

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

RAISE THE PAY OF SOLDIERS.

A DISCUSSION of what is wrong with our army is proceeding in New York newspapers. Many defects are pointed out, but the most important of them is the wretchedly small pay that is given private soldiers. In these days of prosperity \$13 a month, board and clothes is very small pay for an able-bodied man. With all allowances counted in, the soldier at most receives not more than \$5 cents a day for his services, and in return for that to endure discomforts and indignities that make his work trebly hard. The average man can do much better outside of the army, and knowledge of this fact has made desertion a common offense. It is no wonder that the army finds it difficult to maintain its strength. The marvel is that there are any soldiers at all.

If, as in Europe, every citizen had to serve in the army, the matter of pay would be of little consequence. But the army is in the labor market in competition with other occupations, and that competition ought to be met. The soldier should be paid wages equal to what he could earn outside the army. Out of his \$13 a month he has to pay for his laundry and barber bills, pay for altering the clothing the government gives him, buy materials for cleaning and keeping in good condition his arms, equipment and clothing, and even buy soap, towels, comb, toothbrush, etc. These expenses do not leave him with much money to spend or save.

Congress should take up this matter and see if it is not possible to increase the soldier's rate of pay. That is the only way to make military service attractive, prevent desertion and maintain the strength of the army.—Chicago Journal.

POSTAL SAVINGS-BANKS.

POSTMASTER GENERAL MEYER has announced his intention to recommend to Congress the passage of a law to permit the post offices to receive the small savings of the people. His plan provides for paying 2 per cent interest on deposits, lending the money to national banks at 2½ per cent, and limiting to \$250 the amount received from any individual.

The purpose of the proposed postal savings banks will be to provide a safe place for money that is now hoarded at home, and to get that money into circulation. Mr. Meyer believes that many foreigners who now use the post office as a safe deposit vault by investing their savings in money orders will be attracted by the plan, and that in districts where there are no savings banks it will appeal to all the people.

Postal savings banks exist in all the great countries of Europe save Germany. In Great Britain there are 10,000,000 depositors, with an average deposit of about \$80. In England more than one-half of the depositors are women and children, and in Austria a similar proportion are under 21 years old. In the United States the postal savings bank is not a new idea. President Grant twice recommended its establishment, and Presidents Hayes and Arthur urged its consideration upon Congress; and

the State Department last winter, in response to a resolution of the House of Representatives, supplied the Congressmen with a report on the operation of the system in Europe.

The deposits are treated as a loan to the government, which, indeed, they are. In England a higher rate of interest is paid than on the rest of the national debt. That is, the banks are conducted at a loss. They also drain the rural districts of ready money, for all the deposits go to London, to the Bank of England.

The development of a country community depends on ready money. A local bank lends its deposits to the people of the town, thereby supplying capital to those who need it, or it invests in town and county bonds, keeping the money at home. The postal bank, as it exists abroad, diverts the local savings from local investments.

The Postmaster General wishes to attract the savings of those who now use no banks, and thus to encourage thrift.—Youth's Companion.

COUNTRY BOYS IN CITIES.

THE COLUMBUS SUN is preaching the usual sermon to boys of the country and small towns, advising them to stay away from the cities, and that they are far better off in rural communities than by tempting fortune in the more congested centers of population. It is the same old sermon, preached in the same old way, but the Sun writer has one variation which is not borne out by the facts. He says:

"Will the young man of village or rural residence never awake to the fact that he has very little show in competition with the lad who has been reared among and up to city ways? Fully 90 per cent of the country boys going into cities to work live lives of drudgery and disappointment—they all wish they had never left home. Their risk is greater than the gain."

So the country or village boy has little show in competition with the lad who has been reared in city ways? This would be decidedly interesting if true. The Blade does not believe it to be true. If the Sun editor will circulate among the successful business and professional men of Columbus there is little doubt he will find that a large per cent of them came from farm and village. They entered into competition with city boys and carried off their full share of the honors. Other boys from the rural districts are doing the same to-day. If it is true of Toledo, and it will hold good in almost all cities.

As a rule the country boy is not afraid of work, and long hours do not worry him. He is accustomed to working early and late, and this counts in city as well as in village or on farm. Persistence is a great factor in bringing success, and as a rule the country boy is more persistent than his city cousin.

After all, everything depends on the boy. If he has the right stuff in him he will be successful whether his birthplace happens to be on a farm or in a crowded city. If he has a healthy body and mind, good habits, the right kind of associates and the determination to win, coupled with intelligent effort, he is certain to succeed. Far more depends on the characteristics of the boy than on the place of his birth.—Toledo Blade.

POE AND DETECTIVE STORIES.

"The Raven's" Author Lifted Sleuth Yards to the Plane of Literature.

In the true detective story as Poe conceived it in the "Murders in the Rue Morgue," it is not in the mystery itself that the author seeks to interest the reader, but rather in the successive steps whereby his analytic observer is enabled to solve a problem that might well be dismissed as beyond human elucidation, says Brander Matthews in Scribner's. Attention is centered on the unravelling of the tangled skein rather than on the knot itself. The emotion aroused is not mere surprise. It is recognition of the unsuspected capabilities of the human brain; it is not a wondering curiosity as to an alms mechanism, but a heightening admiration for the analytic acumen capable of working out an acceptable answer to the puzzle propounded. In other words, Poe, while he availed himself of the obvious advantages of keeping a secret from his readers and of leaving them guessing as long as he pleased, shifted the point of attack and succeeded in giving a human interest in his tale of wonder.

And by this shift Poe transported the detective story from the group of tales of adventure into the group of portrayals of character. By bestowing upon it a human interest he raised it in the literary scale. There is no need now to exaggerate the merits of this feat or to suggest that Poe himself was not capable of loftier efforts. Of course, the "Fall of the House of Usher," which is of imagination all compact, is more valid evidence of his genius than the "Murders in the Rue Morgue," which is the product rather of his invention, supremely ingenious as it is. Even though the detective story as Poe produced it is elevated far above the barren tale of mystery which preceded it and which has been revived in our own day, it is not one of the loftiest of literary forms, and its possibilities are severely limited. It suffers today from the fact that in the half century and more since Poe set the pattern it has been vulgarized, debased, degraded by a swarm of imitators who lacked his certainty of touch, his instructive tact, his intellectual individuality. In their hands it has been bereft of its distinction and despoiled of its atmosphere.

His First Inference.

"What are those dun clouds going to do?"

"Guess they are trying to collect rain."—Baltimore American.

You can't realize how little money there is in a \$5 bill until you break it.

Labor World

Half a dozen unions are in process of formation in Fargo, N. D.

A new union of steam engineers was recently installed at Lowell, Mass.

Barbers in London, Ont., have received an increase of \$1 a week in wages.

Minneapolis will entertain the 1908 convention of the Bartenders' Union.

A new district council of carpenters has been organized at St. Paul, Minn.

Boston Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers' Union has established a local sick and death benefit system.

The Sheet Metal Workers' Union New England convention decided on a vigorous organizing campaign in all the six States.

The second quarter of this year resulted in an increase in wages for 7,610 men employed in the building trades of Canada.

Unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor publish 245 weekly or monthly papers devoted to the cause of labor.

Work has been delayed on the Labor Temple in Los Angeles, Cal., but it is expected to be ready for occupancy by the first week in January.

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters has spread over the United States and Canada, and has an aggregate membership of over 125,000.

A recent conference at Swansen, England, between unions engaged in the steel trade and the employers resulted in an eight-hour working day being conceded.

The district over which the Chicago Carpenters' Union extends contains about 12,000 men, inclusive of about 2,000 wood workers in the mills, who have lately joined the carpenters.

Members of the International Union of Flour and Cereal Mill Workers will use the stamp system in the payment of dues hereafter. The change was decided upon at the recent convention in Bloomington, Ill.

The Typographical Union of Denver, Colo., has taken steps to have sanitary rules carried out in printing offices in that city. It will, through a committee, pay particular attention to light and ventilation.

Electro-magnets are now much used in connection with cranes and other conveyors for lifting heavy pieces of iron and steel. The Illinois Steel Company has a magnet weighing 1,200 pounds which lifts six tons.

Shipwrights formed a society in New York City in 1803, and the tailors and also the carpenters did this in 1807 in the same town. This may be said to have been the beginning of labor unionism in the United States.

The last season has been a record breaker for the Structural Iron Workers' Union at Minneapolis, Minn., and there has never been a time since the building season opened last spring when enough men were available to meet the demand.

John H. Brickman, secretary-treasurer of the International Carriage and Wagon Workers of North America, announces that at an early date he will begin the publication of a monthly journal which will be the official organ of his organization.

The labor situation in Austria is unsettled. Railway men are threatening to strike, and much dissatisfaction exists among miners, textile workers and other workmen. Three thousand foundrymen in Vienna are on strike for a nine-hour day and higher wages.

Boston Methodist ministers' meeting is to join the Boston C. L. U. It will send fraternal delegates who will have a voice but no vote. The Woman's Trade Union, Woman's League and several other similar organizations are already affiliated under the same plan.

The experiment of recruiting skilled labor in England for Canadian factories has now been tried for seven months, and the committee of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, which is responsible for the Labor Bureau in London, is abundantly satisfied with the experiment so far as it has gone.

As a means of inducing a good attendance of members at its meetings, the Millwrights' Union of Minneapolis has adopted a novel plan. As an inducement to members to turn out to the regular meetings it has been decided to have a drawing at each meeting, which will give some member a receipt for a month's dues. Names of all members present will be placed on slips and handed to the secretary, and at the next regular meeting one of these will be drawn. In order to get the prize a member must be present.

In Sweden the present year shows a marked increase in disputes between employers and employees; and although some serious disputes, affecting a large number of hands, were luckily settled without strike or lockout, the number of strikes during 1907 has been doubled as compared with the same period of 1905. During the first quarter of 1906 there were thirty-seven cases of work being stopped, directly affecting 102 employers and 2,700 men; the figures for the same period in 1906 were forty-eight stoppages of labor, affecting fifty-three employers and 2,300 men, and during the first quarter of the present year there were seventy-two stoppages, affecting eighty-seven employers and 3,400 men. At the time of drawing up the report five disputes were still pending, forty-nine had resulted in strikes, thirteen in lockouts and ten were of a more complicated nature.

Representatives of more than 100,000 members of the building unions held a general convention recently in New York City for the purpose of planning among building trade unions in that city a giant central body in the building trade and putting an end to all rivalry.

Owing to the action of the masters in refusing to grant a raise of 25 cents a week, the patternmakers, at a meeting in Belfast, Ireland, decided to go on strike. Nearly two hundred men are concerned, and it is feared their action may affect the whole engineering trade in the city.

CONSCRIPTION IN ARMY OR MORE PAY TO MEN.

Enforced Service Faces American People, Declares Adjutant General Ainsworth.

Unless radical measures are enacted to induce men to enlist in the United States army, conscription must be resorted to, declares Major General F. C. Ainsworth, adjutant general, in his annual report.

"Notwithstanding the most strenuous efforts on the part of the War Department and the re-entraining officers," says General Ainsworth, "it has been found impossible wholly to make good the losses, to say nothing of increasing the enlisted strength to the authorized limit. If present conditions continue there will be nothing for the government to do but meet this competition by materially increasing the soldiers' pay or to evade competition altogether by a resort to conscription."

Never before has such a suggestion come from an officer clothed with the authority to make recommendations. The idea of compulsory enrollment of individuals for the military service has been held abhorrent to republican principles and the absence of such a law is one of the most forceful arguments used in attracting desirable immigration from Europe.

Officials of the War Department anticipate that the possible necessity for such a measure outlined by General Ainsworth will prove efficacious in securing consideration by Congress of the increase of pay bill. It is with the greatest reluctance that army officers entertain the thought of conscription, but generally they agree with General Ainsworth that it either must come to that extremity or more money must be provided for the soldier if the standing of the army is to be maintained.

INDIANS TO FIGHT INDIANS.

Mexico Pits Yaquis Against Mayas, Decreasing Both Tribes.

The Mexican war department, by direction of President Diaz, is trying the experiment of using the Yaqui Indians to fight the Mayas. The uprising of the Maya Indians against federal authority began several months ago, and it has spread until practically all the members of that tribe are now in armed rebellion. The Yaqui Indians, like the Mayas, are waging a bloody conflict against the government troops, and upon the peaceful settlers of their territory in the State of Sonora. The government has been trying for several years to put down the Yaqui rebellion. It has succeeded in largely decreasing the force of Indians by capturing hundreds of them and deporting them to the Quintana Roo territory, in what was formerly Yucatan. The Maya Indians formerly occupied all of what is now called Quintana Roo. They were brought under temporary subjection about 19 years ago, and the new territory was created by the government and was opened up for settlement. The Mayas soon went on the war path again, and there has been no settlement of the territory that was formerly occupied by them. The government soldiers have had all that they could do to keep the territory from being retaken by the Mayas.

The Maya Indians have been making such an incessant warfare upon the federal troops that were sent against them during the last few months that the order was given to augment the forces of the Mexicans by organizing the Yaquis who had been deported to Quintana Roo into military companies. It was believed that this experiment of pitting the Yaquis against the Mayas would prove successful from the fact that the few peaceable Mayas who had come into contact with the Yaquis seemed to show a natural hatred for that race of Indians.

DATA ON WATERWAYS.

Commission in Washington Considers Plan of Big Scope.

The inland waterways commission, in session in Washington, considered a plan for the development of waterways looking toward the restoration of navigation not only on the Mississippi River, but on other waterways in various parts of the country. The commission has been encouraged in this movement by the various waterway conventions that have been held recently.

The commission is working on a preliminary report which it will make to the President outlining the general scope of its plan and which it expects later on to supplement by statistics, which it has collected relating to the decrease in water transportation and the inadequacy of railroad transportation. The proposed "lakes to the gulf" channel movement, which is already under way, will receive first attention from the commission, which has made two trips down the Mississippi River investigating river conditions, rates, both rail and water, terminals, ports and the general question of river transportation.

SHORT NEWS NOTES.

Gov. Folk made an address at the opening of the Miners' Congress at Joplin, Mo.

The Aero Club of New England was organized at Boston with thirty-seven members.

The interior of the Albert Theater at Berlin, N. H., was burned out. The loss is \$100,000.

The necessity of a Department of Mines in the national cabinet was urged at the Miners' Congress at Joplin, Mo.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

Construction work on the Panama canal will be rushed next year. Thirty-two millions, approximately, are to be expended.

Congressman James A. Tawney of Minnesota, chairman of the committee on appropriations, just returned from Panama with seventeen members of the committee, predicts that the canal will be completed by Dec. 31, 1914. "We found everything going along in the most satisfactory way," the Congressman declares.

"There may be a million cut off the sum of \$32,000,000 asked for construction, although demands in the main have been modest. Reductions will be asked in only a few departments. 'Social conditions there are better generally than among the workmen of the United States. Workmen are well cared for and satisfied. We found the employes, clerical, medical and engineering, were paid 50 per cent more than at home, while quarters are furnished. A single man gets a room; married men a house. Canal men are paid one-third more than at home, and they can live more cheaply. The government sells them supplies at a lower rate than home prices. Ice water and light are cheaper than in New York. Sanitary conditions are all that can be desired."

In all the money centers of the country, as well as in Wall street, the news of the government's bond and note issues caused a feeling of relief and the financial skies were clearing. Everywhere bankers were eager to get the new securities and there was no need of an underwriting syndicate. Many sent telegrams of congratulation to the President and Secretary Cortelyou. Subscriptions to both issues have already begun to pour in. Nevertheless Chicago's clearing house carried out its project of issuing certificates in denominations of \$1, \$2, \$5 and \$10, and over \$3,000,000 in these were eagerly grabbed for current business needs. At New York quantities of currency brought 2 and 3 per cent on the curb. But at the same time arrangements were in progress for a resumption of a cash basis all over the country. The indictment of three officials of the Borough Bank of Brooklyn for false reports of the bank's condition was taken as another sign of the financial housecleaning in progress.

Three railroad companies, the Atchafalaya, Topeka and Santa Fe, St. Louis and San Francisco, and the Missouri Pacific, have absolutely declined to comply with an order of the Postoffice Department that for the next forty days these roads should carry empty mail bags and other mail equipment back to the distribution centers without compensation therefor. The reason for this order was a desire to prevent a tie-up or congestion of mail during and just preceding the holidays. To this end, it was thought that it would be well to have the equipment transferred more speedily than can be done by freight, which is the method provided. While there is some doubt as to the right of the department to enforce its order, the law permits the use of the express companies for the purpose in question, which would meet the emergency, though proving rather expensive.

The military authorities of the various governments have not overlooked the important part which airships will probably play in the wars of the future, and are making active preparations for both offensive and defensive operations along this line. It is reported that Captain Thomas T. Love-lace, the aeronaut, recently made a balloon trip over the walls of Fort Wadsworth, New York Harbor, and took a series of bird's-eye photographs of the fortifications, showing the entire practicability of obtaining information in this way. This material was turned over to the War Department, and it is intimated that the aeronaut will be given a commission in the United States Army Balloon Corps.

Developments in regard to the pending prosecutions of the whisky dealers for violation of the pure food law indicate that the question as to what should be construed as pure whisky was finally decided by President Roosevelt, to whom the matter was taken by Dr. Wiley, chemist of the Department of Agriculture. The President concurred with the chemist in the opinion that to meet the requirements of the law the whisky must be the pure spirits, unmixed with neutral spirits, flavoring or coloring matter, which produces the article called "blended whisky."

Delegates from five Central American republics met with Secretary of State Root and Ambassador Greel of Mexico at Washington to discuss a permanent peace program. Speaking as the temporary chairman, Mr. Root told the delegates very plainly that hereafter something more than fine words and promises must be given, and that the means for enforcing a peace agreement must be supplied which would hold responsible those who might violate it.



"She couldn't work me," said the young man with the unusually long head, boastfully. "There ain't none of 'em can, as far as that goes," he added.

"When I was a young chap like you they could all work me for all I was worth, and as long as they'd a mind to," observed the old man with the clean, pink face and white chin beard. "I enjoyed it."

"They can't work me," repeated the young man with the long head. "I don't fall for it. What is there in it for me?"

"Fascinatin' society," suggested the old man.

"I can visit with myself an' not get nessuno," said the young man. "I've always found myself pretty good company without blowin' myself for outsiders. If I blow any money, it's going to be on something that'll do me good. I'm a good feller, an' there ain't no good reason why I shouldn't treat myself well. Why would I take her to the show once when I can take myself twice for the same money?"

"If you put it that way, maybe you're right," said the old man.

"Sure I'm right. I've been working for myself, an' there ain't no reason why I shouldn't let myself have a little fun now and then. She ain't done nothing for me as I know of, an' what's more, she ain't likely to."

"I suppose she ain't," admitted the old man. "Still," he said, "a good, husky-built woman who wasn't particular what she took to you, so it was heavy and handy, might do a whole lot for you if she was married to you."

"I'm too foxy for that."

"And too fond of yourself?"

"Sure. Why wouldn't I be? 'S I say, I'm good to myself."

"I ain't disputin' that, my son," said the old man. "Anybody can see that with half an eye. The question is, why should you be?"

"I don't know any better friend I've got," said the young man.

"I do," said the old one. "You're doing yourself hurt with everybody, and that ain't the part of a friend. What is there about yourself that you're so stuck on? You ain't handsome. I never saw a worse knock-

need specimen than you are. I don't see how any girl would want to go to a show with a face like you've got. If you ask me I believe you were lying when you said she was trying to work you."

"I wouldn't take that kind o' talk from you if you wasn't an old man."

"Yes, you would. You mean, if I didn't have this good hickory cane between my knees, I heard you take worse not so long ago, and not bat an eye. But I'm just talkin' friendly to you. I'm tryin' to show you that you don't deserve all the warm feelin's you're entertainin' for yourself. You may be honest, but you're so darn stingy mean it ain't no better than stealin'.

You ain't smart, or you wouldn't brag the way you do and give yourself away. You ain't even got a good job, because nobody likes you well enough to give you one or boost you in any way, shape or manner. It beats me to see people like you goin' around all the time an' huggin' themselves when there's such a many better things they might hug, and the end of it's the same every time. They all wind up by hating themselves mighty nigh as bad as they do everybody else. You just go away by yourself somewheres, son, an' ask yourself the question, 'What am I that I should try to give myself the best end of it all the time?'

Then look around you an' see if you can't like some one else better."

"Shall I start in on you?" asked the long-headed young man, with a grin.

"Start in on a yellow pup and work up," suggested the old man. "I'll tell you, son, and it's for your good: the warmest feelin' most of us can afford to have for ourselves is respect."

Chicago Daily News.

A Good Sign.

Young Lawyer—Is it a creditor or a client who is waiting to see me?

Clerk—It must be a client, sir, I think, as he was just putting your silver ink-stand in his pocket as I came in.—Simplicissimus.

If a girl is homely, it is safe to assert that she is a great deal of help to her mother.