

The decay of French politeness has become a subject for passing concern on the part of the French themselves. It has been frequently remarked by visitors to France, who have alleged a change in French manners within the period of their recollection, says the Charleston News and Courier.

Modern life is complicated. It is swift. We live at high tension. The sins of society people have become inured to them. Neurasthenia, one knows, is often the inevitable, though much-to-be-deprecated, result of going the pace, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The form of Curtiss biplane which travels on the water and land as well as in the air is winning admiration at San Diego. The machine is a standard biplane equipped with bicycle wheels and a pontoon about three feet wide by twelve feet in length placed immediately beneath the aviator with its long axis at right angles to the planes.

The February fire loss this year in the United States and Canada amounted to \$16,415,000. While a million more than the February loss last year and \$300,000 in excess of the February loss in 1909 this was five millions below the aggregate for last month, and somewhat below the average monthly loss during the twelve months last past.

Because a Chicago man insisted upon being a candidate for trustee of one of the large New York life insurance companies, the company has been obliged to spend about \$50,000 in having ballots and proxies printed in eleven different languages and mailing them in sealed envelopes to all parts of the world.

FOR PUBLIC CONTROL

VAIL FOR REGULATION AS WELL AS PUBLICITY.

SAYS BOTH HERE TO STAY

Frank Recognition of Public Rights by the President of Western Union and Telephone Companies.

Public regulation of public service corporations has come to stay. It ought to have come and it ought to stay. That is the flat and unequivocal assertion of Theodore N. Vail, president of both the American Telephone and Telegraph company and the Western Union Telegraph company.

"Public control or regulation of public service corporations by permanent commissions," he says, "has come and come to stay. Control, or regulation, to be effective means publicity; it means semi-public discussion and consideration before action; it means everything which is the opposite of and inconsistent with effective competition."

"Aggressive competition means duplication of plant and investment. The ultimate object of such competition is the possession of the field wholly or partially; therefore it means either ultimate combination on such basis and with such prices as will cover past losses, or it means loss of return on investment, and eventual loss of capital. However it results, all costs of aggressive, uncontrolled competition are eventually borne, directly or indirectly, by the public."

"When through a wise and judicious state control and regulation all the advantages without any of the disadvantages of state ownership are secured, state ownership is doomed."

Unreliable Physiognomy. I am a profound disbeliever in physiognomy. Features are false witnesses. Stupidity frequently wears a mask of intelligence. I know business men who look like poets and poets who look like business men.

Vegetable Fancy Work. Little Mrs. Bride had almost everything to learn about housekeeping, but she was so enthusiastic in her interest that every one was glad to help her.

SIXTY PERISH IN BIG MINE FIRE

Four Hundred Men Stampede in Race With Death.

EXITS SHUT OFF BY FLAMES.

Fire at Foot of Shaft of Pancoast Colliery, Near Scranton, Pa., Causes Explosion and Fills Mine With Smoke.

Scranton, Pa.—One of the most serious mine disasters which has ever visited this section of the mining country occurred at the little village of Throop, a short distance from this city, when the lives of between 50 and 60 men and boys were snuffed out.

Among those known to have perished are Joseph Evans, who was in charge of the United States mine rescue car; Isaac Dawe, a fire boss, and Walter Knight, a foreman.

Evans' death was the result of a defective oxygen-charged armor. Charles Enzian, the noted expert in general charge of mine rescue work for the Federal government, was also overcome and is said to be in a critical condition tonight.

Up to a late hour nearly two-score of bodies had been pried at the bottom of the shaft, but it was thought advisable not to bring them to the surface until the crowd had dwindled. A temporary morgue had been erected at the opening to the mine, and here were congregated hundreds of women and children, relatives of the men and boys who had been so suddenly snatched from them.

None of the bodies recovered was mutilated, death doubtless having been caused by inhaling flames and gases. To those familiar with the conditions in the Pancoast Colliery the finding of the bodies indicated that there was practically no hope for the other imprisoned miners.

The fire started in an engine house at the opening of a slope leading from the Diamond vein, 750 feet from the surface. There were 400 men in the mine when the fire started, about 60 of them in the workings into which the slope led. These 60 were at work in a "blind" tunnel at the end of the slope.

AIMED AT THE CZAR

Resolutions in House to Abrogate the Treaty With Russia.

Washington, D. C.—Representative Sulzer, of New York, introduced in the House a joint resolution directing the President to terminate the treaty between the United States and Russia because of discrimination against American citizens of Jewish origin.

Makes 146 Fire Dead.

New York.—Death claimed the one hundred and forty-sixth victim of the Triangle Waist Company holocaust Friday, when 16-year-old Annie Miller succumbed to injuries received in jumping from the burning Asch Building. The girl died in St. Vincent's Hospital after being unconscious for more than two days.

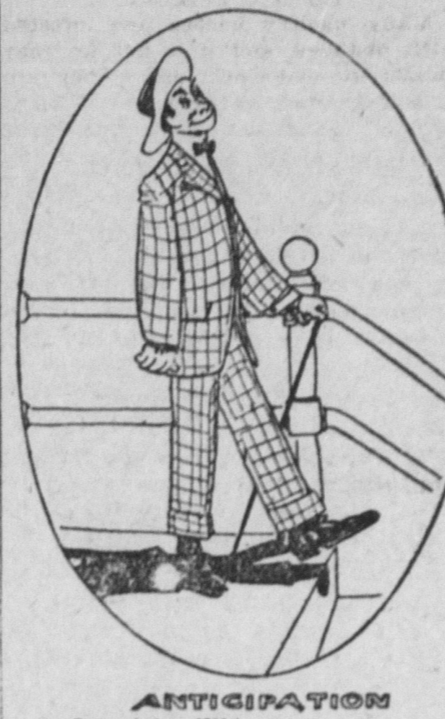
Government Seizes Rifles.

Douglas, Ariz.—Two cases of Springfield rifles with bayonets, confiscated from a St. Louis firm to El Paso, and thence to this city, were confiscated by A. H. Thompson, special agent for the Department of Justice.

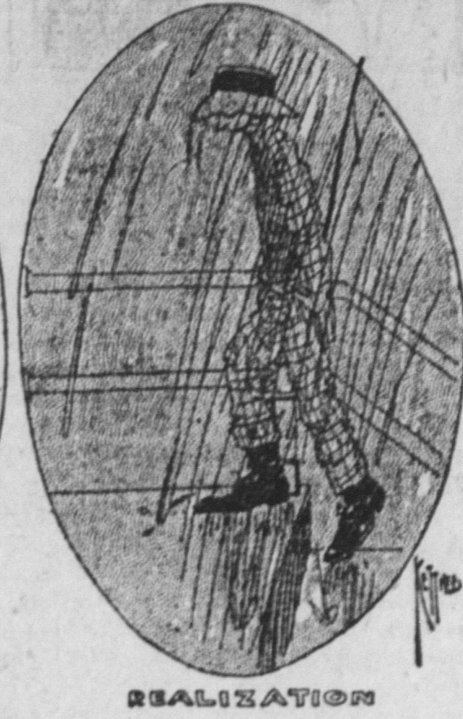
Campaign Publicity Bill.

Washington, D. C.—Representative McCall, of Massachusetts, reintroduced in the House a bill providing for the publicity of campaign contributions in congressional elections prior to the election. Mr. McCall's bill last year passed the House, but was amended in the Senate to provide publication after the election.

LIFE'S DISAPPOINTMENTS



ANTICIPATION (Copyright, 1911)



REALIZATION

GRAIGE LIPPINCOTT A SUICIDE

Prominent Publisher Shoots Himself in Philadelphia—His Health as Motive.

Philadelphia.—Graige Lippincott, 64 years old, president of the publishing firm of the J. B. Lippincott Company, art patron, clubman and society man of prominence, shot and killed himself in his home, 218 West Rittenhouse Square.

The wound which killed Mr. Lippincott was self-inflicted, it was admitted in a formal statement made by officers of the publishing concern and confirmed by Coroner Ford in an interview.

The statement issued by the publishing house is as follows: "During a period of temporary aberration Graige Lippincott, president of the J. B. Lippincott Company, shot and killed himself at his residence in this city. The business of the publishing house will not be affected by Mr. Lippincott's death."

The statement made by Coroner Ford after he had received the reports of his investigating physician and Deputy George McKeever was as follows:

Coroner's Statement.

"Graige Lippincott killed himself with a .32-calibre revolver. It was a new pistol, evidently purchased especially for the deed. Only one shell had ever been discharged from it, and that was the shell which killed Mr. Lippincott. He shot himself while lying in bed. The powder marks show that the revolver must have been held at very close range to the man's temple."

SOUGHT BY THE JAPS

12,700 Square Miles of Magdalena Bay Now For Sale.

Tacoma, Wash.—The practical completion of arrangements for the sale of the Flores-Hale estate, comprising 12,700 square miles on Magdalena Bay, on the peninsula of Lower California, was announced by Ezra P. Savage, ex-governor of Nebraska, who is one of the owners. The land is owned by a syndicate of Eastern men.

The land is said to have been sought by the Japanese government for a coaling station recently.

Two foreign and one American syndicates have been figuring on the purchase. One of these syndicates has an option; which one is not announced.

El Paso, Texas.—Regardless of Washington denials it can be positively stated that the massing of American troops on the Mexican border was for precisely the purpose stated in these despatches recently. The troops were massed as a warning to Japan that it must cease its pressure on Mexico for a coaling station; it served also as a warning to Diaz that he might do well not to consider such a proposition and as an assurance that he need not be frightened about turning down the yellow man's proposal.

Spells 2,500 Words.

Bowling Green, Mo.—"Sepulcher," spelled Miss Margaret Patterson and the two P's ended the longest spelling bee ever held in Missouri, with Miss Ruth Crenshaw, the winner, still standing. The Pike county court house was filled with friends and relatives of the contestants, who for 17 hours, with only an occasional intermission, had withstood the bombardment of words until 10,000 had been given out.

Oil Peddlers Fined.

Richmond, Va.—In test cases before Squire Cheatham, of Chesterfield county, for peddling oil, the Standard Oil Company, National Oil Company and Richmond Oil Company were fined \$250 each for the sale of oil from their wagons and the driver of each was fined \$100 additional. Appeals will be taken.

To Restore Canteen.

Washington, D. C.—A bill to restore the army canteen was introduced by Representative Bartholdt, of Missouri.

COL. ROOSEVELT AS PEACEMAKER

Suggestion From the Insurrectos in Mexico.

THEY WANT A COMMISSION.

Propose Commission Be Made Up of a Man Named by Diaz, One Named by Insurrectos and Third an American.

El Paso, Texas.—Peace efforts have not been dropped by the father of Francisco I. Madero, neither is the aged man discouraged, but on the contrary, he has confidence in eventual success. The death of his 83-year-old father, Evaristo Madero, at Monterey, was a severe blow to the father of the insurrecto-chief and he has not been active in his peace negotiations, but so firm are his convictions that he will have arrangements so far concluded that he can go to his son's camp in a very few days that he declined to leave for San Antonio and Monterey, to attend his father's funeral.

The real snag upon which the negotiations now hinge is the demand of the insurrectos for a commission to carry out the pledges of Diaz. It is understood that Francisco I. Madero is willing to let Diaz remain in office and that the insurrectos are willing provided that the reforms which Diaz has promised to grant are carried out under the guidance of a commission. This commission is to be composed of a man named by Diaz, a man named by the Maderists and a disinterested outsider.

This outsider the insurrectos have mentioned as possibly Theodore Roosevelt and possibly President Taft, but more likely Roosevelt, because the official position of Taft would make it rather indelicate for him to act. The insurrectos are known to have proposed such a commission with one of these two men as the chairman or third party.

This would virtually mean a triple dictatorship or government head for Mexico, with Diaz a mere figurehead until the promised reforms are put into execution. As the American member would hold the balance of power, he would practically be the dictator and reformer of Mexico.

If Limantour and the Diaz cabinet will agree to this, the peace meeting will be held. As soon as an answer on this subject is definitely received the senior Madero and his party will leave for the camp of President Madero.

T. R. Lays Corner Stone.

Portland, Ore.—Theodore Roosevelt arrived in Portland from California, and laid the corner-stone of the new club house of the Multnomah Athletic Club, speaking on the development of amateur athletics. The Colonel reviewed 30,000 school children.

Swallowed Steel Points.

Ithaca, N. Y.—Surgeons removed 16 steel compass points from the stomach of instructor T. J. Williams, who had placed the points in a capsule for safekeeping and then swallowed the capsule by mistake. He will probably recover.

Plans to Prevent Deadlocks.

Washington, D. C.—A bill providing for the election of United States Senators by a plurality vote of State Legislatures was introduced in the Senate by Senator Root, of New York. The purpose of the measure is to prevent deadlocks in elections.

Hits Prohibition Blow.

Montgomery, Ala.—State-wide prohibition in Alabama was given a knock-out blow when both branches of the Legislature adopted the Smith liquor regulation bill. This provides that 45 per cent. of the votes of a county may petition for an election to determine whether liquor shall be sold in that county, either by saloons, dispensary or otherwise. Each county is thereby given full power to regulate its liquor traffic.

Women to Wear Suspenders.

Philadelphia.—Dr. Moses Stearn, many times candidate for Mayor of Philadelphia, sees in the harem skirt the moral uplift of the human race, the physical betterment of womanhood and the reduced cost of living.

Full Time in Pittsburg Mills.

Pittsburg.—Orders have been issued this week in practically all the wire and nail mills of the Pittsburg district to place those plants on full time, owing to the overcrowding of business for the spring season.

Another Hero Fund.

Stockholm, Sweden.—Andrew Carnegie has donated \$230,000 for a hero fund for Sweden. It is announced.

TAFT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

Reciprocity Only Question Taken Up by President—Considered in His Dnty.

Washington, D. C.—The President sent to Congress his message asking the passage of the Canadian Reciprocity Agreement. The document is short and concerns itself only with the trade pact. Mr. Taft explains he thought his "utmost efforts" included calling the special session. He said: To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmitted to the Sixty-first Congress, on January 26 last, the text of the reciprocal trade agreement which had been negotiated under my direction by the Secretary of State with the representatives of the Dominion of Canada. This agreement was the consummation of earnest efforts extending over a period of nearly a year on the part of both governments to effect a trade arrangement which, supplementing as it did, the amicable settlement of various questions of a diplomatic and political character, that had been reached would mutually promote commerce and would strengthen the friendly relations now existing.

The agreement, in its intent and in its terms, was purely economic and commercial. While the general subject was under discussion by the commissioners I felt assured that the sentiment of the people of the United States was such that they would welcome a measure which would result in the increase of trade on both sides of the boundary line, would open up the reserve productive resources of Canada to the great mass of our own consumers on advantageous conditions and at the same time offer a broader outlet for the excess products of our farms and many of our industries. Details regarding a negotiation of this kind necessarily could not be made public while the conferences were pending. When, however, the full text of the agreement, with the accompanying correspondence and data explaining both its purpose and its scope, became known to the people through the measure transmitted to Congress it was immediately apparent that the ripened fruits of the careful labors of the commissioners met with widespread approval. This approval has been strengthened by further consideration of the terms of the agreement in all their particulars. The volume of support which has developed shows that its broadly national scope is fully appreciated and is responsive to the popular will.

The House of Representatives of the Sixty-first Congress, after the full text of the arrangement with all the details to the different provisions had been before it as they were before the American people, passed a bill confirming the agreement as negotiated and as transmitted to Congress. This measure failed of action in the Senate.

In my transmitting message of the 26th of January I fully set forth the character of the agreement and emphasized its appropriateness and necessity as a response to the mutual needs of the people of the two countries, as well as its common advantages. I now lay that message and the reciprocal trade agreement as negotiated by the present message before the Sixty-second Congress, and again invite earnest attention to the considerations therein expressed.

I am constrained in deference to popular sentiment and with a realizing sense of my duty to the great masses of our people whose welfare is involved, to urge upon your consideration early action on this agreement. In concluding the negotiations, the representatives of the two countries bound themselves to use their utmost efforts to bring about the tariff changes provided for in the agreement by concurrent legislation at Washington and Ottawa. I have felt it my duty, therefore, not to acquiesce in relegation of action until the opening of the Congress in December, but to use my constitutional prerogative and convoked the Sixty-second Congress in extra session in order that there shall be no break of continuity in considering and acting upon this most important subject.

The White House, April 5, 1911.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. TAFT.

Against Woman Mayor.

Hunnewell, Kan.—After winning the Mayoralty in a fair fight and with a heavy handicap, Mrs. Ella Wilson has been counted out and the certificate of election goes to her opponent, O. M. Akers, city clerk. Her prompt action in hiring an attorney to protect her interests, however, may cause a reversal of the procedure by which her successful vote was annulled. She has convinced the city attorney of the error.

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