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Recent Progress in the Field of Electricity

T twenty-four years the number of subscribrequired.

A Force in American Life.

"The longest distance over which speech is regularly transmitted," says the Boston Globe, "Is between Boston and Omaha, 1,600 miles. A business house in the western city talks daily with its representatives in Boston. The human voice is transmitted between those distant points on a copper wire in less time than it would take it to cross an ordinary room without electrical propulsion.

"Omaha is the farthest western city that has telephonic communication with the east, and from central Nebraska west for several hundred miles, until Denver is reached, there is but little telephonic development. It is the bad lands and desert of the west. A telephone line has been surveyed from Omaha to Denver, which will be built within a few years, and after its completion it is not improbable that . Boston will talk with San Francisco.

"The value of the copper wire at the disposal of the person who talks over the route to Omaha is \$283,000, and the service of nine operators is required at the switchboards at various points along the line.

"In 1881 the number of cities and towns enjoying the telephone service was 463; now the companies of the Bell system serve 30,-000 cities and towns, situated in every state and territory of the union.

Nothing exhibits the growth of the business more startlingly than the number of employes. In 1881 they numbered 1,650, whereas at the beginning of the present year they had grown to the enormous number of 67,300. This fact illustrates a truth in economic development, which is always enhouraging to the well wishers of the race, namely, that every new invention or device which adds to man's comfort or convenience, or which substitutes an improved for a crude form of labor, inevitably swells the opportunities for employment. If the stand-patters or retrogressionists could have had their way in the last half century there wouldn't be sufficient employment today for half the human race.

"The total average number of telephone communications daily in 1881 was 300,000; at the beginning of 1905 it was 11,909,600. This

As each advance was made, or a trench was THE telephone has insinuated itself dug, connections were made with headmore thoroughly into American quarters by telephone. Thus, not only was life in the last twenty years than all important information transmitted imany mechanical device perfected mediately to the commander, but fighting in the same time. Telegraphy was directed from the latter point by the does not approach it as a means of general same means. The commander was able to utility. The telephone enters the home as direct the fire of the guns and to order well as the business house. It has been advances when the proper time arrived. indispensable in professional business and The telephone in this service has taken industrial life, as well as in the social af- the place of the courier, and does the work fairs of the people. The magnitude of its better and more quickly. By its ability expansion is shown by the fact that in to communicate instantly with many and widely separated points, not only are the ers has grown from 45,000 to 1,797,000. To army's operations directed more effectively, conduct the business of these subscribers but one commander is enabled to command 4.723,000 miles of exchange and toll wire are a larger force than was possible under the old system."

Wireless Message Astray.

Skeptics relative to the practicability of wireless telegraphy were gloating with an told you so" expression on their faces over the going astray of a message sent from the steamship Bermudian. The vessel was 390 miles south of the Highland of Navesink when a message addressed to the New York office of the company was sent out in the hope that some passing vessel might pick it up. The message came in the mail from Cleveland, O. It was complete in every way, but neither the Highland station nor the wireless towers at Henlopen or Hatteras knew anything of it, nor was it heard by any passing ship. The operator at Cleveland states that he took the message in the regular order of business and that each dot and dash was as perfect as if it had been sent only a few miles away. The distance between the Bermudian at sea and the Cleveland station is over 900 miles.

The City Beautiful.

"The City Betutiful" is a dream in many communities and will remain a figment of hopeful minds as long as poles and wires and garish signs encumber streets and sidewalks. Some of the business sections of Los Angeles, where enterprise and beauty go hand in hand, are actively at work beautifying their respective localities. One of the means adopted is the purchase of ornamental post electroliers for public These are substituted for the poles **U50**. and lamps now in use and presented to the city. One system already installed on Broadway cost the donors \$15,000. Another business section contributed \$14,000 for a similar system. The example is stirring other sections of the city, and it is probable that the whole business section will be provided with handsome lamp posts, the only cost to the municipality being the wiring. The public spirit and good tastes shown in Los Angeles is not patented and may be imitated in any city.

Missouri's New United States Senator

Gossip and Stories About **Prominent People**

M souri, to succeed Francis M. 1. 14 Cockrell, is widely known throughout the west. He is one of the leading members of the bar of the Missouri valley, and prior to his election to the United States senate was United States attorney for the western district of Missourl. Major Warner was born in Wisconsin in 1840, and is a graduate of the University of Michigan. He was admitted to the bar just before the civil war, through which he served with distinction in the Thirty-third and Forty-fourth Wisconsin regiments. He has held many publie offices, having been city attorney of Kansas City in 1867, circuit attorney in 1869 and mayor in 1871. He was United States district attorney for the western Missouri district from 1882 to 1884, and was again appointed to that position by President McKinley in 1898, which office he held up to the time of his election as United States senator. He represented the Fifth Missouri district in congress from 1885 to 1889. In 1892 he was a candidate for governor of Missouri, and in 1887 was voted for by the republican legislators for Uniteds States senator, when the late George G. Vest was re-elected. He was republican presidential elector in 1872 and has been a delegate to every republican national convention for the past thirty years He was the first department commander of the Grand Army of the Republic in Missouri, and from 1888 to 1889 was national commanderin-chief. He is at present a member of the board of trustees of the National Homes of Disabled Volunteers.

Good Man for His Town.

Henry G. Rogers, vice president of the Standard Oil company, is very generous to his native town, Fairhaven, Mass., with his latest gift, a high school building which will cost \$25,000, his donations for public institutions amount to \$3,000,000. Mr. Rogers' first gift was made about twenty years ago, when he presented the town with the Rogers school, a handsome structure, used for the grammar grades. then came the Millicent library, which he built as a memorial to his deceased daughter and which he generously endowed. Not satisfied, however, he transferred a majority of the stock of the Fairhaven Water company to the library and the income of the institution is now very large, Ground for the erection of the library had hardly been broken before Mr. Rogers gave the place a handsome town hall, which is one of the show places of this

region. He followed that by putting up a handsome three-story business block,

tract so greatly that among the well-to-do,

are practiced, which tend to injure the

AJOR WILLIAM WARNER of lodge of Free Masons. A sumptuously Kansas City, recently elected equipped lodge-room, which rivals in mag-United States senator from Mis- nificence the grand lodge quarters, was also presented to the order which, having the income from the block kept on a high financial footing.

Last year Mr. Rogers' costliest gift, the Unitarian Memorial church, parish-house and parsonage, was completed at a cost of \$1,000,000. It is a memorial to his mother, Mrs. Mary Rogers, and is built of stone, with elaborate carvings.

The old Unitarian church was next transformed by Mr. Rogers into a schoolhouse for the lower grades and for the manual training and cooking classes. The town was without an up-to-date hotel, but Mr. Rogers is remedying that by the construction of a two and one-half story modern building which will be ready for occupancy this summer.

What Fairhaven people, however, believe to be Mr. Rogers' best gift is the huge plant of the Atlas Tack company. Several years ago the managers planned to remove the small plant from the town, which would have crippled the place industrially. Mr. Rogers bought up the interests in the several branches of the concern in neighboring towns and placed them under the management here, housing them in a \$1,000,000 plant that gives employment to 500 people.

With all his activity in Standard Oil and finance, Mr. Rogers finds time to hold the position of superintendent of streets at a salary of \$3 a day. This and much more out of his own pocket he expends in building macadamized roadways, curbing sidewalks and putting in long stretches of granolithic walks, his annual outlay in this respect alone being more than \$100,000.

A Colorado Wonder.

One of the interesting men in the Colorado legislature is Senator Jack Crowley of Otero county. He's there against his will, He wanted his predecessor renominated. He wanted to stay home and look after his orchards. After the Otero democrats put his name on the ticket he addressed them in an open letter, reminding them that he is a farmer and not a politician. "Last year, like some other years," he said, "I had almost a failure in fruit, but this year I am blessed with the best crop I have ever had. This must be taken care of. It will take all I can do with the assistance of thirty men until after election to save my crop. I cannot possibly come to see you before the election. As to my opponent, T. F. Godding, jr., he is my neighbor and is a nice young man and would represent you well." In spite of all this Mr. Crowley was elected.

The New Chinese Minister. W. W. Rockhill, appointed United States minister to China, is an eminent orientalist

vast number of messages if divided amon all the people of the country would furnish for each inhabitant and furnish Race Suicide Discussed from New Point of View per person annually.

The number of telephone messages transmitted yearly is now as great as the number of pieces of first class mail matter, letters and postal cards sent through the United States mails.

Great as is the usefulness of the telephone together. It has relieved the old-time isolation of the home and become at once the churches. His topic was "Luxury and So-companion and the servant of the busy cial Ambition as Factors in Race Suicide," housewife,

Steam Against Electricity.

beginning to be troubled by the competi- annual meeting of the American Academy tion of trolley cars. Interurban electric of Political and Social Science held in 1901 lines do not affect the railroads' long dis- the annual address was delivered by Dr. are cutting deep into their local business. The New York, New Haven & Hartford up the trolley lines and running them itself. Velt made use of the term. "Some railroads have adopted a different policy. It is said that the Lake Shore, which is reported to have lost 60 per cent of its local passenger business in Ohio because of trolley lines, intends to enter into prestige. more active competition with the electric roads by which it has been paralleled. The Chicago & Alton is preparing to do that. This line is having a number of small engines built, which will draw trains of two cars each between Dwight and Bloomington, a distance of fifty miles. A rate of fare which will meet trolley rates will be granted, and stops will be made an average of every two or two and a half miles. The results of the Alton's experiment will be studied with interest by railway managers. If it proves successful other steam live well-live better; how can I possess roads which are paralleled by electric lines social power. will doubtless follow the Alton's example.

ried not only over the effect of trolley com- quantity, then more quality." petition on their local passenger business, electric line is built to carry passengers, importance. but in time it may find it profitable to add

"The trolley line will decline to be sured. crushed, though it may be bought up as in Connecticut. The principal result of the contest between electricity and steam will be better service to the public."

The Telephone in War.

"Among the many things the Japanese nese have arected telegraph lines as they of living practices, inhibition of his proadvanced and kept the government in creative propensities, and thus the birth cut glass. Tokio in constant communication with all rate is decreased. of the armies, and each army in touch with the other.

N A recent address delivered be-fore the Lincoln Ministerial as-sociation on the subject, "Luxury and Social Ambition as Factora cent." Cent. Social Ambition as Factora cent. Cen 25022 in business, it plays an important part in Hellaby Willisford, pastor of the First cocial life. It has done more than any Free Baptist church of Lincoln, made other invention or agency to hold people some interesting disclosures of the fe-

> and he handled the subject in such a way that he provoked a most active discussion.

"It may be of interest to state the first "The railroads in many parts of the use of the term 'race suicide, " said Rev. country," says the Chicago Tribune, "are Willisford, prefacing his address. "At the

tance traffic, but in some localities they Edward A. Ross of our own university, on the 'Causes of Race Superiority.' In closing his address Dr. Ross made use of the has adopted the policy of getting rid of term 'race suicide.' It was not until a this new form of competition by buying year and a half later that President Roose-

"Among the checks to increased population are luxury and social ambition. By this is meant the desire to display conspicuous consumption and love of social The very composition of society makes the possession and elaborate expenditure of wealth the most important factor in gaining and retaining social power. Children require care, time and money to nourish and clothe and educate them. Those who would be social leaders and enjoy luxuries tend more and more to avoid parentage. Whoever is ambitious to secure and maintain a certain social status will resist whatever tends to pull them into a lower social level. The problem with which the many are struggling is not how I can live, but how can I

"Says Henry George: The more man "The railways are beginning to be wor- has the more he wants. At first more

"It is not more hunger, but taste that but also over the possible future effects urges men on in clothes-not mere comof its competition on certain classes of fort, but adornment. Not simply a house, local freight business. The interurban but furnishing. The food supply if of minor

"The law of population, the tendency to freight to its passenger business. This increase instead of being uniform, is strong touches the railroads in the tenderest point where the perpetuity of the race is threatand may be expected to cause many lines enel by the mortality induced by adverse to enter into sharp competition with their conditions, but weakens just as the higher trolley competitors for the purpose of development of the individual becomes poscrushing them before they grow too strong. sible and the perpetuity of the race is as-

Influence of Social Status.

"The social status is influenced by the influx of foreigners and by foreign travel of Americans. The latter is probably of secondary consideration, but it is undoubtedly worthy of at least a mere mention. As have done during the war which they are Americans of great wealth travel abroad waging," says the Electrical Review, and come in contact with the higher so-"and which have attracted the attention of cial level of foreign life and see the conthe world, their use of the telephone is spicuous display in such phases of life, they When the war first broke out, and return home to establish, so far as they while the question of supremacy on the can, such social customs and practices, water was undecided, they made good use The first cause is far more vital and far of wireless telegraphy. By this means the reaching, for many of the foreigners who main fleet kept in touch with its scouts, come to our midst become keen competitors and, indeed, in the final conclusive battle in all lines of industry, and, second, they higher today than formerly and are more of last August, in which the Russian ves- are content to sustain a lower standard of sels left the harbor to attack a few ap- living, and this makes their competition parently unsupported Japanese vensels, the doubly effective. For the American to latter called up the main Japanese fleet, sustain his customary standard of living, cial prestige. Now these articles are then out of sight, but in waiting, by means and being unable to increase his income. of wireless telegraphy. On land the Japa- and being unwilling to lower his standard

"This data was taken from 1885-1897: Among all classes up to 4 years of age it "But to keep the commander of a single was found that the native marriage rate care and training does not enhance the

the child bearing age who have no children is larger than for foreign married women, as 3-15 is to 2-15 for the foreign population. "It isn't a question merely of the influ-

ence of education on the birth rate, but of income to furnish luxury and maintain social position. How size of income effects the birth rate the following table demonstrateg:

96 63 47 153 107 71 107 87 63 109

"This is the number of births per 1,000 women between 15 and 50 per annum. "These facts illustrate Dumont's law, of

which more soon will be said-population increases inversely with social capillarity. "Among progressive people there exists a strong desire and tendency to improve their condition and advance their social status and gratify their social ambition. A democratic country is favorable to the realization of such desires and efforts. But even in such a country where economic conditions intensify competition, so that the same standard of living is more difficult to maintain, to say nothing of advancing it. "The decrease in birth rate is found not

only in the lower strata of society, but the population of the upper strata appears to be crowded out fastest. In an interesting article by George C. Vincent the writer ##2'81

"The typical mountain family very con-siderably must exced the numerical aver-age for the country as a whole. It is no unusual thing to find a family in which ten children have been born, while the number rarely falls below five or six. One raised a family of twelve children, lost none and never had a doctor. The general health of the people was good.

"Here is a region where the desire for luxury and the possibility for satisfying that desire and social ambition are at a low ebb.

No Limit on Birth Rate Needed.

"Brownell says the wealth is increasing faster than population. If there were no opposing factors, then, it would not be necessary to limit the birth rate in order to enjoy luxury and social ambition, but wants seem to increase faster than does wealth, and the demand for social life increases faster than the ability to acquire the means to satisfy these demands.

"According to Leroy Beaulieu, 'A low birth rate goes hand in hand with high wages and the spread of education." "A division of wealth lessens social

prestige. According to Guyan, multiplication of men is always more or less a division of wealth. That is dividing an estate between two or eleven children.

difficult to maintain. "Sugar, tea, coffee, tobacco, at one time

counted among the ordinary necessities of life. Yesterday the glassware on the table was an index of wealth; today it must be

"Children are expensive-never more so than today; but wealth expended for their army in constant touch with his division was less than the foreign. parents' social position, unless there be a commanders, the telephone has been used. "Males, 15 years and over, native. 47.7 per

MAJOR WILLIAM WARNER.

and Social Ambition as Factors cent. In Race Suicide," Rev. Edwin "Females, 15 years and over, foreign born, ously exclaimed: "These are my jewels." "The per cent of married native women at But not the kind that people today are willing to own, at least in very large num- factors appear. bers. To increase the number of offspring "Between cipher and 100 the average is social ambition.

"Edwin Canon, in discussing the declining birth rate for England and Wales, SAYS:

"The problem is not an easy one. We cannot always foretell the future by what has been. Because a population of 160 has increased to 200 in X time, it does not follow that the 200 will increase to 460 in another X time. "The question is not how many people.

but how many of marriageable age in child-bearing condition, who will have the years near twenty, the most prolific children. (He makes 20 to 40 years of age period, are spent in single life. If, per- wage is reached in the early age of manchance, marriage takes place, the enticethis period.)

ments of social galety are strong and at-"1853-1870 of those twenty to forty births.

"He estimates that by 1995 population physical system and lessen nature's power will be stationary-unless some unforescen to reproduce.

"Likewise men in deferring marriage. is to decrease the fund for luxury and for not 50, neither is 30 the average between standard of living is greater than formerly, 20 and 40, for more may be nearer 40 they postpone assuming family cares and was able to contribute in an important way years of age than 20 years of age. Along duties until they are able to accumulate to the solution of the delicate problems this line is not the influence of luxury a sum sufficient to establish a household which grew out of that affair,

on a satisfactory basis and the income has and social ambition seen? "Formerly a young woman made her increased sufficiently to maintain the debut into socity, was a social figure for a household that it will not lose social caste time, then married, retired largely from to the inhabitants thereof. social life and became the mother of chil-

dren. Now the social period is extended, Some Startling Statistics. the age of marriage comes later. More of "This will not apply so much to the unskilled classes, where the maximum - hood, I. e., a ditch digger may be at his best at 21 and 25 years of age."

Dr. Willisford cites authority to show the fathers and mothers of nearly half the children under 30 years of age and the fecundity of females is highest between 18 and 19 years. Men attain maximum fecundity between 25 and 26.

"It has already been stated that wealth is increasing faster than population. An important thing to note is that this wealth is falling into the possession of the few." Dr. Willisford cites statistics from prominent churches in Omaha, showing that in one church of eighty-two families twentyfive families had more children than two to a family, seventeen families had no children, twenty-one families had only one child, nincteen families had only two chil-

twenty-one children, twenty-five families had a total of ninety-six children, eightytwo families had 159 children. Church No. 2: One hundred and sixty-

seven families had 345 children, thirty familles had no children, twenty-nine families only one child, forty-three families two children, forty-two families three, sixteen families four, five families five, two families

He shows that in one school district in Harlan county, Nebraska, fourteen fam- played. illes had sixty-five children. Eleven of these families were renters and many lived in sod houses.

"Here luxury and social ambition were minor quantities and children were plentiful," says Dr. Willisford.

Hysteria of Hero Worship "Hamlet"; of Kean's Richard, and that he

ner. William the Conqueror, we scarcely respeet you. Agamemnon, what did you do, anyway?

Alexander, did you lick anybody? Napoleon, what was it they arrested you for?

Funston-let's see! Where did we hear that name? Kitchener, your last name sounds fa-

miliar, Bobs Eahadur, yours was some skirmish

in India, wasn't it? Grant, you were merely going some. Wellington, you had some slight trouble at Waterloo, we believe. Washington, didn't you once run short

of some comforts at a place called Valley Forge?

Xerxes, what was it you were cured of? Garibaldi, oh, yes; some new brand of macaroni, probably. Von Moltke, some folks used to think

you knew something about tactics. Oyama, you have given us an education in what real war is.

We grovel .- Baltimore American.

and traveler. He began his diplomatic career as secretary to the American legation in Japan and it was then that he became imbued with a desire to make a scientifio study of oriental questions. He obtained leave of absence from Tokio and set out

disguised as a high priest, with two native especially, various artificial means of pre- attendants, to reach L'hassa, the forbidden venting conception and producing abortion city. He penetrated farther into the forbidden country than any white man had done up to that time and was finally put to flight because one of the provincial viceroys, learning of his mission, set a price Since the cost of maintaining a certain upon his head. As a special commissioner to Peking after the Boxer uprising he

All Good Livers.

From the standpoint of the prohibitionist, says the Chicago Chronicle, none of the presidents has been strictly a "temperance

man." Grant was fond of whisky punch and champagne. Johnson preferred Robertson county, Tennessee, whisky, Jackson drank rum, brandy, whisky and applejack.

All of the presidents up to Van Buren indulged in liquors and Madeira wine. Polk, Hayes and William Henry Harrison used liquors less than the others; yet all three knew good grog when they tasted it. The later Harrison, like Presidents Arthur and Grant, was appreciative of John Chamberlin's famous apple toddy.

Garfield was fond of fine wines and once in a while indulged in brandy and ice. Lincoln also took a "snifter" of bourbon occasionally, and enjoyed a glass or so of sherry or port. Buchanan took to Monongahela whisky and was fond of fine wines. Pierce enjoyed a glass of rum, brandy or whisky, and was happy over a mint julep on a hot summer afternoon.

Arthur was a connoissour and partook generally of all good liquors and wines. Taylor and Fillmore were fond of a glass dren, thirty-seven families had a total of of good Madelta or brandy.

All of the presidents were good livers, although Polk, Hayes, Lincoln and Johnson cared only for "good, square meals."

All of them up to Van Buren's time played loo and brag. Poker was unknown in those days. Jackson was fond of whist. Grant played euchre and poker. Lincoln's favorite game was "old sledge." Pierce was fond of "bluff" and seven up. Polk, Hayes, Garfield and the Harrisons never

Johnson did not know one card from an-

other, never used tobacco in any form and was never in a theater or at a horse race in his life.

Lincoln was fond of the theater. He once said that he was particularly fond of the "Merry Wives of Windsor," with Hackeit as Falstaff; of Murdock's rendition of

Charlemagne, you were a kindergart- regarded "Macbeth" as Shakespeare's greatest work.

A Man of Fixed Habits.

Senator Arthur Pue Gorman is a man of fixed habits. Every day that he is in Washington he may be seen walking down Fifteenth street at 10:30 a. m. sharp. He may be but five minutes early or five minutes late, but bets have been won on the proposition that he would pass the Hefel Shoreham within the limit named. Senator Gorman strolls down Fifteenth street and enters a modest little barber shop under the Colonial hotel. He removes his hat and stretches out for a shave in the chair which is always reserved for him. The senator has been following this routine for thirty years. Old Sam, the colored razor expert, has shaved Gorman thousands of times, having attended him from the time of his first visit to the shop. When the Maryland man is sick and unable to be out of doors Sam takes his kit up to Gorman's house and shaves him there. Sam is an ardent republican, but he says he will vote the democratic ticket if Gorman is nominated for the presidency,

A. W. LANE



in Race Suicide," Rev. Edwin "Females, in cundity of members of prominent Omaha