

# The Centre Reporter

Centre Hall, - - Pa.  
MODERN SCHOOL OF MARINERS.

The old saying that there is no loss without some gain is borne out by the change which has been wrought in the country's shipping. There has been much lament over the decadence of the famous Yankee seamanship, but after the passing of the clipper and whaling fleets at last has come to the high seas a new breed of Americans who are the equals if not the superiors of the old. The mechanical genius of the nation has sent many young men to the steamships in the navy and the merchant marine, says the Cleveland Leader. Ninety per cent. of the sailor-mechanics of the United States navy are American born. Twenty years ago, the proportion of Americans on merchant vessels was only about 30 per cent. In 1910 the proportion was 49 per cent., the natives heavily predominating over the naturalized. The showing for this year will be even better, as the movement of Americans to the sea has been steadily increasing for several years. In many ways the mariners of the new school are better than the old shellbacks that heaved at the capstan bar and lay out on the end of the yardarm. The demands of steam and electrical machinery require a different kind of skill and more intelligence. The constant advance of mechanics and electrical science makes it necessary for them to keep mentally fresh and alert. They know more and are more progressive than the old-time sailor and in their habits they are cleaner.

A strong movement is to be started in England to limit the reading of trashy novels, which are perverting the emotions and lowering the thought of the youth. Some of the most influential men in England have joined the movement. As a general thing, parents do not realize the harm the indiscriminate reading of novels is doing their children. The constant reading of novels, even of good ones, weakens the mind. It has about the same effect on the mind that lounging in a hammock or floating down stream has on the muscles. The mind, to appreciate truth, has to deal with truth, and encounter and overcome obstacles that are in its way. Lacking this exercise it grows weak and flabby. The parent might as well, from the very start, give up his child, so far as worth and noble destiny in this world is concerned, who is a constant reader of novels.

A variation of the Enoch Arden story comes from a New York town, where a man who had deserted his wife had the uncomfortable experience of having her unexpectedly walk in on him and have him arrested. If this variation could only replace the original practice, it would be much better for the community in general and have the effect of reducing the number of these wanderers from their own firesides, who have formed a distinct class of public nuisances.

A Michigan lawyer has found a new way to break a will. One of his clients spoke his will into the trumpet of a phonograph and had the record put away. His lawyer, by dropping the record, smashed it into a thousand pieces. It seems to be impossible to make a will that some lawyer can't break, somehow.

Blind psychic impulse leads beautiful women to the selection of ugly men, according to a Canadian observer, who adds that it not infrequently leads to a fat bank account. Blind? so; psychic? relatively; impulse? hardly.

David Starr Jordan would abolish college baseball because of the "scientific muckering" in joshing the players. In professional baseball the muckering is far more scientific but less classical.

The Krupps have a monopoly in a projectile which will hit a balloon. It is likely that two or three men will have a monopoly in being in the balloon.

The Wisconsin boys who save themselves labor by having a phonograph call the cows out of the pasture are perfectly willing to rely upon human lungs for the dinner announcement.

People who have nothing else of importance to do are arguing the question, "Does the robin sing or does he merely chirp?" It is almost as exciting as playing chess.

"All the epidemic and local diseases thrive upon the family cat," asserts an authority. This may explain why the animal is endowed with nine lives.

A rope manufacturer has just been made a director in a cigar company. Almost anybody could say something about the fitness of things here.

# SECRETARY OF WAR DICKINSON OUT

## He Resigns as the Secretary of War.

### H. L. STIMSON HIS SUCCESSOR

In His Letter to the President Mr. Dickinson Says He is Compelled to Retire, Owing to Pressing Business.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary of War Dickinson has resigned and Mr. Henry L. Stimson, Colonel Roosevelt's candidate for the governorship of New York last fall, has been appointed to succeed him. President Taft seemed to enjoy thoroughly the surprise with which the announcement of Mr. Dickinson's retirement was greeted. To anticipate the gossip that would ascribe other reasons for Mr. Dickinson's withdrawal from the Cabinet at a time when the Secretary of War appears to be the most important member of the President's advisers, it was frankly stated at the White House that Mr. Dickinson felt he was compelled to resign because of personal reasons and stress was laid on the statement that Mr. Dickinson would not return to the practice of his profession, but would devote himself entirely to his business interests in Tennessee.

Mr. Dickinson and family are very heavily interested in a coal mine in Tennessee, which has for some time past proved a losing venture and has, indeed, been placed in the hands of a receiver. It is inferred from what was said that Mr. Dickinson feels himself compelled to assume personal management at once of his properties and that he feels he cannot afford to remain longer in Washington. Although one of the leaders in his profession of the law, and for many years in the enjoyment of a large salary as chief counsel of the Illinois Central Railroad, Mr. Dickinson is not a wealthy man, and it was reported not long ago that he had sold a splendid stock farm in which he had taken the deepest pride.



JACOB M. DICKINSON  
Secretary of War.

It is not usually regarded in Washington as either fitting or necessary to state so frankly the reasons for a public official's retirement to private life. If the usual course has been departed from to so unusual a degree in Mr. Dickinson's case, it is probably because of the rumors that have been current here for some time of friction in the cabinet between Secretaries Dickinson and Knox. It has been gossiped that Mr. Knox strongly resented the fact that the great military movement of several weeks ago, when 20,000 troops were rushed within rifle shot of Mexico, was entirely planned and executed without his knowledge. Indeed, within the past fortnight it was found necessary to issue an official denial at the White House of the persistent report that Secretary Knox would shortly resign, because he felt that he was not being given the consideration due his office in the affairs of this country in the Mexican matter. The announcement of Mr. Dickinson's resignation might easily have been construed as the result of an ultimatum from the Secretary of State that the further presence of Mr. Dickinson and of himself in the Cabinet would prove uncongenial. The extreme candor of the official explanation of Mr. Dickinson's resignation puts an effective and final stop to all such malicious gossip.

**Kossuth's Niece Sees Taft**  
Washington, D. C.—Madame Ambrosi, niece of the Hungarian patriot Louis Kossuth, was received at the White House by President Taft.

**Pensions for Presidents' Widows**  
Washington, D. C.—Pensions of \$5,000 a year each for Frances F. Cleveland, widow of President Cleveland, and Mary Lord Harrison, widow of President Harrison, are provided for in a bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Root, of New York.

**To Insure French Aviators**  
Paris.—An insurance office to make a specialty of aviation, was opened next door to the only aeronaut ticket office in the city.

# COURTING THE PATRIOTIC MUSE



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THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS AWARDED FOR THE BEST NATIONAL ANTHEM.—NEWS ITEM.

## OPENING TO MILITARY GLORY

Civilians May Now Win Army Commissions.—New General Order Issued.

Washington, D. C.—Bright young men who were ambitious to wear the uniform and the shoulder strap of this government will be given an opportunity to win their commissions, and the War Department has just issued general orders giving in detail the information that every young man needs. The regulations heretofore governing the appointment of young civilians to the Army have been modified by President Taft so as to conform to present conditions. All officers must enter the service as second lieutenants. Second lieutenancies are filled by appointment by the President, first, by cadets who have graduated from the West Point Military Academy; second, by enlisted men in the ranks who have passed competitive examinations, and third, by civilians between the ages of 21 and 27 years.

The War Department designates a large number of young men from all over the country who are subjected, after a rigid physical test, to a severe competitive mental examination. No young man who is married is designated for these examinations, nor will any cadet at West Point or midshipman at the Naval Academy be permitted to enter these examinations until after the classes of which they have been members while at West Point or at Annapolis have graduated.

Preference is given among the civilian candidates to honor graduates from those schools and colleges at which Army professors are detailed as professors of military science, and at which the students have shown a degree of proficiency which has entitled the schools to be designated as "distinguished institutions." Next in order of choice are members of the organized militia who have served not less than three years creditably.

The general orders of the War Department give full information as to the subjects on which the mental examinations will be based. No candidate failing to obtain a general average of 75 points will be appointed as second lieutenant. Candidates whose general average in a competitive mental examination is 85 or more will be graded separately and selected to fill existing vacancies in the order of their merit, and the remaining vacancies, if any, will be distributed among the candidates whose average is less than 85 but not below 75.

## AGUA PRIETA CHANGES HANDS

Federals Abandon it and Rebels Take Possession.

Douglas, Ariz.—With Agua Prieta, the town about which a desperate battle raged two weeks ago, thrown back on their hands by its abandonment by the federals, the members of the rebel junta in this city are at a loss what to do with it.

The town is deserted. The town of Naco also fell into rebel hands, its volunteer garrison withdrawing. With the port of Naco closed all provisions and other supplies for Cananea and intervening points on the Naco Railroad must pass through Nogales.

## Got Wife By Prayer.

Spartanburg, S. C.—Madly in love with a woman whom he had known only two days, the Rev. Allen Fort, a Baptist preacher of Chattanooga, says he prayed for advice and was told by the Lord to propose. He did so and was accepted.

## Playhouse Burned

Wilmington, Del.—Fire wrecked the Lyric Theatre and damaged adjoining properties, entailing a loss of about \$75,000. The theatre was a vaudeville and moving picture house and did a big business. Mrs. William Benner, wife of the lessee of the theater, and Gertrude Ward, housekeeper for the Benner, were carried down ladders by firemen from the third story windows. John and Daniel Mullin, actors, were assisted down the same ladders to the street.

# MADERO CABINET ESTABLISHED FACT

## Dr. Gomez Minister of Foreign Relations.

## THE CITY IN GOOD ORDER.

Provisional Government Becomes a Fact With the Captured City of Juarez as the Capital.

Juarez, Mexico.—Mexico's provisional Government, composed of insurgents, became an established fact with the naming of a cabinet by Francisco I. Madero, Jr., provisional president, and with the establishment of a capital in the captured city of Juarez, where General Navarro and his Federal troops are held prisoners.

The cabinet follows:  
Minister of Foreign Relations—Dr. Vasquez Gomez.  
Finance—Gustavo A. Madero.  
War—Venustiano Carranza.  
Interior—F. Gonzalez Garza.  
Justice—Jose M. Pino Suarez.  
Private Secretary to President Madero—Juan Sanchez Azcona.  
Secretary of War Carranza will have charge of railways and telegraphs. His first act was to grant permission for the repair of the Mexican Northwestern railroad. Men immediately began repairing the roadbed south of Juarez.

Gonzales Garza will have charge of the mail service, and Secretary of the Treasury Madero will direct the affairs of the Custom House.

That the insurrecto army is more than simply an armed mob is shown in the absence of general looting and intoxication and the quickness with which the shattered city was cleared of its dead and wounded. The embargo against visitors was removed and sightseers in thousands poured across the bridges from El Paso.

Only occasional cases of looting were reported, and these not by the insurrectos themselves, but by insatiable curio hunters, one of whom triumphantly displayed in El Paso two silver candlesticks taken from the big church in which the Federals made a desperate stand.

While Madero refuses to divulge his plans for the immediate future, Provisional Governor Abram Gonzalez, of Chihuahua, unofficially says that the next step is to take Chihuahua, annihilate Rabago and his command and then march to Torreón and on to Mexico City. This is to be the slogan of the army of liberation, so-called, and the first move will be made by Orozco, who will go out to meet Rabago should the Federal General approach near Juarez.

## Lightning Kills Eight Persons.

Berlin.—During thunder storms that occurred throughout Germany Thursday lightning killed eight persons and near Hamburg rekindled a natural gas well which had been recently capped with the greatest difficulty.

## Ends Life in Cell

Philadelphia.—Jean Rochelle, 30 years old, committed suicide in a cell of a police station here by hanging himself to the bars, using a necktie as a noose. A man who had been arrested for intoxication in the same cell, but slept soundly while Rochelle killed himself. Rochelle and his wife were arrested while quarreling on the street and the wife was in a cell near her husband when he ended his life. The couple came here from New York two months ago.

# SUFFOCATE IN MINE AFIRE

Four Rescue Parties Fight Way into Shafts—Naked Light the Cause.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—Five lives were lost by suffocation in the Boston mine of the Delaware and Hudson Company, at Larksville, near here.

A strike began at the colliery on Tuesday, and consequently only a small number of men were at work. Had the full force been engaged the loss of life would have been appalling.

Fire broke out in a section of the mine where rock miners were employed, but it is said to have been gotten under control without difficulty.

Eleven men were at work in that section. After midnight the odor of smoke was detected and another alarm was sounded. All the employees in the inside workings made their way from a side vein to the main gangway, but the smoke had become so dense that nearly all were overcome.

## COMBINES BOOM COTTON

\$35,000,000 Merger, With 1,000,000 Spindles, Proposed—Morgan and Duke Interested.

New York.—With the return of Frank L. Underwood to New York after a long trip through the South, where, it is understood, he has been arranging details of the merger of cotton yarn mills with a total of 1,000,000 spindles, it is expected that definite announcement regarding this, the latest of four big cotton-mill corporations, will become known.

Besides several local concerns, headed by the Morgans, it is reported that J. B. Duke is also interested in the proposed consolidation. It is understood that the plan proposed by the promoters is a merger of 1,000,000 spindles on which bonds will be issued to the amount of \$10,000,000, half for the purchase of the properties and the other half for working capital. There will also be issued \$12,500,000 in common and \$12,500,000 in preferred stock, amounting to \$25 a spindle. The mills entering the merger are to get 20 per cent. cash for their properties, 40 per cent. in preferred and 40 per cent. in common stock in the corporation. The promoters will retain 10 per cent. of each stock for their services.

The mills entering the merger are to have their properties assessed by Lockwood, Green & Co., of Boston, and J. E. Sirrine, of Greenville, S. C.

## SHIPS IN MIDNIGHT CRASH

Ward Liner Merida Sunk, but 319 Persons Rescued.

Norfolk, Va.—A near-tragedy of the sea, filled with many thrilling narratives of human rescue and escape, occurred off this coast, when the Ward Line steamer Merida, bound from Havana, Cuba, for New York, with 319 souls on board, sank in 35 fathoms of water 55 miles northeast of Cape Charles, after she had been rammed by the fruit steamer Admiral Farragut, bound from Philadelphia for Port Antonio.

Every person aboard the Merida was rescued, and but one was seriously injured—the wife of A. Peon, a land proprietor of Progreso, Mexico, who, with his entire family, was bound for Paris, to await the end of Mexican troubles. Mrs. Peon, occupying a room immediately next to where the Farragut struck the Merida, was injured, probably internally.

## Says Gr. Stone Him.

Chicago.—Joe Blakeslee, very blond and very small, wants a divorce and wants it badly. He declares his wife, the daughter of Fire Captain Shaughnessy, literally kidnapped him, took him to St. Joe, Mich., and there married him. The bride, a year older than her 18-year-old husband, laughingly denied that she had done the kidnapping. The court took the case under advisement.

## Sought Tin of Prunes

Cheyenne, Wyo.—Relatives of Joseph H. Kingham, former assistant postmaster, sentenced to eight years for embezzlement of \$23,300 of government funds, will ask a rehearing of the case. Among the grounds upon which this rehearing is sought is evidence that Kingham once bought a tin of prunes for his family and at another time purchased 40 pairs of trousers for himself.

## Preparing to Great American Fleet.

St. Petersburg.—The naval authorities at Reval are making extensive preparations for the visit of the second division of the United States Atlantic fleet. The battleships will be in that port from June 11 to June 18.

## Ohio Voters Disfranchised

Portsmouth, Ohio.—Fourteen residents of the Second ward of this city, who were charged with selling their votes, were disfranchised for five years by Judge A. Z. Blair. Workhouse sentences of six months and fines of \$25 and costs which had been imposed were suspended pending good behavior. All are laborers and it is charged they sold their votes for prices ranging from \$1 to \$3 each.

# ALL OVER THE STATE TOLD IN SHORT ORDER

Allentown.—Because he managed to grasp the top of an 80-foot high brick wall, Frank Gallagher, a structural iron worker on the Rittersville Asylum, escaped certain death. He was riding a heavy iron rafter that was being elevated for position on the roof, when it began to slip. Below him was a clear space of 80 feet, bounded by the concrete basement floor. His refuge lay in jumping for the wall, ten feet away. No circus athlete ever did any more thrilling stunt than Gallagher as he jumped high in air for the wall. He just managed to grab the edge with the tips of his fingers, where he hung on with iron grit until a big crane was swung around to save him.

Hollidaysburg.—The Blair county court appointed Herman J. McCauley and J. F. Meck to act as receivers of the Keystone State Savings and Loan Association, of Altoona. The appointment was made in proceedings instituted by stockholders who allege that the association had been wrecked by mismanagement of its officers.

Reading.—Although she denied wearing a hobble skirt last December when she was thrown and injured in boarding a trolley car, the jury in the damage suit of Mrs. Sara K. Manger, of New York, against the Reading Transit Company was unconvinced that her tight fitting dress was not responsible for the accident, and returned a verdict in favor of the company.

Allentown.—Incensed because his wife had left him on account of his shiftlessness and brutality, John Grentman shot her and himself at their home, between Zionsville and Trechlersville, when she returned to visit her children.

Harrisburg.—Figures collected by the State Railroad Commission show that in March 102 people were killed and 650 injured on the railroads of the State, a singular coincidence being that the number of railroad fatalities in March of last year was the same.

Pottsville.—Mrs. Benjamin Granger, aged 32 years, who killed her seven-year-old son, whose hands she tied while she cut his jugular vein, was taken to the State Asylum at Harrisburg. She was a maniac when she perpetrated the deed, and physicians say she is hopelessly insane.

Reading.—In bequeathing a \$200,000 estate the will of William M. Stauffer, a financier and prominent Methodist, filed here, gives a \$20,000 building to the local W. C. T. U. It is to be occupied by that organization "to educate public sentiment to the standard of total abstinence and to promote interest in reform work."

Harrisburg.—Mayor Meals issued a proclamation for a safe and sane Fourth of July, prohibiting firecrackers and other pyrotechnics and urging that the Park Commission have a fireworks display for the residents of the city. The proclamation is the first of the kind ever issued here.

Coopersburg.—Miss Marion Ott, of this place, who is 11 years old, is probably the youngest high school graduate in the State. At the graduation exercises of the Center Valley High School she was graduated with high honors. Her father is a public school teacher, as were her maternal and paternal grandfathers.

Altoona.—The first death from infantile paralysis to occur in this vicinity, carried off Madeline, six-months-old daughter of Sam'l Shope. The child had been ill several weeks.

Harrisburg.—John Whisler, Jr., aged six, died from eating pills found in a box in his home. The pills contained strychnine and were prescribed as a tonic for an older member of the family.

Harrisburg.—Emilio Russ, a member of the famous family of Harrisburg hotelkeepers, was almost killed by falling through a skylight at his hotel. He fell through the skylight from a distance of fifteen feet and struck upon his head.

Reading.—The body of William H. Ribble, a well-known bookkeeper, was found in the Schuylkill Canal. He left a note addressed to his wife, stating: "You can find my goods down at the canal." He had recently been in ill-health.

Harrisburg.—Governor Tener set June 22 as the date for the execution of Charles Hickman, convicted of murder in Beaver County, Hickman twice escaped from prison, but was recaptured recently.

Gettysburg.—Official announcement was made here that an annual Chautauqua will be established at Gettysburg. The first will be held August 18-27.

York.—The York County Medical Society had Andrew C. Lenhart, a wealthy citizen, who is reputed to be a pow-wow doctor, arrested. Dr. A. A. Long was the prosecutor. Lenhart says the prosecution is the result of spite work.

Pittsburg.—The Pittsburg & Lake Erie Railroad Company entered a plea of nolo contendere in the United States District Court to charges of violating the interstate commerce act, and Judge Orr imposed a minimum fine of \$1,000.