

Met His Match.
 One of the very few occasions on which Rufus Choate, the famous American lawyer and statesman, met his match was when he was examining one Dick Barton, chief mate of the ship "Challenge." Choate had cross-examined him for over an hour, hurling questions with the speed of a rapid-fire gun.

"Was there a moon that night?"
 "Yes, sir."
 "Did you see it?"
 "No, sir."
 "Then how did you know there was a moon?"
 "The 'Nautical Almanac' said so, and I'll believe that sooner than any lawyer in the world."
 "Be civil, sir. And now tell me in what latitude and longitude you crossed the equator?"
 "Ah, you are joking."
 "No, sir, I'm in earnest, and I desire an answer."
 "That's more than I can give."
 "Indeed, you a chief mate and unable to answer so simple a question?"
 "Yes, the simplest question I ever was asked. I thought even a fool of a lawyer knew there's no latitude at the equator."

Flogging in English Prisons.
 Flogging is still allowed in English prisons as a punishment for mutiny or violence, but recently published statistics make it doubtful whether even in these extreme cases corporal punishment serves the purpose for which it is intended. It is shown that since the number of prison offenses for which flogging was allowed was reduced in 1898, the number of offenses against prison discipline has decreased from 147 to 131 per 1,000 prisoners, while there has been an increase in the number of those offenses for which the "cat" is still the penalty.

A curious butterfly exists in India. The male has the left wing yellow and the right one red; the female has these colors reversed.

INTERESTING CONTEST.

Heavy Cost of Unpaid Postage.
 One of the most curious contests ever before the public was conducted by many thousand persons under the offer of the Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., of Battle Creek, Mich., for prizes of 31 boxes of gold and 300 greenbacks to those making the most words out of the letters Y-I-O-Grape-Nuts.

The contest was started in February, 1906, and it was arranged to have the prizes awarded on April 30, 1906. When the public announcement appeared many persons began to form the words from these letters, sometimes the whole family being occupied evenings, a combination of amusement and education.

After a while the lists began to come in to the Postum Office and before long the volume grew until it required wagons to carry the mail. Many of the contestants were thoughtless enough to send their lists with insufficient postage and for a period it cost the Company from twenty-five to fifty-eight and sixty dollars a day to pay the unpaid postage.

Young ladies, generally those who had graduated from the high school, were employed to examine these lists and count the correct words. Webster's Dictionary was the standard and each list was very carefully corrected except those which fell below 8,000, for it soon became clear that nothing below that could win. Some of the lists required the work of a young lady for a solid week on each individual list. The work was done very carefully and accurately, but the Company had no idea, at the time the offer was made, that the people would respond so generally and they were compelled to fill every available space in the offices with these young lady examiners, and notwithstanding they worked steadily, it was impossible to complete the examination until Sept. 29, over six months after the prizes should have been awarded.

This delay caused a great many inquiries and naturally created some dissatisfaction. It has been thought best to make this report in practically all of the newspapers in the United States and many of the magazines in order to be clear to the people the conditions of the contest.

Many lists contained enormous numbers of words which, under the rules, had to be eliminated "Pegger" would count "Peggers" would not. Some lists contained over 50,000 words, the great majority of which were cut out. The largest lists were checked over two and in some cases three times to insure accuracy.

The \$100.00 gold prize was won by L. D. Reese, 1227 15th St., Denver, Colo., with 9941 correct words. The highest \$10.00 gold prize went to S. K. Fraser, Lincoln, Pa., with 9921 correct words.

A complete list of the 331 winners with their home addresses will be sent to any contestant enquiring on a postal card.

Be sure and give name and address clearly.

This contest has cost the Co. many thousand dollars, and probably has not been a profitable advertisement, nevertheless perhaps some who had never before tried Grape-Nuts food have been interested in the contest, and from trial of the food have been shown its wonderful rebuilding powers.

It teaches in a practical manner that scientifically gathered food elements can be selected from the field grains, which nature will use for rebuilding the nerve centers and brain in a way that is unmistakable to users of Grape-Nuts.

"There's a reason."

Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., Battle Creek, Mich.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Chicago. The course of trade sustains an encouraging outlook, returns testifying to healthy expansion in bank exchanges, production and distribution of commodities. October activity opened up auspiciously in the leading local retail branches, attractive fall exhibits stimulating the demand for fashionable apparel. Country merchandising proceeds satisfactory, urgent calls for prompt forwarding of belated shipments indicating that the buying enters into cold weather lines earlier than expected.

Dealings in the wholesale and jobbing markets maintain a large aggregate, textiles, footwear and other staples being ordered freely for various interior points by numerous visiting buyers. An unprecedented consumption of seasonable needs is evident, and it is clear that the transactions of a year ago are already surpassed in dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, millinery, furniture, food products and hardware. Shipping-rooms never before have been so fully taxed. The increased cost of necessities had to be considered, but this has not dissuaded the confidence of buyers.

Discounting of bills is a feature of the dealings, and while money is at a high figure to borrowers, mercantile collections are reasonably prompt, and trading defaults comparatively low in this district. Raw material markets reflect sustained strength in both the buying and prices, this being indicative of continued activity in manufacturing.

Car builders booked additional orders for delivery late next year, and current inquiries for motive power and other equipment portend the early placing of substantial railroad orders. Plate mills have been further drawn upon, making an extra rush of work on hand, while the shipyards cannot undertake new construction required before 1908. The general run of factory output has a better aggregate than a year ago, particularly in heavy machinery, hardware, farm implements, electrical supplies, furniture and boots and shoes. Demand for building materials, woodwork and lumber exhibits no diminution, and there is much new construction in prospect.

Failures reported in the Chicago district numbered 25, against 19 last week and 29 a year ago.—Dun's Review of Trade.

New York. Trade is still of record volume for the season, and industry is active beyond precedent. This, too, despite bad weather and serious crop damage at the South and delayed movement of Western crops to market. A silver lining to the Southern cloud, however, is found in the advance of 1½c a pound in cotton, and cooler, more settled weather at the West evokes improvement in retail trade. Car shortages are charged with some responsibility for the rather slow movement of grain, but the firmer tone of cereals is largely due to reports of improving export demand. The three most important general lines of the country's trade—textiles, iron and steel, and building—show unprecedented activity. Pig iron has again advanced, the increases ranging from 25c to 50c per ton. Prices are now approaching the levels that prevailed in the latter part of 1903 and the first portion of 1902.—Bradstreet's Commercial Report.

THE MARKETS

Chicago.—Cattle, common to prime, \$4.00 to \$7.25; hogs, prime heavy, \$4.00 to \$5.75; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$5.25; wheat, No. 2, 7½c to 7½c; corn, No. 2, 4½c to 4½c; oats, standard, 3½c to 3½c; rye, No. 2, 6½c to 6½c; hay, timothy, \$10.00 to \$15.50; prairie, \$8.00 to \$14.00; butter, choice creamery, 18c to 25c; eggs, fresh, 22c to 25c; potatoes, 3½c to 4½c.

St. Louis.—Cattle, \$4.50 to \$6.50; hogs, \$4.00 to \$6.00; sheep, \$4.00 to \$5.50; wheat, No. 2, 7½c to 7½c; corn, No. 2, 4½c to 4½c; oats, No. 2, 3½c to 3½c; rye, No. 2, 5½c to 6c.

Cincinnati.—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$5.35; hogs, \$4.00 to \$6.80; sheep, \$2.00 to \$4.65; wheat, No. 2, 7½c to 7½c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 4½c to 4½c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 3½c to 3½c; rye, No. 2, 6½c to 6c.

Detroit.—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$5.00; hogs, \$4.00 to \$6.50; sheep, \$2.50 to \$5.00; wheat, No. 2, 7½c to 7½c; corn, No. 3 yellow, 4½c to 4½c; oats, No. 3 white, 3½c to 3½c; rye, No. 2, 6½c to 6½c.

Milwaukee.—Wheat, No. 2 northern, 7½c to 7½c; corn, No. 3, 4½c to 4½c; oats, standard, 3½c to 3½c; rye, No. 1, 6½c to 6½c; barley, standard, 5½c to 5½c; pork, mess, \$15.00.

Buffalo.—Cattle, choice shipping steers, \$4.00 to \$6.00; hogs, fair to choice, \$4.00 to \$7.00; sheep, common to good mixed, \$4.00 to \$5.35; lambs, fair to choice, \$5.00 to \$8.10.

New York.—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$6.10; hogs, \$4.00 to \$7.00; sheep, \$3.00 to \$5.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 7½c to 7½c; corn, No. 2, 5½c to 5½c; oats, natural white, 3½c to 4c; butter, creamery, 18c to 25c; eggs, western, 20c to 23c.

Toledo.—Wheat, No. 2 mixed, 7½c to 7½c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 4½c to 4½c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 3½c to 3½c; rye, No. 2, 6½c to 6½c; clover seed, prime, \$8.15.

ADVENT OF THE NEW HERO.



—Cincinnati Post.

TOTAL GRAIN YIELD BIG.

Department of Agriculture Issues Figures on Conditions.
 The government crop report for October shows that this country has raised a cereal crop of 7,264,000,000 bushels, divided as follows:

Spring wheat	252,587,000
Winter wheat	493,634,000
Total wheat	746,221,000
Corn	2,728,000,000
Oats	863,000,000
Rye	29,000,000
Barley	148,000,000
Grand total	4,510,221,000

Exhaustive reports compiled by agents of the Department of Agriculture bring out the fact that the total of the leading grain crops of the country falls but 35,000,000 bushels below the stupendous yield of last year, when the corn crop went into first place in the history of this or any other country, and oats followed close to the high record.

The important development of the past month was in oats. Close and special investigation has been made to ascertain the real facts which last month placed this crop so far behind that of last year, the shortage, according to the September figures, being 160,000,000 bushels. The investigation discloses that the unfavorable oat crop conditions that were a month ago thought to be important have been found to be confined to comparatively limited areas of the leading productive States. Short straw often disclosed heavy grain, this fact having been brought out in the thrashing and marketing. These and similar facts warrant a raising of the estimate of yield by 70,000,000 bushels, thus bringing the yield within 90,000,000 bushels of the big 1905 crop.

Losses to the spring wheat crop Northwest and beyond the Rockies have served somewhat to offset oats in the effect on the grand total of grains. Despite the reductions in the estimates of spring wheat, the total wheat crop stands but little short of the bumper yield of 1901, when the total yield was 748,000,000 bushels. The winter wheat crop, however, must be given the credit for the big aggregate, as the spring wheat yield is only moderate, fully 16,000,000 bushels behind last year's.

The corn crop shows but little change during the last month, the weather having been in the main favorable for bringing the new crop on nicely. The weigh-up of the smaller crops shows a gain of 8,000,000 bushels of barley and of nearly 3,000,000 bushels of rye.

In the report on spring wheat the shortage is shown to be not an unmixed evil. As will be seen by the table below, the three leading States that are tributary to the big mills that supply a good part of this country and Europe with flour will have to draw on the plethoric winter wheat crop for supplies to re-enforce their needs if they are to keep up their former records. It is claimed that these mills will grind about 150,000,000 bushels of wheat annually, and that the seeding requirements are 21,000,000 bushels more. This would leave a reserve of only 5,000,000 bushels for farm, mill, elevator and other stocks.

A Court Rebukes the Kaiser.
 At a recent socialist meeting in Germany a speaker named Buechel argued that parents should educate their children that if they became soldiers they would on no account obey if commanded to shoot their own parents, a proposition which has been advanced by Emperor William. Buechel was arrested on the charge of having urged a violation of the law, but at the end of his trial was acquitted.

Less Poverty in New York.
 That extreme poverty is growing less in New York City despite the great increase in population may be proved in various ways. In the matter of the number of arrests for vagrancy the figures are startling: In 1897 such arrests numbered 8,500; in 1898 they fell off to 7,000; in 1899 they were but 5,100; there was a slight decrease in 1900 and in 1901 the number fell to 4,600; in 1902 only 4,300 unfortunates were gathered in for vagrancy and the number gradually decreased until last year, when it was but 4,100.

NAVY TO GUARD PRESIDENT.

Strong Convoy Will Escort Him to the Isthmus of Panama.
 A squadron of war vessels more formidable than the entire maritime strength of several South and Central American republics will convoy President Roosevelt when he visits the Isthmus of Panama. Two big battleships and a cruiser are to be detailed as the President's special escort or bodyguard or whatever it may be called; and the chief magistrate of the United States and the commander in chief of its army and its navy will enter the port of Colon with all the majesty and impressiveness pertaining to his high office.

No real danger to the President is apprehended as a reason for sending a squadron to Panama with him, for the bonds of good will between this government and our sister republics to the south have been immeasurably strengthened within the last few months and should the President make the tour of all Central and South America he undoubtedly would be received everywhere with great acclaim.

The President of 80,000,000 of people, however, it is pointed out, owes it to his country to surround himself with every protection, especially when making a journey by water that will take him farther away than any other executive has ventured during his term of office. There always are present the natural dangers of the sea and should anything befall the vessel in which President Roosevelt embarks there will be the other ships close at hand to prevent calamity.

Furthermore, it is explained, the Panama trip takes on an official character that fully warrants a demonstration which some might call display, but which really is in keeping with the dignity attaching to the executive office. For the President of the United States to pay even a semi-official visit beyond the boundaries of the States without as much of an escort as would accompany a flag officer of the navy on a similar errand would, it is declared, appear picaresque in the sight of other world powers.

Trying to Corner Coffee Market.

Three States and the federal government of Brazil have authorized a scheme for the valorization of coffee in the hope of stopping the downward movement of the price of that commodity which has been going on for the past three years. The object is to maintain the price to the grower by establishing a minimum quotation, at which it is to be upheld by purchases of coffee on account of the States concerned and by fixing the value of the standard coin. The interest on a loan of \$75,000,000 to be used for these purchases is to be guaranteed and paid by a tax on every bag of coffee shipped, and the proceeds of the loan are to be held in gold against which paper money is to be issued. The scheme has not met with the approval of the Rothschilds, who are the chief financial resources of the Brazilian government. Lord Rothschild, in an interview, says it is the most impracticable scheme for raising the price of a world product, and that even if coffee could be cornered, a few consecutive good crops in Brazil itself would destroy the effect of it.



Taft's words carry some weight. Soon Senator Palma will join the great army of the unemployed.

Senator Platt thinks he has enough trouble outside of family circles.

The suicide of the "Policy King," Al Adams, reminds us that, after all, honesty is the best policy.

Lightning struck a magazine in New England last week. Unfortunately, it was a powder magazine, and not one of the pesky, 10-cent, muck-raking variety.

Defaulting Banker Stensland got into his new striped suit as quickly as he could change his clothes.

The fact that Zion City owes more than \$6,000,000 may account for Brother Dowie's layin' low and sayin' 'sothin'.

An American balloon won the international race in Paris. Which shows that we even excel in locomotion by hot air.

Banker Stensland says he was glad to see the Stars and Stripes again, but it is rather certain that, in the course of time, he will grow rather tired of the stripes part.

SWALLOW THE BAIT.

GULLIBLE PUBLIC EASY PREY FOR SWINDLERS.

In Two Years 450 Fraudulent Firms Have Been Raided in Chicago—\$150,000,000 Dropped Yearly in "Get-Rich-Quick" Schemes.

Chicago correspondence: HERE are more "get-rich-quick" concerns in Chicago than in any other city in the world. Despite the activity of the police department and the postoffice authorities, which has resulted in the raiding and exposure of 450 firms of fraudulent character during the last two years, every office building in the city contains companies which are operating in the hope that they will be overlooked for a few weeks or months so that the nets that they have cast can be hauled in full.

A walk down the hallways of the big buildings, even those demanding high rental, will reveal the presence of these business leeches. The offices are furnished in luxury and with an eye to dazzling the man from the smaller town and the country who is lured there by the huge promises made in the advertisements. There are many stenographers, clicking away busily. Men are rushing to and fro from rooms marked "private" to the cashier's desk. The telephones are ringing, and an occasional glimpse of the "president's office" reveals a dignified gentleman sitting at an expensive table and surrounded by imposing books and correspondence. It is a setting that works like a charm.

The tentacles of the great system which has centered in this city for so many years have swept out into the farthest regions of the West, made desolate homes, scattered hard earned savings, and dashed bright hopes. The method is simple; the bait alluring.

Most of the men in the well organized companies that prey upon the public are well educated. They have the fever in their blood as thoroughly as their victims. They have been known to bite on the hook cast out by some of their disguised "pals." If they would turn their intellects and energies to legitimate business they would make respectable fortunes and be safe. But the lure of the game is as strong as that of the underworld or the wanderlust. Persuasive, clever, picturesque writing forms the main asset of the companies at the start. Literature is the first necessity and the money to buy the stamps to mail it. Then an office with a high sounding firm title on the door and a large bag to hold the coin.

The last year has overturned several pinnacles of graft. Here is the way the money has been dropped in Chicago within a year: Matrimonial bureaus, \$1,000,000; employment agencies, \$200,000; turf commissioners, \$7,500,000; charity homes, \$300,000; wildcat insurance \$10,000,000; home building associations, \$6,000,000; bucketshops, \$5,000,000; wire tappers, \$200,000; book agencies, \$1,000,000; mines and oil wells, \$8,000,000; medicine companies \$500,000. A well-informed official says the American public drops annually \$150,000,000 in these "get-rich-quick" concerns.

Detective Sergeant Clifton R. Woodriddle says:

"Were the census enumerators of the United States to compile a list of the 'sucker' public the gullible ones would aggregate tens of millions. There is not a township in this great nation that does not contain its portion of confiding persons who are ready to believe anything from the rankest catch penny advertisement to a fallacy in theological dogma. My investigations for years past into the innermost secrets of swindlers impel the belief that their faith passes into the domain of imbecility. Thousands of men are willing to throw money to the man who proclaims that for a few pennies he will impart the secret of raising the dead, or how to make one dollar make a million, or how to battle the savants of science after a day's research. Every mail car out of Chicago groans under a burden of 'get-rich-quick' mail to be scattered in every direction. The operatives of these schemes are the most dangerous of criminals. They are received with open arms in social and business circles. They contribute to the churches and their wives and daughters visit in automobiles and dabble in social functions by their silks and diamonds.

"Every time a 'get-rich-quick' bubble bursts there follows a long, dreary story of misplaced confidence. But as soon as active publicity ceases the dearly bought lesson is forgotten and the 'sucker' is ready to spring to the next tempting bait. The victims are numbered among all classes, from the laundress to the lawyer, the merchant to the clergyman."

Building operations in Washington, D. C., and vicinity are threatened with an early tieup. Unless there is a quick settlement of the lockout of the plumbers, who have been out for many weeks, the Allied Building Trades will be forced to suspend operations. They will have no choice in the matter.

Percy Bowmaster, aged 33 years, a saloon-keeper of Allegheny, Pa., committed suicide by shooting himself in the head after attempting to kill his wife. Jealousy was the cause.

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



- 1137—Forces led by Saladin took possession of Jerusalem.
- 1240—Original St. Paul's cathedral in London dedicated.
- 1294—Richard II. landed in Ireland with large force.
- 1470—Henry VI. of England released from the Tower and again proclaimed King.
- 1552—City of Kazan capitulated to Ivan IV., Czar of Russia.
- 1535—Publication of the first edition of the whole Bible in the English language.
- 1573—Spaniards abandoned the historic siege of Leyden.
- 1594—Scotch defeated the English forces at battle of Glenlivet.
- 1604—Dutch and Swedish colonies on Delaware Bay surrendered to the English.
- 1675—Springfield, Mass., attacked by the Indians.
- 1690—British force under Sir William Phipps arrived before Quebec and demanded surrender of the French. Fleet dispersed by storm and expedition failed.
- 1691—War between the English and Irish ended by the fall of Limerick.
- 1692—French defeated the allies under Victor Amadeus of Savoy.
- 1710—Conquest of Port Royal completed by British and colonial forces under Col. Nicholson.
- 1746—French East Indian squadron destroyed at Madras by hurricane.
- 1702—British stormed and took Manila, capital of Philippines.
- 1777—British defeated Americans at battle of Germantown.
- 1780—Women marched on Versailles.
- 1789—Henry Laurens committed to the Tower of London for high treason.
- 1794—British surrendered Guadeloupe to the French.
- 1795—Count Alessandro di Cagliostro, whom Carlyle described as the most perfect scoundrel in the world's history, died.
- 1800—Treaty of Ildefonso, by which Spain ceded Louisiana to France.
- 1804—War declared between Russia and Persia... England prepared to resist invasion by Napoleon's army.
- 1811—First newspaper issued in Buffalo, N. Y.
- 1812—British attacked Ogdensburg, N. Y., and were repulsed.
- 1813—Battle of the Thames in Canada... French defeated by Prussians at Wartenburg.
- 1820—Henri Christophe, ruler of Hayti, shot.
- 1829—First Sunday school in Texas established at San Felipe.
- 1832—Otho of Bavaria proclaimed king of Greece.
- 1841—Santa Ana entered City of Mexico and established himself at the head of the government.
- 1842—United States sloop of war Concord lost on rocks in Mozambique channel.
- 1848—Hungarian diet dissolved by Emperor of Austria... Insurrection forced Austrian Emperor to flee from Vienna.
- 1849—Hudson River railroad opened to Peekskill.
- 1851—Hudson River railroad opened from New York to Albany.
- 1853—The Great Republic, largest merchant vessel in the world, launched at Boston.
- 1854—Steamer Yankee Blade, from San Francisco to Panama, wrecked; 35 perished... Academy of Music, New York, formally opened.
- 1861—Confederates evacuated Lexington, Mo... Steamer Monticello shelled the Confederates at Chicamaconico.
- 1862—Battle of Perryville, Ky... Confederates defeated at battle of Corinth, Miss... Confederate troops attacked Murfreesboro, Tenn.
- 1864—Cyclone and tidal wave struck Calcutta, India; 60,000 lives lost.
- 1866—Disastrous cyclone in the Bahamas; many ships lost.
- 1867—Whisky riot in Philadelphia.
- 1871—Fenian raid; capture of Canadian custom house... Brigham Young arrested by the United States marshal for Mormon proclivities... The great fire by which Chicago was desolated started at 10 o'clock at night... Mayor Wells of Salt Lake City arrested by United States authorities for practicing Mormonism.
- 1878—Waterloo and Charing Cross bridges, in London, freed from toll.
- 1881—Thousands of lives lost by typhoon at Haifeng, China.
- 1890—McKinley tariff act went into effect.
- 1894—Great loss of property resulted from cyclone in Little Rock, Ark.
- 1898—American and Spanish peace commissioners met in Paris.
- 1903—The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of London visited the Honorable of Boston, Mass.
- 1904—Frederic Auguste Bartholdi, designer of Statue of Liberty, died... Triennial general convention of Protestant Episcopal church met in Boston... Thirteenth International peace conference opened at Boston.