Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., January 18, 1929.

POISON.

(Continued from page 2, Col. 6.)

a tumultuous dream from which one wakens to a sweet cool dawn. After all, what was death that men should fear it? A loosening of the soul from petty cares—a sinking into quiet sleep— the opening of an unknown door that led to gentle Jesus.

Not a breath of air. The night was suddenly heavy and dark as a cloud passed over the moon. The room seemed close and small.

She felt her cheeks. They were hot. What was it he had said? "A slight fever—quickening pulse . . . "She felt her wrist: trip, trip . . .

"Drowsy . . . ."

It was only because she was tired, achingly tired, after the long vigil with Jimmie .... That was why she was tired and sleepy.

Not because—not because of anything else. She believed and her God had made covenant.

Huge black beetles and night-bugs flapped their wings on the rusty screen, and bats— she was sure they were bats—circled and beat at the windows. She shook the door to loose it of the hideous crawling things; the sudden gust of wind extinguished the light and left the room in a soft, sooty black.

The unexpected darkness made her dizzy. She groped her way to the bed —the old four poster bed where they had laid out her mother when they found her . . . Her poor mother, who had died so young—but not so young as she was, Hetty.

Her throat narrowed and tightened. She could not breathe . . . God wouldn't do that —let her die. It would be hideous to die.

She was cold. She drew the old quilt around her.— Hearst's International-Cosmopolitan.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT MINORS IN INDUSTRY.

A human interest story of 14 and 15-year old Pennsylvania boys and girls in industry is told in a series of charts just issued by Miss Charlotte E. Carr, director of the bureau of women and children, Department of Labor and Industry. Under the Pennsylvania law juveniles must have completed the sixth grade in school before they are permitted to be employed. The report shows that one-third of all the children of 14 and 15 years at work in the industries of the State have had an eighth-grade education or better, while three-fourths have had more than the law requires.

According to the chart, every sixth child 14 and 15 years of age leaves school to become a wage earner. "Opportunity for work, rather than economic need, would seem to influence children leaving school to enter industry," the survey states. "In eastern cities, where textile and clothing industries predominate, the the proportion of children employed is consistently higher than in western cities, where the steel industry predominates."

The story contained in the chart is given in percentages as follows: Girls employed, 56 per cent.; boys 44 per cent. These little workers are distributed in various cities of the Commonwealth, with Reading leading 50 per cent.; New Castle, 3; Pittsburgh, 5; McKeesport, 14; Johnstown, 9; Altoona, 4; Wililamsport, 8; Harrisburg, 5; York, 24; Lancaster, 29; Allentown, 41; Hazleton, 31; Wilkes-Barre, 30; Scranton, 17; Bethlehem, 19; Allentown, 41; Easton, 10; Norristown, 18; Chester, 11, and Philadelphia, 17 per cent.

The following industries employed these juveniles. Silk, 14 per cent.; hosiery and other knit goods, 12 per cent.; other textiles, 6 per cent.; clothing, 11 per cent.; paper and printing, 5 per cent.; food products, 5 per cent.; office work, 3 per cent.; domestic service, 7 per cent.; trade, 12 per cent.; other manufacturing, 16 per cent.; and other non- manufacturing, 4 per cent.

The rate of pay varies, as the following figures show: One fourth of the workers earn less than $7.15 per week, one half less than $8.56, while one fourth received more than $10.54 per week.

The hours worked per week show 21 per cent. are employed 45 hours or less, 25 per cent. 48 hours and more than 45, 40 per cent. 51 hours and more than 48, and 14 per cent. more than 51 hours.

The series of charts contained in this phamphlet can be secured from the bureau of women and children, Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

U. S. Has Longest Air Mail Route.

In transcontinental air mail the United States has the longest continuous and regularly operated air mail in the world.

The American Air Transport association gives these facts about the cross-country flight of air mail from the Statue of Liberty to the Golden Gate.

The distance is 2,680 miles.

Mail planes fly 2,750,000 miles a year, shuttling back and forth on it. The planes traverse eleven States and make thirteen stops, and often the mail is sufficient to warrant running planes in double sections just as trains are operated. Planes carry from one-half to a ton of mail and express.

The route passes over three mountain ranges: the Allegheny, Rockies and Sierra Nevadas, and from sea level on two seaports to 14,000 feet in hurdling the Sierras.

There are more miles of lights and beacons on this 2,680 mile hop between New York and San Francisco than there are on all of Europe's airways.

Time required on the flight from New York to San Francisco Bay is 31½ hours elapsed time, or 27½ actual flying time.

PENN'S BODY FOUND BURIED IN ENGLAND

Pennsylvania Man Wants It Removed to America.

Meadeville, Pa.—Near a lonely byway in rural England, unmarked save for a small stone, lies the body of William Penn, founder of the state of Pennsylvania.

The Quaker leader's burial plot, shadowed by mighty trees and surrounded by an old fence, was discovered last summer by Arthur L. Bates, former representative from Pennsylvania, who toured Europe with his family.

Bates has started a movement to have Penn's body removed to Pennsylvania and a suitable monument erected to mark his grave.

He says Penn's grave, near an unimproved dirt road 18 miles from London, is in danger of being entirely forgotten. The lettering on the tombstone, he says, is almost illegible.

The burial plot, which, Bates reports, appears to be a private one, also contains the bodies of Penn's two wives, Gulielma and Hannah, and their children.

The former congressman suggests that the condition of the state founder's resting place be called to the attention of Governor Fisher of Pennsylvania in the hope that he may recommend to the legislature the appointment of a commission to negotiate with British authorities concerning removal of the body.

Should officials of Great Britain refuse consent to removal of the body, Mr. Bates suggests permission be obtained to erect a monument on the present grave.

Penn acquired what is now Pennsylvania—48,000 square miles fronting on the Delaware river—through a grant of King Charles II, to square a debt owed by the monarch to Penn's father.

Accompanied by 100 English Quakers, Penn arrived at his tract in 1682 and laid out the city of Philadelphia.

After watching his territory develop Penn returned to England, where he died in 1718. His title to the state was apparently good, for as late as 1790 the property rights of his descendants were acquired by the American congress for $650,000.

Study Seeks to Clear Mystery in Cell Life

New Haven, Conn.—Seeking to learn more about fundamentals of the principles and the evolution of life, research is under way in Osborn Zoological laboratory here into the puzzling ability of a one-cell animal to reconstruct liself every 25 or 30 days.

The animal is the paramecium and the research is under direction of Dr. Lorande L. Woodruff, professor of protozoology.

The unusual factor in the periodic renewal is that it occurs without mating or fertilization, which is the ordinary way of cell life rejuvenation. Each renewal is accompanied by increase in vigor of the animal.

The application of such research lies in the fact that anything which helps explain the life of single cells may lead to knowledge that can be used ultimately for the direct benefit of mankind, because the human body is a structure of countless separate, co-ordinated cells.

Savant Gets $10,000 to Relieve His Poverty

London.—The Daily Mail says that it has learned that the poverty of a man who has given his life to combating malaria has been relieved by the purchase of his papers for $10,000 by Lady Houston, wealthy widow of Sir Robert Houston.

Sir Ronald Ross 30 years ago was one of the men who discovered that malaria is carried by mosquitoes. This discovery led to eradication of the fever which was endangering the completion of the Panama canal. He was given his title, but no other public reward.

Now at the age of seventy-one, seriously ill and with the use of one arm gone, he has been living close to want in a tiny flat here. He offered the papers and books of his lifetime of study for sale to relieve his distress.

Silver Fox Strays Into Montreal and Is Caught

Montreal, Quebec.—A silver fox strayed into the streets of Ahuntsic, a suburb of Montreal, and was captured by a policeman, who led the animal to the station as one would lead a dog.

The fox is valued at $500. Shortly afterward it was resting contentedly in a box at the police station. There are several fox ranches on Montreal island, not far from Ahuntsic.

Money Circulation Off to $40.46 a Person

Washington.—In the United States on October 31 there was $4,807,736,465 in money in circulation, or $40.46 per capita of the estimated population of 118,839,000 the country had on that date. The figures were announced by the treasury.

The circulation statement showed a steady fall in the per capita currency circulation since October, 1920, on which date it amounted to $53.01 a person. Last year during October the per capita circulation was $42.12.

Fifty-Fifty Between Thief and Financier

A. E. Fitkin, New York financier, told a story at a dinner in celebration of his purchase for $240,000 of a seat on the stock exchange.

"The improvement in financial morals is almost unbelievable," Mr. Fitkin said. "I'll tell you a story that Tom Lawson used to tell about the days of frenzied finance.

"Once upon a time a bank robber was interrupted in the midst of his delicate work by the sound of approaching footsteps.

"The bank robber put down his acetylene drill softly. He pressed his gloved hand—gloved to obviate fingerprints—to his thumping heart. Then the door opened, and a beautiful old gentleman with white side whiskers, wearing a long black frock coat, appeared.

"'Who are you, sir?' said the old gentleman sternly.

"'I'm Buster Bill, the safe cracker,' was the fierce reply, 'and if you want to be bored full of holes like a swiss cheese—'

"But the old gentleman gave a cry of joy. He advanced with outstretched hand.

"'Oh, sir,' he said, 'I am the president of this institution, and I was afraid you were an examiner or inspector or something. But you are only Buster Bill, a mere burglar, eh? Oh, thank heaven for that! I'm sure you and I between us will be able to come to an arrangement which will be more than satisfactory to our depositors.'

"The two men shook hands cordially. Then they went at the safe together."

Twain Went Out With Comet, as He Wished

While delivering a lecture on astronomy a year before his death, Samuel Clemens had said:

"I came in with Halley's comet in 1835. It is coming again next year, and I expect to go out with it. It will be the greatest disappointment of my life if I don't go out with Halley's comet. The Almighty said, no doubt: 'Now, here are these two unaccountable freaks; they came in together, they must go out together.' Oh! I am looking forward to that."

We know now that Mark Twain was not to be disappointed. Wednesday night, April 20, 1910, Halley's comet, the mysterious messenger of his birth year, shone clearly in the sky in its perihelion. And during the following evening Mark Twain died.

Summer's Extension.

Indian summer is a name applied to a short season of pleasant weather which occurs in the Central and Atlantic coast states usually during the months of October and November, but more rarely in December. Indian summer is characterized by an almost cloudless sky, calm or light air, hazy atmosphere, and a mild temperature in the daytime although cool at night. This period may last two or three weeks and may occur two or three times during a season. The theory has been advanced that early settlers may have given the bright warm days of autumn the name of Indian summer because it was as gaudy as the Indians in their war paints. Another idea is that at this season the Indians often went to war because the bright autumn colors served as camouflage for them. There is no actual record of the use of the term until 1774, when it was in general use throughout the Atlantic states.

Obscure Poets.

A friend sends me a cutting from a recent issue of an English newspaper that has an oddity all its own. In a column of literary gossip occurs the following: "An obscure American poet once said, 'Lives of great men all remind us we may make our lives sublime' (or words to that effect). I would rather say: 'Lives of great men all remind us we can make our lives sublime only if we organize and discipline our mental and physical outfit.' It does not quite scan, but it is better sense." Which reminds me that an obscure English poet once wrote: "To be or not to be, that is the question" (or words to that effect). I would (not) rather say: "To be or not to be, that is the question only when you are not thinking of something else." It does not quite scan, but it makes no better sense. —William Lyons Phelps in Scribner's.

From Foreign Parts.

Harry Whitehead and a friend were strolling along the beach at Marblehead, Mass., where they engaged in conversation with a genuine "Marbleheader."

"By the way," said Harry's friend, "I happen to know one of your prominent citizens."

"Who is he?" asked the Marbleheader.

"Mr. So and So."

"He ain't at all prominent, nor entitled to prominence," indignantly replied the genuine Marbleheader. "That man has lived in Marblehead only sixty-seven years. He's a 'foreigner,' born in Salem."—Salem (Mass.) News.

Study in Birds.

In kindergarten little Mary held up her hand and remarked to the teacher in charge: "See, I am a little bluebird because I am all dressed in blue."

Hearing this, and not to be outdone, little William stood up and said: "I am a little redbird because I have red underwear."

FOUR DEATH SHIPS ADRIFT ON PACIFIC

Lost Vessels May Sail Years on Aimless Cruise.

Port Townsend, Wash.—The waterlogged hulks of four Japanese "death ships" now missing almost two years from home ports are drifting somewhere in the north Pacific and mariners gaze daily across the gray wastes expecting the lost craft to turn up. According to hydrographic records, it is now time for them to escape the ocean eddies.

Five fishing velles, each manned by about twelve men, were blown out to sea in a typhoon which raged off the Japanese islands in December 1926.

Almost a year later in November, 1927, one of these ships, with its tragic freight of bodies, came drifting up the Washington coast.

It was the Ryoei Maru. The boat was towed into Puget sound by the steamer Margaret Dollar. An examination here by quarantine officers revealed the fact that, in a desperate effort to live, some of the crew had turned cannibal.

A few days later another of the wandering fishing craft was sighted off the coast. But the freighter that discovered the hulk let it drift, not knowing its tragic story.

Four of the vessels, stoutly built to resist the Pacific storms, still drift somewhere between the Pacific coast and Japan, say shipping men.

Charts of the United States hydrographic office here indicate that these ships may drift for years on one of two great 1,000-mile current circles.

One flows southward from the west coast of North America, then swings out into midocean, then turns north toward the Orient. The other is directly west of Hawaii. A vessel whirling into either might drift there for years without being sighted.

Hydrographers estimated the Ryoei Maru drifted 20,000 miles in endless zigzags and circles to reach the Washington coast.

Dusty Books Provide Job for Methuselah

London.—One lone man is working on the job of renovating the 20,000,000 books in the British museum.

For 14 years he has been polishing the dusty volumes, and there are only 19,790,000 more to fix.

If his present rate of progress continues, he will complete the task in just 1,329 more years—unless somebody publishes another book in the meantime.

This patient, dauntless workman is Mr. I. Moss. He sits on a high gallery in the famous treasure house of the nation and fondles the cover of one book after another.

His skillful hands caress 1,600 volumes each month, 15,000 each year, 500,000 each decade; that means 1,500,000 in a century!

But Mr. Moss never stops to worry about the time. He touches the books one by one with a sponge, with a deft and gentle hand, restoring their youth with a magic solution.

Expert Directs Opening of Safe by Telephone

Baker, Ore.—A lock expert, listening over the telephone to the almost imperceptible sounds of falling tumblers in a safe door, directed the opening of a strong box here.

Miss Kathleen Kivett, office employee, telephoned Charles Braun, the expert, in Weiser, Idaho, nearly 50 miles away, that she had lost the safe combination. She said Braun told her to put the mouthpiece of the telephone next to the safe door and to turn the dial. By the sound of the tumblers he directed her hand and the door was opened in less than five minutes.

Irish Students Find Prehistoric Remains

Dublin.—Skeletons of prehistoric men have been found in 3,000-year-old limestone caves festooned with stalagmites at Kilgraeny, County Waterford, Ireland.

Two complete skeletons and remains of skulls, leg bones and finger bones have been discovered during excavations by university students.

The caves still bear traces of habitation.

Near by have been found a bronze knife, eight inches long, a bronze pin, beads, bored boars' teeth for neckwear, a quantity of pottery and two millstones for grinding corn.

Page Diogenes!

Kinston, N. C.—Willie Langdon, negro youth, saw an elderly white man drop a dime. Before he could return the coin, the owner had driven off in his automobile. Willie cranked his own flivver and overtook his man, 11 miles away. "You may keep the dime," the latter said.

Gum So Popular Rumania Bars It

Bucharest.—The government has ordered the withdrawal of all American gum-vending machines from the tobacco stands of Bucharest. The unofficial excuse for the action is that the sale of gum was found to be interfering with the sale of tobacco, a government monopoly.