By F. C. EVANS.

If you happen to spill any sait there is going to be a quarrel. At least to say superstitious folk, who straightway throw some of the spilt salt over the left shoulder to break the spell. Up in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, it



table and come out the opposite side, while in New England you must throw the spilt particles into the fire to thoroughly neutralize the bad luck.

Bishop Hall of Exeter, wrote, in 1627, that when salt fell towards a superstitious guest at dinner, he was want to exhibit signs of mental agitation, and refused to be comforted until one of the waiters had poured wine in his lap. As salt is believed to re move wine stains from the table cloth, perhaps this person may have thought that the rule worked both ways and wine removed salt stains from his

The Germans have a taying, "Whoever spills salt arouses enmity," and in some places the overturning of a sait cellar is thought to be the direct act of the Devil, the peace-disturbed. The superstitutious Parisian is of the same opinion and tosses a little of the spilled salt behind him in order, if possible, to hit the invisible and inerfering fiend in the eye.

The ancient Romans exclaimed, "May the gods avert the omen!" when salt was spilled at table, and among the Greeks the overturning of the salt cellar was one of the most minous events that could occur in a

This would indicate that superstiions regarding the spilling of salt tre far older than the commonly beleved explanation of the nation; thich is, that it is due to the fact hat in Leonardo da Vinci's picture of 'ie Last Supper, Judas Iscariot is repesented as just having split the salt. ome observers, moreover, have faild to make out any salt cellar at all a the original Cenacolo on the restory wall at Milan though it is learly delineated in the well known ngraving Raffaello Morghen. eonardo did insert this detail, he ost likely did it to take advantage

I the popular belief and indicate the I luck shortly to befall the false postle.

Salt is extremely distasteful to evil pirits in the opinion of Richalmus. bbot of Schonthal in Franconia in ae twelfth century, and a great many cople seem to agree with him to nis day. Richalmus was very much ormented by devils, whom he obgrved in operation everywhere. He ven considered flea-bites to be of in-



rnal origin and prescribed the sign the cross for their aleviation. When was at dinner and the fiend had allclously taken away his appetite. simply tasted a little salt and bis petite returned at once. The worthy bot wrote a book about his experices, which is very queer reading. In the pronvince of Quebec, French anadians sometimes scatter sait out the doors of their stables to event those mischievens fittle imps illed lutins from entering and teasg the horses by sticking burrs in eir manes and table (); ok on the customs of Sichy tells that in that izland, a horse enterg a new stait to boffered to be line to molestation by fairles. A lite saft is therefore aprinkled on his ack in order to bring their contrivinces to naught. In fact salt har

Various Signs and Customs of Spilling Salt Appear as Magical Agents-Many Paintings of "The Last Supper" Show the Salt Cellar Overturned - Proverbs of Many Countries Founded on Superstitions.

long been known as a wondrously powerful agent in magic. Perhaps that is why children are advised to put some on a bird's tail in order to catch it. The Germans of Lancaster County believe that a boy may be

cured of homesickness by placing salt in the hems of his trousers and making him look up the chimney. In India the natives rub sait and wine on scorplan bites, believing that this application will banish the de-

mons of pains. In Bavaria and the Ukraine, in order to ascertain whether a child has the notice of the hospital authorities. been the victim of enchantment, the Before she died she told how she had mother licks its forehead; and if she taken her first drink last New Year's can distinguish a saline flavor, she is convinced that her offspring has been under the influence of the evil eye.

But saft does not apear in folklere only as a magical agent. Being en months ago was a simple country one of the principal savors of food it girl, about to be graduated from high is often mentioned in proverbs. In school, virtually lived on absinthe and the Spanish province of Andalusia the word "salt" is synonymous with taken to the hospital. A message to gracefulness and charm of manner her mother, still living in Aurora, reheart more flatteringly than to call her "the salt-box of my love." The phrase, "May you be well salted," is also current in Spain as an expression of affectionate regard. "Cum granis salls" suggests the use of the ever sweetening grain of common sense while listening to some exaggerated story

Marco Polo tells us that in Thibet pleces of salt were used as currency.



as is the case in the Soudan at the present day.

ed, is not unanimous, however. About it seems all up with me." the year 1830 there appeared in England a volume by a certain Dr. Howard with the following title: "Salt, the forbidden fruit or food; and the Six Candidates, Ali Physically Dischief cause of diseases of body and mind of man and animals, as taught by the ancient Egotian priests and wise men and by scriptures, in ac- Hamilton township is physically discordance with the author's experience of many years."

A Big Squab Farm.

The largest squab farm in the country has 17,500 pairs of parent birds. This gives 175,000 squabs a year, which are sold at about 30 cents apiece, or \$52,500 in all. Then there is at income from old breeders weeded out and sold for pigeon shoots at 35 cents a pair. The big hoot in Florida a couple of months ago cleared all the Philadelphia squab farms of old birds. The rigeons breed for five years, and by that time make tough targets for the expert trap shooter. The squab business is expanding wonderfully. One farm is planned to breed 100,000 pairs. The railroads now carry grain in carload lots to the farms. Squabs mean a saving of game, as they go now instead of game birds at nine banquets out of ten. There is all the possibility in them for a tidy little trust. One of these days when your squab jumps suddenly in price, you will know that the Squab Trust is in being.

Paying Pecan Trees.

A stranger coming to Tallahassee is surprised at the great number of pecan trees found in the yards, gardens and on the streets. They are everywhere, and thousands upon thousands spring up every season, where the nuts are washed by the rain or dropped by the birds which feast upon them. If these trees had been budded with merchantable varieties when young they would now be producing thousands of bushels of the finest nuts annually, but of even these inferior varieties Tallahassee sells hundreds of dollars worth each year .-Tallahassee Bulletin.

Wireless Typewriter. A typewriter operated by wireless telegraphy is the wonderful production of a Danish inventor's ingenuity. nelder of the Rayville ball team, is The apparatus is described with il- dead of a snake bite. Phelps had instration in Popular Mechanics. By just made a phenomenal catch of a working the keyboard of a sending long fly which helped save the game typewriter, a little pln corresponding for his team, but in chasing after the with that particular key comes in con- ball he backed into a bog. He felt a tact with a traveling metal hand, and sharp pain, and learned he had been so starts an electric wave from the bitten by a water snake. entennae of the wireless apparatus. This wave is caught by the antennae finished the last inning with difficulty. at the distance station, is communi- Death ensued twenty-four hours later. cated to the receiving machine, and A player bitten in the same manner of the alphabet.

INLA POST FOR LISUT, CHANG

Poor Helen Chambers Took Her First Glass of Liquor on New Year's Eve

SEVEN MONTHS OF DISSIPATION

One of the Most Pathetic Stories that Has Ever Come to the Notice of Hospital Authorities-Tells of Fate as Warning to Others.

Kansas City, Mo.-Helen Chambers, a pretty girl, seventeen years old, is dead in a hospital here, a victim of a taste for liquor and a career of dissipation that lasted only seven months. She came to Kansas City in April, and her story is one of the most pathetic that has ever come to

Her home was in Attrora, Ill., near Chicago, where her family is highly respected. The unfortunate, who sevmorphine for two weeks before being ceived no response, and the girl, with her life slowly ebbing out, dozed restlessly through weary and torthous minutes until the end came. Honing that her fate might be a warning to other girls, she told her story;

"On New Year's eve I went to Chicago with another girl. We met two boys and went to a cafe where the New Year's celebration was just starting. I did not know what it was like, but I found out. Everything was in order, but I noticed that the girls seemed to drink as much as the men.

"Every one drank freely and soon it seemed as though every one was intoxicated. I took my first drink because every one seemed to be drinking and to be happy as well. The minutes passed quickly and my brain grew numb. I do not know exactly how I got out of the cafe or the events leading up to it. But when I awoke the next morning I felt disgraced.

"I then decided to run away from home; I decided it would be best. I came to Kansas City about April 1. I fell in with bad associates, but finally married. I went to Dallas, Tex., with my husband. There we quarelled and he returned to Kansas City without me, but I soon followed. We made up here, but quarrelled again and separated and then I started anew and the rest you know. I slept in a cheap rooming house last Sunday night. Monday I came here, hoping The esteem with which salt is greet- that there might be some relief, but

JUSTICE BLIND AND HALT.

abled, Ask for Votes. Hamilton, Ohlo,-Each of the six

candidates for Justice of the Peace in

Senire William Murphy, present incumbent, is blind; Squire William ferton is a cripple and so is Squire mary Hughes; John T. Riley, a locosolor stadia victim, cannot walk; stry Porter has the same aliment and William Allen is blind. They are all Democrats.

Murphy performs his duties as well s a man with unimpaired sight. The other five any they can do as well. Eyu pathetic voters will have a hard time deciding which ought to be fav-

IN THE PUBLIC EYE



(Devoted mother of Harry K. Thaw, Slayer of Stanford White.)

WINS GAME: SNAKE BITE KILLS. Outfielder Caught Long Fly in Swamp

-Bitten by a Serpent. Monroe, La.-James Phelps, out-

His leg swelled so rapidly that he is recorded by it on paper as a letter on the same grounds a few years ago epidemic among them. died soon afterward.

Faminis War Coneral's Grandion Is Superintendent of State, V.or. and Navy Buildings.

Washington, D. C.-First Lieut. Ulyanes S. Grant, HL, corps of engneers, United States army, grandso. of President Grant, the famous war general, has been appointed superintendent of the state, war and navy buildings at Washington.

Capt. John H. Poole, corps of englneers, held the office of superintend ent for about four years. He succeeded Rear Admiral George W. Baird of the navy.

Capt. Poole made many reforms and improvements in what is known as "the biggest office building in the



Llout, U. S. Grant III.

world," and reduced expenses considerably. He is relieved from this duty to enable him to take a two-year course of instruction at the School of the Line at Fort Leavenworth, Kan,

Officers of the army corps of englneers are eligible to detail to the superintendency since the naval corps of engineers was merged into the line of the navy several years ago.

Lieut. Grant, the new superintendent, since his graduation near the head of his class at West Point, in June, 1903, has served a tour of duty at the engineer school at Washington barracks, and also as one of the milltary aids of President Roosvelt. For several months past he has been stationed at Boston on duty in connection with the river and harbor works and fortifications in that vicinity. Last year he married Miss Edith Root. daughter of Senator Root, of New

TRAIN GETS MELANCHOLY COW. Gretchen, Resentful of Being Offered

for Sale, Goes to Her Death. Great Notch, N. J.-Richard Jacobus, farmer living near here hard by the Erie Railroad, decided three days ago that he could do very well without Gretchen, a brindle milch cow that had been in the family several years. A wagon road runs by Jacobus' front yard, and so he decided that as good a way as any to get Gretchen on the market was to tie her in the yard under a tree on which

was this sign: "Fresh Cow for Sale."

Jacobus meant no reflection upon the matronly dignity of Gretchen, who labeled flighty and smart-alecky, or that she grieved because she was not wanted any longer in the family, or that she was shocked into the deep pit of melanchely by the unaccustomed notoriety to which she was being subjected.

This morning as a heavy Eric freight train started down the steep grade in front of Jacobus' house the brindle cow broke her rope, walked gravely out through the gate, and was run down and killed by the train.

POTS OF GOLD IN HIS CELLAR.

One Containing \$3,500 and Another With \$9,000 Unearthed.

Laramie, Wyo.-Two pots of gold found in the cellar of William Tayor, of Rock River, Wyo., have caused legal complications. Taylor hired Reuben Stockwell and J. W. White to sularge his cellar two weeks ago, While digging the men uncovered a pot containing \$3,500 in gold. They divided the money and began painting the town red. While drunk they revenied the secret and Taylor, claiming his father had buried the gold, had them arrested. They were put under heavy bond and a dozen of the richest men in the county bailed them out. Now they have begun suit against Taylor for recovery of the money.

Taylor dug up another pot containing \$9,000 in gold and will keep on digging.

THRIVED ON POISON.

Prof. Lantz's Rats Seem to Be Yearn ing for More "Infallible Remedies." Washington, D. C .- When Prof. David E. Lantz of the Biological Survey went home for the night he left in a cage containing twenty-four rats kept for just such' experiments a quantity of rat poison which the makers declared to be infallible. The poison was advertised to kill the husklest

of rats and mummify the enreases so

that there would never be bad odor. Next morning Prof. Lantz took a look at his poison squad. Not a rat was dead, and all seemed to be looking for more food. The same rata have been on this sort of duty since last May and have consumed all sorts of patent rat poison. Prof. Lantz has experimented a good deal with rats and hopes some day to find a microbewhich will cause an exterminating UNLUCKY FREIGHT.

Railreads Obliged to Pay Out Millions

Every Year for Damages. It is said that the amount paid out by the roads of the United States in 1997 for treight claims was \$24,000,-000. These claims originate from various causes, such as defective cars, carele a employees and incorrect classification, but one agent says that on his read improper handling is responsible for about 22 per cent, of money paid out for freight claims.

"Another feature contributingsvery largely to the amounts we pay out for loss and damage," said the claim agent, "is defective cars. Our rules say that each agent must inspect the cars. Now the term inspection covers a multitude of features. It does not mean that the running gear of the car only is to be inspected but it means that we want to satisfy ourselves that the body of the car and the roof of the car are tight enough to carry the load without damage by water.

"I have in my mind a certain agent at a flour loading station whom I found on top of a bex car, and in response to my inquiry as to what he was doing up there he advised me he was examining the roof-and I want to say that agent has been promoted because he was the proper link in the chain. I have in mind a claim presented for camage to flour by water where the agent declared positively that the inspection had been properly made, but the defects in that roof apparent at the terminal point indicated old breaks and that the car was not fit for flour loading. This he may have considered a small matter, but it dost the company \$2.75."

Foreign "Coppers."

Lordon patrolmen carry no clubs, Attached to the middle of the belt behind is a dark lantern. The cuffs of their coats have vertical stripes, blue and white, signifying rank and distinguished service. During the frequent showers and rains they wear little waterproof capes. Their silent regulation of street traffic by hand signals is a realization of perfection.

In Paris the ordinary patrolmen wear blue caps and coats and in summer white duck trousers. They carry short swords, rather as an emblem of authority, but in extreme danger use the flat side as a club.

In a downpour of rain the Paris policeman hangs his cap on a hook in the back of his belt and draws over his head the hood of a short blue cape

of heavy cloth.

This hooded cape is called a capochon, and in its longer form, reaching to the knees, is used by civilians as well in cold or rainy weather. Accordingly at such times the streets of Paris seem to be alive with cowled monks. Recently the London plan for con-

trolling vehicles has come into vogue successfully on the Paris boulevards. The policemen detailed for such duty wear white gloves and signal with white clubs.

German policemen wear helmets and have a distinctly martial air .-Travel Magazine.

Filtered Water Kills Gold Fish.

"The goldfish business is booming in this section," said a Tioga pet dealer the other day. "Sales have doubled is, or was, of a Teutonic and melan- in the last month, When the rush first choly temperament. But now Jacobus started I wondered what the reason believes that either Gretchen thought | was, so I asked some purchasers. All of them said that their fish had mysteriously died. I couldn't figure out how it was that so many fish died all over the same neighborhood at the

"Finally I hit upon an explanation, which I have since verified. It is this: Goldfish cannot live in the new filtered water as well as in the raw river water. When the pure water was turned on the fish simply starved to death. The life was not in the water. Fish food purchased in stores is generally given frregularly, and thus the great number of deaths in filtered water neighborhoods." - Philadelphia Re-

He Almost Remembered It.

Donald had returned from a visit to the country, and was full of reminiscences of persons and things that had interested him. "I met a boy, mama," he said, "that had the queerest name I ever heard. He said his folks found it in the Old Testament. it was-it was-let me see-yes, it vas Father William, or William Father; I've forgotten just now which. But it was one or the other."

"But, Donald," said his mother, there is no such name as Father William or William Father in the Old

Testament."

"Are you sure, mama?" "I certainly am, dear. I have read it through several times. William is comparatively modern name. It isn't anywhere in the Bible."

"Well, but-oh, I remember now!" exclaimed Donald. "It was Bildad!"

Not Much Public Land Left. Of the public land, some 375,000,-000 acres, or one-sixth of the original territory, remain-but nearly every

acre is too arid for settlement on the original plan. Of state land the amount is limited, save swamp and overflow tracts that can hardly be settled by individual effort.

Over 75,000,000 acres of wet lands

aight be reclaimed to form homes for 10,000,000 people, while 40,000,000 or 50,000,000 acres of arid lands might be irrigated to sustain as many more, but this cannot be done by individual or family pioneering, and must be done, if at all, either at collective cost in the public interest or by corporate enterprise for personal interest. No longer is Uncle Sam "rich enough to give us all a farm;" his princely possession of a century past is already given .- American Review of Reviews

Pennsylvania's Greatest Organization

Interesting One Fourth the State's Population.

An organization that has for its constituency one-fourth the population of a great state like that of Pennsylvania is surely not one to be lightly thought of or poorly rated in its scope of influence.

The Pennsylvania State Sabbath School Association is unquestionably the greatest organization, religious or otherwise, within the borders of our commonwealth. It is a federation of all the Protestant Evangelical Sunday schools of the State. It has a live and co-operating auxiliary organization in every county (67) in the State. The counties in turn are subdivided into district associations and through the district organizations the last school in the State is reached and benefitted.

In one great organization, there fore, there over seven hundred (700) auxiliary bodies representing 11. 144 units or Sunday schools with a total membership of t,674,157, or about one-fourth of the inhabitants of the State.

To care for the work of this great organization calls for the services of 168,825 men and women who voluntarily give unstintingly of their time and means to advance the work. Such a display of generosity cannot be excelled anywhere.

This great organization and its various auxiliary associations hold over 2,000 conventions or meetings during the year. Add to this the regular weekly sessions of each one of the 11,144 Sunday schools in the State and we have nearly \$80,000 meetings held annually in the interest of promoting Bible study and character building.

Surely such an influence steadily and systematically exercised in the interest of a better manhood and a better womanhood for our commonwealth should be given high place in the consideration of thinking men and women.

The representatives of this great organization meet annually in convention for the improvement and extension of their work. This year the convention will be held in Har-

risburg, October 13, 14 and 15. The Pennsylvania State Sabbath School Association maintains an office with headquarters in the city of Philadelphia. It employs a force of ten people who are Sunday school specialists. They give their entire time to the work attending conventions, institutes, schools of methods and visiting local schools. The work is interdenominational in character and has the hearty support and endorsement of all Protestant Evangelical bodies. The reason for the existence of this interdenominational co-operative activity can be expressed by one word-Improvement.

A local committee in Harrisburg with Bishop James H. Darlington as its Chairman and James W Barker as its General Secretary is now busily engaged in making plans for entertaining Pennsylvania's greatest gathering of religious workers, the Forty-Fifth Annual Convention of the Pennsylvania State Sabbath School Association.

A Latter-day Academic Ad.

An unique departure in the line of university advertising reached our desk a few days since. We were struck with its unusual character. It is an eight page pamphlet sent out by a well known university and is entitled "The Student as an Investor, Reprinted with permission from the Evening Post, New York, Saturday, August 7, 1909".

Most literature of this sort gencrally dwells upon the superiority of the faculty, the attractive courses offered, and like matter, but as the following extracts will show, this is a bit out of the ordinary.

"Free tickets for plays or concerts it says, that are a little above the heads of the public and need some "papering," are constantly being sent to city universities, and may be had for the asking. If these do not coincide with a man's tastes. there is always the gallery of the gods, and a man can hear the opera and get fifty cents to boot if he will carry a spear as a "supe."

For the benefit of him who has never been abroad or who wishes to refresh his memories, there are whole sections of Europe that have been imported en bloc. He can see a real Italian festa, or go to the marionette theatre where the best seat is ten cents, or to a Russian church service. He can dine inexpensively in France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Syria-or Bohemia. The advertised Bohemia, by the way, is but a dreary and tawdry region, but for the man who knows where to look there are real Bohemian oases in plenty".

A fine new line of Wedding invitations just received at this office.