

**PLAGUE OF EARTHQUAKES  
IN ITALY AND SICILY.**

History records the following earthquake disasters in southern Italy and Sicily, the region shaken by the recent quake:

Time and Place	Fatalities
79—Pompeii and Herculaneum	100,000
1186—Calabria	20,000
1456—Naples	40,000
1625—Naples	70,000
1638—Calabria	25,000
1703—Apulia	5,000
1706—Abruzzi	15,000
1726—Palermo	6,000
1783—Messina and other large towns	100,000
1851—Meln	13,000
1857—Naples	10,000
1867—Calabria	10,000
1881—Sicily	4,000
1886—Milan and other towns	1,000
1905—Calabria	3,000
1906—Venetia region	500

**DAWN OF NEW ERA FOR TURKEY  
COMBINED TO THAT OF 1876.**

The dawn of a new era for Turkey brought with it the assembling of the recently elected parliament under the constitution promulgated in July by Sultan Abdul Hamid. The new order of things is called the result of the "great bloodless revolution" carried on for years by the "Young Turks" party. And all the world is wondering how long it will last—this new era

of peace and good will and relief from despotism and religious liberty—in the blood-drenched realm of Abdul Hamid. For it is only in 1876 that a similar "new era" was joyously acclaimed throughout Turkey, when this same Abdul Hamid proclaimed, soon after his ascension to the tottering throne, that "the welfare of the Turkish empire lies wholly in the full and sincere application of the constitution." It contained the same high-sounding ring of sincerity as his recent utterance to the effect that "all in the nation are members of the committee of union and progress, and I am their president. Let us live together and make the country prosperous."

Among the new leaders is Prince Sabaheddine, son of Sultan Murad V., who was deposed. Whether the "new era" is only another cunning ruse on the Sultan's part time alone will reveal.

**MILLIONS IN SANTA'S MAIL.**

Postal Orders Sent to Europe Foot Up \$5,000,000. The rush for postal money orders to be sent abroad as Christmas presents has ended, and Postmaster Edward M. Morgan of New York City was able to have compiled figures showing that from Dec. 2 to Dec. 16, inclusive, 332,875 international postal money orders, aggregating \$5,040,728.21, were issued and shipped to foreign lands. The steamship Lusitania carried 116,022 orders. The countries to which the bulk of the other 216,853 international money orders were sent are:

Countries	No. of orders	Amount
Great Britain	73,041	\$88,498.92
Italy	27,224	788,305.74
Sweden	28,381	340,364.21
Austria	17,916	323,025.36
Germany	25,249	299,312.43
Hungary	12,509	292,022.08
Russia	12,494	199,173.12
Norway	10,140	147,102.44
Greece	2,531	198,116.42
France	2,820	46,102.44

There is no way to compute the value in presents alone.



**FOREIGN ISLANDS.**

The Russian Duma voted by a large majority to continue the increase in pensions to army officers authorized during the Russo-Japanese war.

It was reported at Berlin that Austria-Hungary was prepared to pay Turkey \$20,000,000 as compensation for the annexation of Herzegovina and Bosnia, the transaction only awaiting necessary formalities.

The course adopted recently by the Indian authorities to cause the arrest, swiftly and mysteriously, of all natives suspected of revolutionary activities is having a good effect on the unrest of the population.

The importation into or the transit through Belgium of cattle, sheep or pigs from the United States has been prohibited until further notice. This action is taken because of the foot and mouth disease in America.

In Paris a Franco-American committee has been formed to take charge of the erection in Paris of a monument to the memory of Horace Wells, a Hartford, Conn., dentist, to whom is accredited the discovery of laughing gas.

Emperor Nicholas has approved the proposed construction of a memorial church to the sailors who perished in the Russo-Japanese war and a committee has been formed, headed by the Queen of Greece, to collect funds.

The insurance litigation growing out of the fire that followed the recent earthquake in Jamaica has been settled, all the companies agreeing to accept liability and to pay all claims. The total amount is about \$3,000,000, plus \$375,000 costs.

The Dalai Lama of Tibet, who has been wandering for four years over Manchuria and northern China, left Peking on his journey back to Lhasa, where in future he will be regarded as a mere ecclesiastic, pledged to support whatever reforms China desires to carry out in his country.

**WOMEN**

**"Types" of Femininity.**

Charles R. Barrett, an educator known throughout the Middle West, classifies American women into "types," desirable and undesirable. He says: "The type of American woman most in the public eye is artificial, insincere, extravagant and selfish. She is an unsolvable proposition. She will tyrannize her husband and love a dog."

"This type demands consideration on the ground of sex only. She has received such attention by reason of sex that she is spoiled, over-mead. She does not recognize merit or worth as qualifications necessary to herself. She is nervous and proud of it. She lacks repose and poise, having much the disposition of a spoiled child. Incapable of gratifying her ambitions alone, she is dependent on the intellectual or financial worth of father or husband to get a place in society. She likes a palatial home, but lacks appreciation of how she gets it or who maintains it. She seeks recognition and admiration solely from the railing of worldly possessions and the influence she commands through the position of father or husband.

"There is also the 'fine and dandy' type—the victims of faddism, the imitators of the rich and fashionable, the frivolous, the butterfly, the ziddy, the gossip, the self-descriptive type, possessing possibly the intellectual coloring of a seminary; the undisciplined, the unambitious, the unstationed type that needs to be moored to some of the responsibilities and substantialities of life.

"These types do not represent the womanhood and motherhood of our country. The one that does represent it is sensible, sincere, economical and charitable, and has little regard for the extravagance and artificiality of her sex."

**Blue Corded Silk.**



A stunning visiting gown of Copenhagen blue corded silk with empire skirt and short-waisted blouse. On the latter there is a plastron effect of silk beautifully embroidered in silver thread. A bow of black satin caught with a buckle of brilliant finishes an attractive finish. Worn with this costume is a striking hat of black satin and plumes.

**Women's Deterioration.**

"Women should not copy men in dress, manner or ideas, but should be like the women of colonial days, who could sew, cook and care for the home, and who had an abiding faith in their husbands," declared Rev. William Hayes Leavitt, D. D., president of Westminster College, Fulton, Mo., in his address at the recent banquet of the Society of Colonial Wars, held in St. Louis.

"Few women of to-day," he said, "would leave their homes, their friends and all the attractions of life to follow their husbands into a foreign land as did the women of colonial days. Modern influences have had a deteriorating effect on women; they have destroyed much of the attractiveness of women.

"The home is the place for women unless it is absolutely necessary for them to leave it. I do not believe any woman should enter the field of business and take a man's place unless conditions require that she should do so. I am not a believer in woman's rights as woman's rights are known to-day."

**Rules for Sick Room.**

Every woman ought to acquaint herself with the generalities to be observed in caring for the sick. Do not sit on the edge of the bed, sway back

and forth in a rocking chair, or rattle the leaves of a book or newspaper. These things are often annoying to a well person.

Never speak to the patient of his symptoms; neither go to the opposite extreme and appear disinterested. A person ill appreciates and craves sympathy.

Cultivate a light touch, a low tone of voice, and a light step, but do not go about stealthily on tiptoe or whisper. The patient's curiosity is sure to be aroused and he becomes restless.

See that the hinges of the doors are well oiled. Open and shut them noiselessly, but not slowly.

Do not attempt to do the patient a good turn by reading aloud to him until he is well along on the road to recovery. The exertion of listening is wearing when one is weak.



Muffs are gigantic in size and in cost.

Cloth top boots again are to be in vogue.

Paris declares that all hats must be dark.

Squirrel pelts are in great demand for linings.

Startling effects in millinery are now discouraged.

Many skirts are unlined, and cling as never before.

Directoire hat scarfs come in colors to match any hat.

New wells are so long as to be almost cumbersome.

Touques of color smarten many costumes of neutral tint.

Net and lace are the most used waist materials of the season.

Two faced cloths are much in vogue for long automobile coats.

Louis XVI. gossams are most popular among coiffure ornaments.

The Russian Cossack cap is one of the leading turban shapes.

New turbans are roomy, coming down on the head to the ears.

Boots with uppers in harmony with the costume are much affected.

The directoire glove is laced up the sides instead of being buttoned.

One of the newest fancies is for stiff linen collars, trimmed with color.

Many new dancing frocks are made of tulle, embroidered with beadwork.

The simulated button hole, elaborately worked, is seen on every variety of gown.

Net waists, lined with China silk, have tucked fronts and backs and long sleeves.

The most fashionable coats are almost perfectly straight from shoulder to hem.

The extremes in hat, muff, and coiffure sizes were never more pronounced.

For the first season in many years all white is overshadowed by colors, even for dancing frocks.

A favorite hat will be the merry widow, reduced in size, but with increased ornamentation.

Table appointments.

Fruit trays are made with very high handles.

Some are incased in fine wicker. Bonbon dishes are made in novel styles.

Shallow silver dishes are used to hold olives, pickles, and cheese.

Miniature forks are used for numerous purposes.

They are graceful and dainty. The straw for drinking soft drinks is now made of silver and found on all modern tables.

There are wine coolers of silver and porcelain.

Pierced platters hold egg cups.

Pierced silver trays are used for various purposes.

Quaint milk jugs have a pitcher to match.



with short cloth suits are so elaborate with braid that they deserve more than a showing at places where walking skirts are permissible. Given a modish long skirt and the coat may literally go to mill and to meeting most acceptably.

Select granular red cashmere and make the skirt with inverted plaits, but press the plaits from waist to hem to give a straight effect. Have the plaits broad, slightly broader at the hem. Make the waist with a rounded yoke, small tucks on each shoulder, splice the material from the yoke to the bottom of the dress waist and turn under the edges to make elongated V-shaped openings. Run the allover net under these openings—there should be three, a broad one in the center and one at each side—then lace them across with narrow red silk sash and tie at the top with small bows, having tassels ends. Lace the sleeves from the shoulder to the wrist, and have narrow strips of lace beneath. Narrow ruffles of tulle at the top of the collar and wrists will be needed.

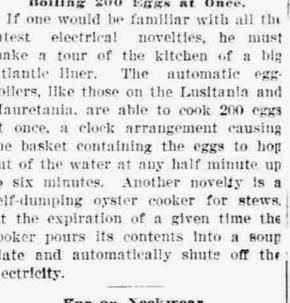
Carroll Oil for Burns.

Burns and scalds are more likely to happen in the kitchen than in other parts of the house, so it is well to provide for the special use of the domestic a bottle of Carroll oil—a mixture of equal parts of linseed oil and blue water—and also a supply of soft linen rag or lint for their special use in case of emergencies. A clean, airtight tin should be used for storing the bandages, so that they may not get soiled. The Carroll oil relieves the pain of burns and scalds at once. The lint should be soaked in it and laid on the wound, to exclude the air, that healing may begin as soon as possible.

**Boiling 200 Eggs at Once.**

If one would be familiar with all the latest electrical novelties, he must make a tour of the kitchen of a big Atlantic liner. The automatic egg-boilers, like those on the Lusitania and Mauretania, are able to cook 200 eggs at once, a clock arrangement causing the basket containing the eggs to hop out of the water at any half minute up to six minutes. Another novelty is a self-dumping oyster cooker for stews. At the expiration of a given time the cooker pours its contents into a soup plate and automatically shuts off the electricity.

**For on Neckwear.**



It is quite the fashion to put fur on some of the smart pieces of neckwear that are worn with elaborate gowns. The sketch shows one of the best models. The collar band is of Irish lace, with frills of old pink chiffon at top and bottom. The long, full jabot is of the pink, and is edged, like the stock, with narrow black fur. There are loops of pink satin ribbon down the center, held in place with an astringent buckle.

Ruffs for Short Necks.

Surely every article in the realm of fashion may be so modified that it will be becoming to almost every woman. For instance, the lovely neck ruffs, that were the despair of the short-necked woman, are now fashioned in a way that she may not only wear one, but find that it suits her. In the front from ear to ear the ruff is quite plain and flat, a fold of ribbon or a strip of fur, perhaps, while the back portion is augmented by the conventional ruffling or frilling, a bow in the back being the finish.

**Low Sewing Chair.**

A woman who sews a great deal of the time has found that her back does not become so tired if her chair is low, or if she has a stool upon which to rest her feet. It is surprising what a difference the comfortable position makes and how much more work she can do.

Should the arms become weary, she puts a cushion in her lap. On this she rests her elbows, changing the position of her sewing, thus giving both arms and eyes a chance to recover.

**Lost Seven Million Children.**

The birth rate in the United States in the days of its Anglo-Saxon youth was one of the highest in the world. In the course of a century the proportion of our entire population consisting of children under the age of 10 has fallen from one-third to one-quarter. This for the whole United States is equivalent to the loss of about 7,000,000 children.

**SUGAR KING SPRECKELS DIES.**

Founder of Huge Refineries Is Victim of Pneumonia.

Claus Spreckels, widely known as the "sugar king of the Pacific coast," died at 4:30 o'clock Saturday morning at his home in San Francisco in his eightieth year. The immediate cause of death was an attack of pneumonia, which developed with alarming symptoms during the past few days. His condition Christmas night told his physicians death was near and relatives remained at his bedside until the hour of his death.

Despite his advanced age Mr. Spreckels had devoted a large share of attention to the various enterprises in which he was interested, and it is not more than a month since he appeared before the Ways and Means Committee of the House in Washington as an authority on the subject of sugar duties.

Apart from the importance which attached to Claus Spreckels as the pioneer sugar refiner of the Pacific coast and as an investor of millions in California and the Hawaiian Islands, the Spreckels family has for many years been one of the most prominent in the State.

Claus Spreckels was born in Lamstadt, Germany, in 1828, and came to the United States in 1846. After being employed for some time in Charleston S. C. and New York he came to San Francisco, reaching this city in 1856. He established a store there and later conducted a brewery. In 1858 he built the Bay Sugar Refinery and began the importation of raw material from Hawaii. Prospering in this business, he established other refineries and promoted the beet sugar industry by establishing refineries and engaging in the farming of beets on a large scale. He also built a refinery at Philadelphia, invested largely in the Oceanic Steamship Company and many other enterprises, including the building of the San Joaquin Valley Railroad. Many of his interests in Hawaii are reported to have been disposed of by his son Rudolph during the latter's recent trip to the islands.

**INVITES TWO NATIONS.**

President Roosevelt Asks Canada and Mexico to Aid in Conservation.

Announcement has been made at the White House in Washington of a proposed plan for a conference looking toward the conservation of the natural resources of North America, to be held at the White House Feb. 18 next.

Letters suggesting the plan have been addressed by President Roosevelt to the Governor General and to the Premier of Canada and to President Diaz of Mexico. They will be delivered to the officials in person by Gifford Pinchot, chairman of the National Conservation Commission and chief forester of the United States whom President Roosevelt has chosen as his personal representative to convey the invitations and to confer with the authorities of the two governments. Mr. Pinchot first will visit Canada. He then will carry the invitation to President Diaz at the City of Mexico.

The proposed North American conference is the outgrowth of the two conservation conferences held in Washington, in which the governors of the States and Territories were the principal conferees. The representatives designated by the Canadian and Mexican governments will, under the proposed plan, consult with representatives of this government and with the National Conservation Commission. The main object of the conference, as announced will be to point out that natural resources are not limited by the boundary lines which separate nations, to develop a better knowledge of the natural resources of each nation on the part of the others, and to invite suggestions for concurrent action for the protection of mutual interests related to conservation.

**BAD \$5 BILL FOUND.**

Counterfeiters Make Silver Certificate, but It Is Easily Detected.

A counterfeit \$5 silver certificate which appeared in Philadelphia has been discovered by the secret service. It is of the series of 1899 and bears the portrait of an Indian chief. Possibly the easiest way to identify the counterfeit is by the fact that the shading under the words "United States of America" looks like a picket fence in bad repair instead of being regular in its formation. Part of the note is lighter in color than that of the genuine, while the color of the back is a trifle darker green. Some of the words are imperfectly formed, the words "this certificate is receivable," being badly reproduced.

**NO MERCY FOR THE REBATER.**

Interstate Commerce Body Pleased by \$15,000 Fine at Little Rock.

Individuals as well as corporations and railroad companies are to be vigorously prosecuted for rebating, and may expect no mercy. Great satisfaction was expressed at the interstate commerce commission in Washington upon the receipt of advices from Arkansas to the effect that T. H. Bunch of Little Rock had been fined \$15,000 for rebating. Bunch was indicted for receiving rebates upon shipments of grain from Omaha and Kansas City to Little Rock and for accepting unlawful elevation allowances. He pleaded guilty to ten counts and the remaining forty were dismissed.

**NEW COAL SUPPLY IN FAR WEST.**

Yellowstone Park Said to Cover an Extensive Deposit of Fuel.

Cleveland Hillson, manager of the Montana Coke and Coal Company of Ellensburg, says a large deposit of coal lies in the Yellowstone park. Speaking of the deposits, he said: "Some day, probably within the next twenty or forty years, these deposits will, I believe, be thrown open to development and operation. I have traced outcrops of coal several thousand feet in the park. There is no question that millions of dollars' worth of coal and other minerals are locked up in this national reserve and I look to see them opened one day."

**Fire in Moving Picture Show.**

In a moving picture show in Thompson street, New York, a film took fire and the eighty persons present were thrown into a panic. However, all escaped. The box in which the operator of the machine was stationed caught fire and the flames spread to the second floor before the firemen arrived and extinguished them.

**FOURTEEN YEARS IN PRISON.**

Big Political Boss of San Francisco Given the Maximum Term.

Abbe Ruef, once the real ruler of San Francisco, with the income of a prince, was sentenced Tuesday for fourteen years in San Quentin prison for bribery. Judge Larkin gave the fallen boss the extreme limit of the law, but the term will be reduced to a little over eleven years for good behavior.

The end of the long legal battle in the Supreme Court and the beginning of a still longer fight in the higher courts was devoid of spectacular interest. Ruef said nothing when he heard his doom, and the court omitted the usual formal reflections, the proceedings being reduced to the simplest legal formula. Immediately after sentence a notice of appeal was filed, a certificate of probable cause being signed by the court, which will act as a stay until a bill of exceptions can be prepared. Meanwhile Ruef will still be fighting in the courts three years hence, and the prison walls will still await him. The conviction of Ruef, in the opinion of most people, is the crowning triumph of the graft prosecution. It was he who brought about the election of Mayor Schmitz and the union labor reformers who misused their offices, and after their election it was Ruef who held complete control of the legislation of the city.

**CAPTAIN ERB CASE OPENS.**

Widow and Her Sister on Trial Charged with Killing.

Mrs. Florence M. Erb and her sister, Mrs. Catherine Beisel, were placed on trial in the Delaware County Court in Media, Pa., charged with the murder of Mrs. Erb's husband, Captain J. Clayton Erb, at his country home, Red Gallop, near Village Green, on the night of Oct. 3. Captain Erb, who was secretary to Israel W. Durbin, Republican leader of Philadelphia, and a well-known National Guardsman, was shot in a fight in which Mrs. Erb and Mrs. Beisel participated. Mrs. Beisel is charged with having fired the shot, but both she and Mrs. Erb have been indicted on a charge of murder. Mrs. Erb, it is alleged, quarreled with her husband and summoned to her home from a nearby hotel Mrs. Beisel, though Captain Erb had served notice to his sister-in-law not to come to the house. When Mrs. Beisel entered there was a wrangle, and shortly thereafter servants heard the crashing of glass and five shots. Mrs. Erb, who sent for assistance, said her sister had shot Erb, who was dead in the hall near his bedroom with three bullets in his body. Mrs. Beisel admitted firing the shots, but declared she did so in self-defense. Mrs. Beisel has been in jail, but Mrs. Erb has been out on bail.

**FACES WIFE AS HIS JUDGE.**

Boaha Man Sentenced to Jail by Spouse on Bench.

In the Omaha police court Mrs. Frank Freihab accepted an invitation from Judge Crawford to take his place on the bench while her husband was on trial on a charge of abusing his wife and children. "You may do whatever you please with this man who has abused you, so long as you keep within the law," said Judge Crawford. Freihab had an attorney and his trial proceeded, with his wife acting as police judge. The accused husband protested that he was not guilty of abusing his wife. Witnesses testified that he drank to excess, came home intoxicated, failed to provide the necessities of life for his family and was frequently cruel to them when in his cups. When the witnesses had testified Judge Crawford held a consultation with the wife. She decided that Freihab should be sentenced to one day's confinement in jail, the minimum sentence. Judge Crawford imposed sentence.

**SAVES CHILDREN, BUT WILL DIE.**

Father at Detroit Fatally Hurt in Effort to Escape Flames.

William McKay, a painter, who came to Detroit, Mich., a month ago from Cleveland with his family, was probably fatally injured while trying to save his two children from a fire in a rooming house in Third street. Their escape from the third floor by the stairs was cut off by flames. McKay took Edith, aged 9, on his back, and John, aged 2, under one arm, and lowered himself from the window.

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