

ALLAYING A SCARE.

It takes precious little, sometimes, to start a serious "scare." The merest irresponsible rumor may result in a run on a bank, and a hint of fire may precipitate a disastrous panic. In fact, it might be difficult to disprove a statement, if made, that we mortals thoroughly enjoy being scared, and welcome the agency by which this end may be accomplished. As an instance of the popular love for a scare may be cited the readily-credited reports, the source of which no one seems to know, that all nickels dated 1910 were counterfeit, says the Manchester Union. The treasury department at Washington has received hundreds of inquiries from all sections of the country, on the strength of these reports, and the persistency with which the reports have spread has occasioned banks and business men much inconvenience. As a matter of fact, there are 30,000,000 nickels of 1910 in circulation, and, so far as the treasury department knows, all are genuine. Some of them were discolored in the minting, by fumes of sulphuric acid, which gives them an unusual appearance. This fact may have afforded apparent grounds for the "counterfeit" report, which is itself a bogus. The nickels are good for five cents each, and there is no occasion for shying at them.

His incorrigible activity in various parts of the globe has given the war god much to answer for during the last few months; but with gods as with men it can perhaps be said that there is some good in the worst of the species. In behalf of Mars, for example, it may not be amiss to put forth the extenuating circumstance that his restlessness has at least added mightily to the geographical erudition of mortal men, says the Boston Herald. Take Agadir, for instance. Every one knows where it is now. But three months ago only a daring intellect would have ventured for its location on the Atlantic rather than upon the Mediterranean. Amoy, likewise, has been located for us, far to the south of Shanghai, where in our ignorance we least expected to find it. By the same token, we have been introduced to millions of our liberty-loving friends in the provinces of Hunan, Hupeh and Hu-knows where else.

Increasing frequency of deaths by poison compels the conclusion that it would be better for the community if deadly drugs were less easily obtained. Nearly every day's news carries its story of murder or suicide by poison. In many cases the crimes are made possible by the sale of drugs that under no circumstances should be sold indiscriminately. Evidence in these cases almost invariably shows that the criminals purchased the death potion with the same ease and lack of restriction that would attend the sale of a bar of soap, says the Chicago Journal. More rigid regulation of the sale of deadly poisons might not put a stop to these crimes, but it certainly would make them more difficult. At the least legislatures would do well to prohibit the sale of sudden death in the shape of cyanide of potassium, and other similar drugs, except to physicians and those who are known to have a legitimate use for them.

The final settlement of the so-called German potash dispute out of court, so to speak, is a decided triumph for sane diplomacy. Those who may recall the histrionics which attended the discussion of this question nearly a year ago, the hysterical demand for a tariff war with Germany, the impassioned denunciation of Germany and the appeals to the department of state to wield "the big stick" may be surprised to find the announcement of a final settlement, apparently satisfactory to all concerned, in a brief cablegram from Berlin.

The Journal of the American Medical Association warns against the use of thyroid as an obesity cure. It is dangerous because it reduces protein as well as fat, and has been known to bring on serious illness. Most cases of undue weight are due to overeating, or lack of sufficient exercise, or both. The safest treatment for obesity is abstemiousness combined with exercise—not too violent, for that might injure the heart.

Glad tidings from Washington. The bureau of engraving and printing will put on an extra force of workmen in order to get out a large supply of small bills. We like the small bills because they are so democratic.

A wireless message has beaten all records by going a distance of 4,000 miles. Modern magic has gained mastery over both time and space in a way formerly thought possible only in fairy tales.

## MUCH SHIFTING IN NATIONALITY

Our Alien Population is Growing Fast.

### FEWER FROM NORTH EUROPE

Tide From Countries In Southern Europe and Russia On Increase—Preliminary Report Issued.

Washington.—A preliminary statement giving the distribution of the foreign-born white population of Continental United States according to country of birth, as shown by the returns of the census of 1910, has just been issued by Director Durand.

The statement covers only the principal countries of birth—those, in general, for each of which at the census of 1910 upward of 100,000 persons were reported—and the figures for 1910 are given in round numbers, being subject to possible revision as the result of later tabulations. All the statistics relate to white persons only. From 1821 to 1870 natives of Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Scandinavia and Canada together contributed substantially nine-tenths of all the immigrants to this country, but since 1870 their proportion of the total number has steadily declined—from somewhat more than four-fifths for 1871-1880 to three-fourths for 1881-1890, about two-fifths for 1891-1900, and only a little more than one-fifth for 1901-1910.

Immigrants from Austria-Hungary, Italy and Russia, on the other hand, constituted less than 1 per cent. of all the immigrants from 1821 to 1870, but thereafter their proportion has steadily increased—from about one-sixteenth for 1871-1880 to one-sixth for 1881-1890, one-half for 1891-1900, and very nearly two-thirds for 1901-1910. At the census of 1910 out of an approximate total of 13,342,500 foreign-born whites, the persons born in Germany numbered 2,499,200 and constituted 18.7 per cent., as compared with 2,813,413 in 1900, or 27.5 per cent. of the total at that census. This is a loss in the number of natives of Germany during the decade of 314,213, or 11.2 per cent.

At the census of 1910 there were reported 1,351,400 persons born in Ireland, constituting 10.1 per cent. of the entire foreign-born white population, as compared with 1,615,232 persons so born, or 15.8 per cent. of the total, at the preceding census, a loss from 1900 to 1910 of 263,832, or 16.3 per cent.

During the decade 1900-1910 there was an increase in the number of natives of Great Britain from 1,166,863 to 1,221,400, or 4.7 per cent.; an increase in the number of natives of Canada and Newfoundland from 1,172,745 to 1,198,000 or 2.2 per cent., and an increase in the number of natives of Norway, Sweden and Denmark from 1,062,124 to 1,250,500, or 17.7 per cent. Natives of each of these groups of countries, as well as of Germany and Ireland, constituted a considerably less proportion of the total foreign-born white population in 1910 than in 1900. Natives of all of these countries taken together were 56.4 per cent. of the total in 1910, as against 76.6 per cent. in 1900.

### BONUS TO STEEL TRUST MEN.

A Fund Of \$1,450,000 Distributed Among Employees.

New York.—The United States Steel Corporation has made its annual distribution to employees under its bonus plan, which has been in force nine years. The amount distributed for this year is \$1,450,000.

The corporation also will offer to its employees the right to subscribe for about 25,000 shares of stock on the basis of the plan which has been in force for the period already stated. The price has not yet been fixed, but probably will be a little below the market.

Employees last year subscribed on the basis of 70 for the common and 114 for the preferred stock.

### CREW LASHED TO RIGGING.

The Mary Adelaide Randall Lost, But Men Are Saved.

Block Island, R. I.—The four-masted schooner Mary Adelaide Randall, of Port Jefferson, N. Y., coal-laden, was hurled upon the ledges west of Block Island by a terrific northwesterly gale, and four hours and a half later her crew of 10 men was rescued by the Block Island life-saving crew.

The rescue was spectacular, and was accomplished only after the life-savers had tried repeatedly to reach the stranded craft. The Randall was bound from Norfolk, Va., for New London, Conn.

### Union Depot, \$40,000,000.

Cincinnati, Ohio.—An ordinance granting a franchise to the Cincinnati Union Depot and Terminal Company to erect a new central railway depot here to cost \$40,000,000, was passed by the city council. The new depot will give the nine railroad and interurban lines entering the city a common terminus. It is expected that work will be commenced early in the spring and that the entire project will be completed in five years.



## INSIST ON FREE PULP AND PAPER

Diplomats Urge Their Claim to Concession.

### SLOW ACTING OF COURTS

Quandary In Which the Government Finds Itself On Account Of Its Arrangement With Canada Not Easily Disposed.

Washington.—American pulp and print paper manufacturers are bringing pressure to bear upon President Taft to induce him to refuse to yield to the demand of certain European governments for the free admission of their pulp and print paper on terms of equality with the Canadian product. The disposition of the administration has been to let this matter be determined by the courts but as this involves long delay the diplomatic protestants are by no means satisfied and are adopting measures to show their resentment.

Courts Von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, has informed the State Department that Germany would not accord to American exporters the reduced duties on tool steel and hard rubber accorded to Swedish and Japanese exporters under their special treaties because America did not admit German wood pulp and print paper free of duty.

The Ambassador was reminded that the German exporters would not suffer by the delay if their claim was just, because they had paid the duties into the American Treasury under protest, which gives them the right to recover in case the Court of Customs Appeals should decide in their favor, as is expected.

It was thought at first that this explanation was sufficient, but it now appears the Ambassador's statement is virtually a renewed protest against the failure of the administration to adjust the matter diplomatically instead of judicially.

In view of the peculiar conditions under which Canadian pulp and paper go upon the free list, in spite of the failure of the reciprocity measure, some consideration is being given to the propriety of leaving to Congress the adjustment of the international difficulties that have arisen.

### A NEW BEAR STORY.

Hunter Says He Knocked Out Bruin With His Fists.

Boulder, Colo.—What is claimed to be the champion bear story of the season was told by William Smith, of Syracuse, N. Y., who returned here after a hunting trip of two weeks in the mountains. Smith claims to have killed a 250-pound black bear with a blow of his fist.

After the bear had killed two valuable dogs with strokes of his paws, Smith, according to his story, put on a pair of brass knuckles and swung on the bear's jaw, knocking him out. Then he said he beat the bear about the head and spine until he was dead.

### RAID POSTOFFICE SAFE.

Robbers Then Steal Team To Make Escape.

Newcastle, Pa.—Robbers dynamited the safe in the New Wilmington, Pa., postoffice, near here, and got away with \$400 in money and stamps. After robbing the postoffice they stole a team of horses from a farmer and made their escape. Later the horses were found grazing by the roadside.

### Countess Kidnapped.

Rome.—The police of Orivieto found the Countess Cahen unconscious in a ditch in the woods near Allerton. She was carried into a nearby house and when she recovered she related how she had been kidnapped by a brigand with the object of blackmail. The Countess' husband, who was with her at the time of the kidnapping, was badly beaten and threatened with death. No arrest has been made so far.

## TRUST SAW MILLIONS IN IT

Secrets Of the Barons Revealed By Attorney For Swift & Co. Called At Trial In Chicago—Plans To Control Beef Industry.

Chicago.—Details of the plan for a \$500,000,000 merger of the Armour, Swift and Morris interests in 1902, by which the government contends it was sought to control the meat industry of the country, were revealed Tuesday in the trial of the 10 Chicago packers before United States District Judge George A. Carpenter.

The contract, which was dated May 31, 1902, was read to the jury and offered in evidence by counsel for the government. The original agreement was produced in court by Albert H. Veeder, attorney for Swift & Co., who was called by the government as its first witness.

Attorney Veeder testified that the plans for the merger were abandoned and that in March, 1903, the National Packing Co. was organized to operate certain independent packing companies purchased with a view of including them in the big company. Under the terms of the agreement, the three large packing corporations and their subsidiary companies, together with recently acquired independent companies, were to be merged into one concern. Armour, Swift and Morris were to receive bonds and preferred stock of the new company in payment for the value of their tangible property. In addition to this the promoters were to receive \$25,000,000 worth of the new company's stock for intangible property and a large block of common stock for their good will, this amount to be fixed by the earnings of the different plants during the first year of the new merger.

Packers Not in Secret. The promoters planned to borrow \$90,000,000 to finance the corporation. The appraised valuation of Armour, Swift, Morris and their subsidiary companies was given at \$180,000,000. Each of the three promoters deposited \$1,000,000 with a Chicago bank as an evidence of good faith, but they were compelled to drop the plan because of the failure of certain New York capitalists to furnish the funds needed.

Previous to the calling of Veeder to the stand the defense made an unsuccessful attempt to have excluded from the government's case all transactions prior to 1905 on the ground that the immunity plea which freed the packers when they were indicted seven years ago should apply to that period.

### A WORD COSTS HER RICHES.

Banker Armstrong Failed To Insert Word "Sisters" In His Will.

Cincinnati.—Mrs. Henrietta Goodloe, of Denver, Col., niece of former Banker James S. Armstrong, will not share in his \$1,500,000 estate, according to a decision by Common Pleas Judge Swing in a suit brought by the trustees to expedite the distribution of the estate.

Her share was lost to her because of the omission of the word sisters in the will. The document provided that the property was to be distributed among the heirs of brothers, nephews and nieces.

### A Republic Or War.

San Francisco.—The Chinese Six Companies, which is engaged in raising a two-million dollar loan for the Chinese revolutionary government, sent a cablegram to Wu Ting Fang at Shanghai asking him to resume hostilities rather than yield to Yuan Shi Kai's demands for a limited monarchy. All Chinese in America, it states, are firm for a republic. A similar message was sent to Tang Shao Yi, who represents Premier Yuan at the conference, asking him also to use his influence in behalf of a republic.

### Maine's Fighting Mast.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—The City Council adopted a resolution asking the Secretary of the Navy to send the fighting mast of the battleship Maine, sunk in Havana harbor, to Pittsburgh to form a part of a monument to the late Lieut. Friend W. Jenkins, of this city who lost his life when the ship met with disaster. The resolution will carry with it an appropriation sufficient to bring the mast here.

## RUSSIA'S TRADE WAR IN AMERICA

Prohibitive Tariff Bill in the Duma.

### NOT MUCH CONCERN HERE

Customs Duties To Be Generally Increased One Hundred Per Cent.—Is Aimed At American Agricultural Machinery.

St. Petersburg.—A supplementary legislative proposal of a frankly prohibitive character was introduced by the Nationalists into the Duma. It is aimed directly at the United States.

According to the terms of the proposed enactment, American citizens of the Jewish religion are to be totally excluded from Russia, and in the second place customs duties are to be raised by 100 per cent., unless the Russian normal schedule is lower than the American. In that case a duty squalling the American duty will be collected.

The author of the bill states that the last provision is necessary in order to deal with the import of American agricultural machinery.

The remaining points of the proposed bill correspond in virtually every particular with the bill introduced on December 22 by ex-President Guchkoff for tariff schedules applicable to the United States at the expiration of the Russo-American commerce and navigation treaty of 1832.

Washington.—Except as indicating the extent of Russian resentment at the action of the United States in abrogating the treaty of 1832, the introduction in the Duma of the bill attacking the American export trade with Russia is not regarded with much concern in official circles here. Even if the measure should be adopted by the Duma it would require the approval of the Imperial Council and of the Emperor himself to become law. In that case it could not take effect before January 1, 1913, because of the continuance until that date of the present treaty, with its favored nation clause.

Indications are that negotiations for a new treaty will not be undertaken seriously before September. In the interim the Russian general elections will have been held and the great American quadrennial political conventions will have passed into history. Removed from all likelihood of political influence in either country, it is felt that the negotiations then can be conducted in a calm and judicial manner.

### WILL PROVE A TEST.

The Madero Government's Action In the Reyes Case.

Washington.—The treatment to be accorded Gen. Bernardino Reyes, now that he has surrendered, is expected to prove a conclusive test of the stability of the Madero government. Under the Mexican military code, the punishment prescribed for rebellion is death, but State Department officials here are inclined to believe that such a sentence will not be imposed.

It is believed the military commission which will try General Reyes will convict him, but the verdict, it is expected, will be accompanied by a recommendation for clemency. President Madero himself is the only agency who can exercise the pardoning power, and his action in the case, it is believed, will demonstrate the degree of confidence he feels in his own ability to maintain a true Republican form of government in Mexico.

### GUARDING AGAINST TYPHOID.

Compulsory Vaccination In Navy and Marine Corps.

Washington.—As a supplementary preventative measure against the inroads of typhoid fever in the ranks of the Navy and Marine Corps, the compulsory inoculation of all the officers and enlisted men of these branches of the service under 45 years of age has been ordered by Secretary of the Navy Meyer. All recruits will be subjected to the treatment, and all those applying for re-enlistment also will take the treatment if they have not undergone it within two years previously or had a case of the fever. In case of doubt the order provides that it shall be administered.

### Two Dead Under Slide Of Clay.

New York.—Two men, Thomas Williams and Herbert Cole, a negro, were caught today in a slide of clay and sand in the Fourth avenue subway now being excavated in Brooklyn, and crushed to death. The slide was 80 feet below the surface of the street.

### Firemen Fight Snakes.

San Antonio, Tex.—While copperheads, rattlers and adders writhed over the floor, and tarantulas and other poisonous insects darted here and there, firemen fought a blaze in the bird and snake store of W. O. Learn. The reptiles became liberated when the streams of water shattered the boxes in which they were confined. Five hundred parrots were suffocated and 350 snakes were roasted to death.

## HOLIDAY MEAL BROUGHT DEATH

Thirty-Six Inmates of Berlin Shelter Poisoned.

### 40 OTHERS SERIOUSLY ILL

Officials Startled By Groans From the Dormitories During the Night—The Shelter Housed Thousands Of Inmates.

Berlin.—Eighteen inmates of the Berlin Municipal Shelter for the Homeless died during the night from poisoning, and 18 more died during the day, bringing the total number of deaths up to 36. Not less than 10 others are seriously ill from the same cause.

The number of destitute men who took refuge in the institution Wednesday night was 4,414. Some of them brought with them scraps of extra food in order to give a Christmas touch to the frugal meal of bread and soup served out to them by the authorities. This extra delicacy consisted in many cases of spoiled smoked herring, of which a large number parroted. Shortly after midnight groans were heard coming from the dormitories, of which there are about 46, and the officials on making an investigation found several men dying and others in convulsions.

The physicians attached to the institution at once administered emetics and telephoned for help from the city hospitals, but the state of many of the men was hopeless, and 18 of them died in a short time.

The cause of death has not yet been announced, but the authorities are confident that the putrid fish are responsible. The partially completed autopsies appear to substantiate this view. All those known to have partaken of the fish are dead or in such condition as to be unable to throw light on the subject. It is believed, however, that one of the victims found the fish in the garbage pile of a nearby market and divided them among his comrades.

The municipal Night Shelter of Berlin is an institution which provides sleeping accommodation and a meal to any destitute person who is forced to take refuge there at night. In the course of the last 12 months it has given shelter to over 1,000,000 persons who were entirely without means of subsistence. In the winter months the number of inmates amounting to between 4,000 and 5,000 men, besides a large number of women, and the cost of providing for them is met by an appropriation out of the city funds.

### PREFERS THE HELMET.

General Funston Says It Is Better Than the Campaign Hat.

Washington.—Head covering has a good deal to do with making a soldier, in the opinion of Brigadier General Funston. Based on his experience as commander of the Department of Luzon, he strongly favors the helmet as against the campaign hat, pointing to the fact that British soldiers, who have had much experience in the tropics, still stick to the helmet and can drill and fight without knocking it off. American soldiers, General Funston remarks, use the campaign hats as pillows too often, and consequently present an untidy appearance.

### DOGS BETTER BRED.

West Virginian's Opinion Of Neighbor Who Kills Them.

Elkins, W. Va.—John T. Davis inserted an advertisement in a local paper to let some of his fellow-townsmen know what he thinks of them. This is the advertisement: "I hereby offer \$500 reward for the arrest and conviction, or information leading to the arrest and conviction, of the dastardly cur who is destroying better-bred dogs than himself."

### BEGGED TO BE HANGED.

But Court Imposes a Life Sentence On Wife Slayer.

Belvidere, Ill.—When Charles Richards was sentenced to life imprisonment here for the murder of his wife he implored the court to make the sentence death instead. He pleaded guilty, and told the judge his sentence should have been the heaviest imposed by law.

### Honored By Emperor Of Germany.

Berlin.—The Emperor has conferred upon Her Von Kiderlen-Waechter, Secretary of Foreign Affairs the brilliant and oak leaves of the Order of the Red Eagle of the first class. The secretary already possessed the order.

### Two Men Shocked To Death.

Omaha, Neb.—Thomas J. Kelly and Anton Duda, department foremen for the Cudahy Packing Company, were electrocuted Thursday. Duda was lowering an elevator and was found dead at the bottom of the pit. Kelly undertook to move the elevator and died from the electric current which had accidentally been connected with the controller cable.