111. Don Juan de Austria, 112. *Corbin, 113. Isla de Luzon, 114. Isla de Cuba, 115. Hist, 116. Alvarado, 117. May-Joyal, 118. Callao, 119. Sylph, 120. Michigan, 121. Type of Destroyer, 122. Type of Torpedo-boat, 123. Lake Submarine, 124. Holland Submarine.

Gaul's Terra Cotta Houses.

At the Paris academy of fine arts, Commandant Esperandien, director of excavations at Alesia, announced that recent finds had enabled the workers there to reconstruct a hut which had been inhabited by ancient Gauls.

These houses were neither of stone nor of thatch, but of terra-cotta. The Gauls had made this by placing a layer of brick clay on a network body and baking it in a double fire inside and outside simultaneously. Commandant Esperandien said that it was

probable that the exterior of the hut was additionally protected by thatch. Among the sculptures recovered are statues of a Gallic chief and a cavalier, and also bas-reliefs picturing heads.—American Antiquarian.

Start for a Fine Collection.

"That Scroggby girl is very fond of animals." "Does she own many?" "I should say so. She has a canary bird, a stuffed crane and a Teddy bear."

SCHOOL FOR FIANCES.

CONDUCTED BY REV. G. H. WILSON, OF DE KALB, ILL.

Object of Pastor is to Impress Young Folks with Solemnity of Marriage Vows—Simple Wedding Becoming Popular.

Chicago.—Rev. George H. Wilson, pastor of the Congregational church at De Kalb, conducts a unique school for young people whom he expects to marry. The object of this is to impress them with the nature and the solemnity of the vows they take on themselves when they become man and wife.

When a prospective groom approaches the minister and engages him to perform the ceremony, the pastor gives him a printed sheet on which is printed the form of marriage ceremony that he will use. He asks the man to read over the words, to show the sheet to his prospective bride she may know what she is expected to promise when she appears before the man who is to join her and her lover for all time.

This sheet contains a service with or without the use of a ring, but in the event of the use of either the binding words are given out four or five weeks before the wedding, but if there is but a single day intervening between the engagement of the parson and the wedding both of the contracting parties are given the service and allowed to look it over.

After the wedding is over the bride is given a certificate and with it is given another of the printed sheets.

"It is a good thing," said the Rev. Mr. Wilson, "for a husband and wife to look at this little sheet of paper once in a while. It refreshes the mind, and they think over again the words and the meaning of the brief ceremony that started them in the wedded path. If married people would only think more and more of what they are about to promise, and then what they have promised, I think there would be a great deal more of wedded bliss."

This pastor believes in a simple wedding. He says that hundreds of couples nowadays really want to get rid of the fuss and feathers of a wedding event. They want to be married quietly and go to housekeeping without allowing either fad or fashion to prescribe the way.

Frequently couples drive from

towns to his parsonage to be married. When he asked a groom why he had not been married at home to save a 15 mile drive, he said he wanted to get away from the conventional wedding, and in this his bride had agreed fully with him. At their home town they had fitted up a home, and they went back to it from the ceremony and a short trip. "Some of my friends were married in that way," said the happy man. "They liked the plan and so do we, and we determined to commence married life in that kind of simple fashion."

Mr. Wilson says that he believes that the reason so many people go



REV. GEORGE H. WILSON, (Illinois Pastor Who Conducts School for Those Who Contemplate Marriage.)

to St. Joseph to get married is to get rid of a wedding and its consequent conventionalities at home.

"The young folks wanted to put money in household equipment and they resolved to steal a march on the objecting parents. The girl went out to the pump to get a pail of water. She hung the bucket on the pump spout and then carelessly wandered to my house. There she met her affianced, and I married them. The groom paid me 50 cents. Then the bride went back to the well, carried the water into her old home, and told her parents that she was a wife. I got some loud talk from the irate paternal parent for my part in the matter, but it was all in French and did not hurt me. The union was a happy one."

GIRL TO RAFFLE HERSELF.

Novel Plan of Young New York Woman to Complete Musical Education.

New York.—"Agreement for the purpose of assisting in the completion of the musical education of Miss Miriam Edwina: I agree to pay the sum in dollars of this ticket. Name..... Address..... If this number should be the lucky one and all interests be-



MISS MIRIAM EDWINA. (She is raffling herself to get money for course in music.)

ing mutual, matrimony will be considered."

An attractive young woman, valise in hand, descended upon Wall street, and the lambs and bears and other live stock stopped work.

The young woman, in addition to the valise, possessed blonde hair, blue eyes, a Cupid's bow mouth and other marks which merited attention.

Furthermore, she carried into Wall street a scheme which made even the enterprising ones of the stock exchange sit up and take notice. The young woman is Miss Miriam Edwina, and she is raffling herself off for money to obtain a musical education. She has 350 chances, and her range in price from one dollar to \$350.

Miss Edwina has a high soprano

voice and grand opera is her aim. She says she has heard of all kinds of raffling schemes for making money, and she certainly wants to accumulate enough to take her to Italy.

"I have been trying to earn enough money to complete my musical education, but it seems that it is impossible. My father, who was once a United States consul in Cuba, died three years ago, and I have had to support myself. I tried stenography, and that is how I earned money to study music for a while. Then I went on the stage. I have had voice lessons here in New York four years, but I want two years abroad. Of course, that is necessary for anyone who has grand opera aspirations."

Each ticket is numbered and put in a sealed envelope. When the man draws the envelope he, of course, has no idea of the price he must pay for it. The number on the ticket represents the price he must pay.

Already Miss Edwina has sold ten shares or chances, the largest number drawn so far being 210, for which a well-known and wealthy New Yorker paid \$210.

If Miss Edwina sells all her chances she will have the tidy little sum of \$61,425, which ought to help some toward a musical education.

"As you see in the agreement, matrimony is the reward for the lucky ticket—only if all interests are mutual," said Miss Edwina. The raffie will take place in some hall, and I in tend giving a concert first and letting people hear me sing."

STILL OBSERVE OLD CUSTOM.

Trained Dog Drives Drum in Band or Servian Army.

New York.—If you could travel through Germany and Austria down into the little country of Servia and visit its small army, you would be surprised to find there some very interesting ancient customs still carefully observed. One of these customs is to have the big regimental drum drawn by a powerful dog. It rests on a two-wheeled cart, behind which the drummer marches and beats the drum with far greater ease than if he were also carrying its full weight from his shoulders. The dog is trained to keep its place even in a long and tedious march.

PROVED TO BE AFFINITIES.

Proper Ending to Romance of Publisher and Writer.

Some 40 years years ago, when all young and ardent spirits had sought the sacred fire of Italian freedom from Garibaldi and Swinburne and Mrs. Browning, a young lady, nurtured in the strictest of Tory homes, was in- spread—it is hardly too strong a word—to write a book of ballads in which the heroes and the deeds of the Italian revolution were glorified. She knew full well that if she was detected her father would lock her up in the spare bedroom. So, in sending her manuscript to a publisher, she passed herself off as a man. Her vigorous and vehement style, her strong grasp of the political situation and her enjoyment of battle and bloodshed contributed to the illusion; her poems were published anonymously; other volumes followed, and for several years the publisher addressed his contributor as "Esquire."

At length it chanced that both publisher and poetess were staying, unknown to each other, at the same seaside place. Her letter, written from—let us say—Brighton, reached him at Brighton; so, instead of an answering post, he went to the hotel and asked for Mr. Talbot, or what ever great Tory name you prefer. The porter said: "There is no Mr. Talbot staying here. There is a Miss Talbot, and she may be able to give you some information." So Miss Talbot was produced, the secret of the authorship was disclosed, and the negotiations took an entirely new turn, which ended in making the poetess the publisher's wife.—Dundee Advertiser.

Cleansing Dishes.

Discolored china baking dishes can be made as clean as when new by rubbing them with whiting. Grease marks on the pages of books may be removed by sponging them with benzine, placing between two sheets of blotting paper and pressing with a hot iron.