

Of devices for the elimination of space there is no end. There can be none, until the people stop progressing. Occasionally a project is proposed of more than usual daring. The particular prize for which the commercial world is now striving is the trade of South America, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer. North America and Europe each want the bulk of it. The natural advantage which this continent possesses has so far been more than balanced by European aggressiveness. And now Europe proposes to cut in two the time distance that separates her from the object of her commercial longing. It is figured that five days are long enough to transport European goods to South American consumers. To establish such a schedule involves engineering and financial difficulties which may, of course, finally prove its impossibility. By reliable parties the "Thero-Afro-American railway is proposed, first, to cross Spain to Gibraltar, where ferry boats will transport trains to the African coast; thence run to Bathurst, the nearest point to South America. From Bathurst to Pernambuco, Brazil, is but a three-day run for fast steamers. The cost of carrying out this project, daring as it seems, would be but a mere fraction of what the United States alone is paying for the Panama canal. And a half dozen European nations would be benefited by it. It seems by no means impossible.

An unusually peculiar damage suit has just been decided in New York by which the widow of a fire chief has been awarded \$25,000 for the loss of his life in a furniture establishment fire. The chief fell through an open well hole in the building into a cellar half filled with water and was drowned before he could be rescued. The open well hole was in violation of a city ordinance. This suit, with its large damages, will help to emphasize the highly important fact that such ordinances are intended to prevent just such accidents, and that disregard of them leads to criminal and civic liability when a life is lost. There are many ordinances of the kind held lightly in regard until a fatal accident shocks the authorities into enforcement.

Since it has been decided to establish municipal baths for the million at Coney Island, other and ever more ambitious plans for its improvement have been formulated. These include a continuous walk and drive along the entire five miles of its water front, and a new bulkhead line, which has been authorized by government engineers. A contract has been let for a rip-rap wall, forty feet thick at its base and twenty feet at the top, surmounted by a concrete walk. This will protect the island from those periodic invasions by the Atlantic which have frequently been quite destructive. All of which is expected to attract a higher average of patronage than the resort has hitherto enjoyed.

The barbers of Annapolis have appealed to the secretary of the navy to compel the musicians in the Academy band who have opened barber shops "on the side" to abandon competition with local tonsorial artists. From the consumer's point of view there may be poor expectation of getting a velvet shave from the hand that hammers the bass drum, although this is offset by the prospect of an expert massage from the nimble-fingered fustian. Possibly the barbers, per se, may force the issue by carrying the war into Africa, form a band of their own and serenade the commandant at unwanted tours.

Alfred Giraudet, professor of operatic expression at the Paris Conservatoire, says that he knows there must be good voices somewhere in the United States, but that three-quarters of the Americans who apply for instruction in singing are terribly handicapped by never having studied piano-playing. If the gifted Frenchman's statement increases the number of young Americans who take lessons on the piano, he will incur the resentment of folks who live next door.

A certain minister of the Gospel hailing from New Zealand advocates a plan to tattoo the chins of married women to distinguish them from their unmarried sisters. If a mark were tattooed for every marriage, some of our society queens would resemble picture galleries.

A 25-cent piece was recently taken from the foot of an elephant in the New York Zoo, where it had been securely hidden till the creature's discomfort over its ill-gotten wealth became apparent. The animals must be catching graft from the humans.

### TAFT WARNS DIAZ INTERVENTION NEAR

Must Cease Jeopardizing the Lives of Americans.

#### SITUATION GROWING SERIOUS

Commanders of the American Forces at the Several Places Instructed to See That American Cities Are Not Endangered.

Washington, D. C.—President Taft is determined that battles between Mexican federalists and insurgents shall not be fought on American soil. He is equally determined that the lives of American non-combatants shall not be endangered by the forces of President Diaz and those of General Madero. Future combats between the rebels and the forces of the Mexican government must not be fought out so close to the American line as to put in jeopardy the lives and property of Americans. The Mexican government, according to the view at the State Department, will be held accountable for the loss of life and injury to Americans in Douglas during the fighting at Agua Prieta. No matter whether the fire of the federals or that of the insurgents inflicted the injury, it will be the federal government to which the United States will look for reparation.

As soon as official reports upon the fighting and the casualties sustained by Americans shall have been received, representations will be made to the Mexican government, it is said, and in due course the claims of those injured will be presented.

#### BRITISH FORCE LANDS

##### Great Britain Takes Initiative in Foreign Intervention.

Washington, D. C.—A force of 30 men and a Maxim gun from the British man-of-war Shearwater were landed at San Quintin, Mex., to protect that town against a threatened attack of insurgents. The revolutionary movement, however, did not materialize, and the Britishers and the gun were withdrawn.

This, the first actual landing of foreign forces on Mexican soil in connection with the present revolution, was reported to the State Department in a telegram from American Consul Schumcker at Ensenada. The telegram did not state just when the landing occurred.

When all danger to San Quintin from the insurgents had passed the Shearwater sailed for Ensenada, and her commander advised the American consul of the action he had taken at San Quintin for the safety of the town. San Quintin is a port of Lower California, about 125 miles south of Ensenada.

State Department officials say that the landing of the British force was not an unusual occurrence in connection with internal disturbances in Latin-American countries. They declared that numerous precedents for the procedure of the Shearwater could be had.

#### POLO GROUNDS BURNED

##### National League Park in New York Partly Destroyed.

New York.—The great double-deck grandstand and the right field bleachers at the National League Baseball Park were destroyed by fire Thursday morning, causing a loss estimated at \$250,000.

The clubhouse and the center and left field bleachers were saved and the fire, which started at 12.30 A. M., was under control two hours later. Originating from some unknown cause, the blaze sped with almost incredible swiftness, licking up first the double-decked grandstands and spreading then to the bleachers at the south and north.

The grandstand was a crescent in shape and had been enlarged in the last two years so that it covered half the circumference of the ground and seated about 20,000 persons.

#### New Trial For Dr. Hyde.

Jefferson City, Mo.—The State Supreme Court reversed the verdict of conviction for murder in the first degree of Dr. B. Clark Hyde, who was convicted of the murder of Col. Thomas Swope, of Independence, Mo. The case was remanded for retrial.

#### Attends Own Funeral.

Bristol, Tenn.—While a body supposed to be that of James Swecker, Civil War veteran, was being buried here, Swecker appeared on the scene and startled the mourners. The resemblance was remarkable.

#### Referendum Bill Loses.

Nashville, Tenn.—The State Senate rejected two bills proposing amendments to the Constitution. One provided for the initiative and referendum and the other made ministers eligible to seats in the Assembly.

#### J. P. Morgan For President.

Detroit, Mich.—Joseph C. Clatts, the Wellston (O.) iron magnate, thinks J. Pierpont Morgan would make an ideal president of the United States from a business standpoint.

### JUST BUBBLES



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### FARM MATERIALS ON FREE LIST

Bill to Make Canadian Reciprocity Easier—Both Measures Introduced.

Washington, D. C.—Representative Oscar W. Underwood, the Democratic leader, introduced the Canadian Reciprocity Bill, and another bill in the House authorizing changes in the tariff as a concession to agricultural interests which are bitterly opposed to the Canadian pact.

The Underwood Bill bearing on Canadian trade is in all essentials drawn along precisely the lines of the McCall Bill which failed in the last session. In fact, the same language is used, only a few verbal changes appearing in the measure, both bills having been patterned after the agreement negotiated with Canada by President Taft.

The farmers' bill, the second measure presented by Chairman Underwood, places a hundred or more articles on the free list, including agricultural implements, leather goods, fence wire, meats, cereals, flour, lumber, sewing machines, salt and other articles. The complete list of articles to the free list follows:

Plows, tooth and disc harrows, headers, harvesters, reapers, agricultural drills and planters, mowers, horse rakes, cultivators, threshing machines and cotton gins, farm wagons and farm carts and all other agricultural implements of any kind and description, whether specifically mentioned herein or not, whether in whole or in part, including repair parts.

Bagging for cotton, gunny cloth and all similar fabrics, materials or coverings, suitable for covering and baling cotton, composed in whole or in part of jute, jute butts, hemp, flax, seg, Russian seg, New Zealand tow, Norwegian tow, aloa, mill waste, cotton tares, or any other materials or fibers suitable for covering cotton and burlaps and bags or sacks composed wholly or in part of jute or burlaps or other materials suitable for bagging or sacking agricultural products.

Hoop or band iron or hoop or band steel, cut to lengths, punched or not punched or wholly or partly manufactured into hoops or ties, coated or not coated with paint or any other preparation, with or without buckles or fastenings, for baling cotton or any other commodity, and wire for baling hay, straw and other agricultural products.

Grain, buff, split, rough and sole leather; hand, bend or bolting leather; boots and shoes made wholly or in chief value of leather made from cattle hides and cattle skins of whatever weight, of cattle of the bovine species, including calfskins, and harness, saddles and saddlery, in sets or in parts, finished or unfinished, composed wholly or in chief value of leather, and leather cut into shoe uppers or vamps or other forms suitable for conversion into manufactured articles.

#### Bill Against the Negro.

Washington, D. C.—A bill was introduced in the House by Representative Hardwick, of Georgia, providing for the repeal of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution. The measure seeks to prevent Congress from limiting the representation of the Southern States, because of the disfranchisement of the negro, which curtails the voting population of the States.

#### Editor Burned to Death.

Claremont, N. H.—Samuel Henry Story, editor of the Narrative, a weekly publication, met a tragic fate today. While apparently asleep on a sofa fire from an over-heated stove communicated to the furniture and burned him to death.

#### \$2,435 FROM OLD LOUNGE

##### Boston Teamster Makes Lucky Find in Street.

Boston.—Coins and crumpled bills to the amount of \$2,495 greeted the eyes of Peter J. Pitts, a teamster, when his horse backed a wagon over a discarded lounge, which had been thrown out into an East Boston street.

Pitts was loading the refuse when a wheel of the wagon broke the lounge and disclosed the money.

### TOWNS BLOWN OFF THE MAP

Tornado's Wide Sweep Over Kansas and Oklahoma—Many Persons Are Killed.

Kansas City, Mo.—A heavy wind storm, attaining the velocity of a tornado in some sections, and accompanied by rain, hail and lightning, swept over western Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma, killing 13 persons, practically destroying two towns, wrecking almost a hundred persons, wrecking scores of buildings and putting almost every telephone and telegraph wire in the territory out of commission.

The tornado levied its greatest toll of death at Big Heart, Okla., where eight persons were killed, 10 injured and almost every building in the town wrecked. Whiting, Kas., was practically wiped off the map, 60 buildings being blown down, 30 people hurt, and one, Mrs. David Stone, killed. At Powhattan, Kas., a woman and child were killed. A high school building was wrecked at Eskridge, Kas., a number of houses damaged and from 15 to 20 persons injured.

At Hiawatha, Kan., a school was blown down and a boy named Felton killed. Several buildings were struck by lightning. Several persons are known to have been hurt at Netawaka, Kan. A boy was killed at Manville, Kan.

The Kansas end of the tornado started near Whiting and swept in a southeasterly direction for a distance of more than 50 miles.

It is thought that many more people were killed and injured than have been reported at this time.

### UNCLE SAM TO MIND BABIES

Bill Introduced in House for Bureau to Do All Sorts of Things.

Washington, D. C.—A government "nursery" is proposed in a bill introduced in the House by Representative Barnhart (Democrat, Indiana), to authorize the formation of a "baby bureau" in the Department of Commerce and Labor.

The bill provides for a head of the bureau, who shall be a practical authority on children. The investigation of conditions of child life, child labor, child health, schools, juvenile courts and child desertions are to be undertaken by the bureau. Reports of these investigations and all the activities of the bureau are to be published and distributed.

Representative Barnhart said: "I believe that the government has other and more important missions than the fixing of tariffs and the financial and industrial development of the country. The Department of Agriculture has bureaus at work investigating the breeding of animals, poultry and birds. About the only thing we now neglect is the building up of a race of healthy, sturdy human beings."

#### SIX KILLED IN STORM

##### Property Damage of More Than \$3,000,000 in St. Louis.

St. Louis.—A cyclone struck Jefferson county, Missouri, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Six persons are known to be dead and several are missing, and property damage is heavy. Two and one-half to three million dollars' damage was done in St. Louis, the city being swept by the storm. One woman who was in the famous St. Louis cyclone of 1895 dropped dead of fright. A teamster was electrocuted when an electric light wire fell across him. The total known dead in Jefferson county and St. Louis number eight.

#### GIRLS OFFERED FOR SALE

##### Pitiful Stories of Suffering in Panic-Stricken China.

Shanghai.—Pitiful stories of suffering in the famine-stricken areas of China reach this city daily. Sixty girls were offered for sale at one small town without a purchaser, because the food the slaves eat was more valuable than their lives. Only death, therefore, awaits them.

Heavy rains have partly reflooded the famine districts for the third time in two years, rendering extremely difficult the importation of grain for the relief of the starving thousands.

#### Greely Coronation Envoy.

Washington, D. C.—Maj.-Gen. Adolphus W. Greely (retired) has been selected as representative of the United States Army on the American special embassy to the coronation of King George V. This appointment supersedes the original selection of Major-General Frederick Dent Grant, commanding the Department of the East, who, on reconsideration, declined the honor.

#### Ambassador Hill Resigns.

Washington, D. C.—David Jayne Hill, of Rochester, N. Y., Ambassador of the United States to Germany, has resigned his post. The resignation has been accepted by President Taft. Neither in Mr. Hill's letter of resignation nor in the President's letter of acceptance is any reason given for the Ambassador's action. The President thanks Mr. Hill for his services at Berlin and says that he is glad to know that he will remain there until July 1, when the resignation goes into effect.

### PROPOSED INCOME TAX IS IN DOUBT

Eighteen States Have Not Ratified Income Amendment.

#### SHORT TIME LEFT FOR ACTION

The Approaching End of Legislative Sessions Indicates Measure Will Fall For the Present.

New York.—Favorable legislative action on the proposed income tax amendment to the Federal Constitution is lacking in 18 of the 46 States. The Legislatures of 28 States have ratified the measure, 7 have rejected it, 2 have adjourned without action and in 9 States the matter is still pending. In five of these favorable action is expected and in four the result is problematical.

The figures are the result of a canvass of the various State capitols to determine the status of the proposed change in the Constitution. As the amendment does not become effective until ratified by three-fourths of the States, or 35, its adoption during the present sessions of the State Legislatures, now nearing adjournment, seems unlikely.

#### The Proposed Amendment.

The resolution, which was passed by the United States Senate, July 5, 1909, and by the House of Representatives July 12, 1909, provides for this addition to the Constitution:

"Article 16.—The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration."

Of the nine Legislatures in which ratification of the proposed amendment is pending, that of Florida has referred the matter to committee without discussion; in Minnesota the House has acted favorably, and similar action by the Senate is predicted; at Albany neither house has acted this year; in Wisconsin the resolution has passed in the Assembly and awaits action in the Senate.

#### A Game of See-Saw.

Opposition to the amendment in Connecticut has blocked the resolution in committee. While advice from Hartford indicate that the House may approve, the result in the Senate is uncertain.

In Arkansas the House recently adopted a resolution approving the amendment, but the Senate rejected it. The matter will come up in Massachusetts this week, and while favorable action in the House is expected, the prediction is made that the Senate will defeat the measure. In New Jersey and Pennsylvania the matter is still in committee.

The Louisiana Legislature defeated the measure at last year's session. The new Legislature will convene in May, 1912, and the measure may then be passed.

#### SORRY TO PART WITH HILL

##### Views of His Resignation at German Capital.

Berlin.—The retirement from the German capitol of Dr. David Jayne Hill, whose resignation as ambassador of the United States to Germany, will become effective July 1, is regretted at the Foreign Office, where the relations between the government officials and Dr. Hill have been of the very best. It is felt here that Dr. Hill's tenure of the embassy has done much to further German-American friendship.

#### RAILROAD BRIDGE BLOWN UP

##### Nearby Miners Have Been on Strike a Year.

Greensburg, Pa.—Unknown persons dynamited a bridge, wrecking one of the abutments, at Harrison City, on the Manor Valley branch of the Pennsylvania railroad, for the alleged purpose of preventing coal shipments from mines in this vicinity. There has been a miners' strike on in this section for more than a year.

#### FIVE DIE IN MOLTEN METAL

##### Metal Splashed Upon Workmen Out of Container.

Philadelphia.—Five workmen were killed, 2 were fatally injured and 12 seriously hurt at the Midvale Steel Works, at Wayne Junction, when a huge container, filled with molten steel, gave way, the fiery liquid pouring or splashing over more than a score of the employes.

#### Would Abolish Senate

Washington, D. C.—Eleven days' experience as a member of the House has convinced Representative Victor L. Berger, the only Socialist in the House, who comes from Milwaukee, that the Senate is a useless part of the Government. He may conclude to go even further than that. Mr. Berger will for the present content himself with the introduction of a bill which will abolish the Senate.