

The Centre Reporter

CENTRE HALL, PA.

AVIATION NONSENSE.

Why should any aviator at this stage talk flying across the Atlantic in 30 or any number of hours? If he feels impelled to try a 3,000-mile flight in a dirigible or an aeroplane, why does he not turn westward, where there is plenty of solid earth to land on? There may be men somewhat foolhardy enough to attempt the flight from Newfoundland to Ireland. It is a sure and easy way of achieving passing notoriety and incidentally of committing suicide by drowning, says the New York World. There will be time enough to talk of crossing the ocean in an aeroplane when this continent has been traversed by air without alighting. Back of this nonsense about flying across the Atlantic is the misfortune that the business of aviation has fallen so largely into the hands of showmen. They are interested chiefly in doing "stunts" for the sake of the advertising and future gate receipts. It is becoming a question whether practical advances will be made in the science of aviation in this country except the government take it up seriously for military purposes, as has been done in France.

The suggestion of Prof. George D. Baker, of Harvard, head of the Drama League, of Boston, that American audiences should indicate their disapproval of plays and players by hissing, is received by producers with disapproval, naturally, and is not likely to win much favor with the playgoer. The qualifications of the one who hisses must be examined before we will grant him the privilege, and not even a certificate from the Drama League that such and such persons are equipped with critical judgment and are able to reach safe and sound opinions will be sufficient warrant for a commission to hiss. It is imaginable that the tired business man might find most earnest and sincere objection to a play which was giving the Drama League keen intellectual enjoyment, says the Chicago Tribune. It might be dangerous to commission them to hiss, and if the Drama League hissed a play which the tired business man was enjoying, it probably would find itself on its head outside the main door. The hiss will not help the drama uplift. Empty seats are the best protest against undesirable, bad or banal plays.

If the army gets more aeroplanes it will have to call them airplanes. At least the appropriation bill reported by the house committee on military affairs calls the things airplanes, and airplanes, therefore, are the only things that can pull money away from the public treasury—unless congress alters the wording of the bill. It appears that a sensitive representative from Texas objects to the word "aeroplane," and will not be satisfied with anything less than "airplane," which he says means the same thing. In the interests of the simple life, by all means call the things airplanes.

France is soon to have the first aerial regiment ever organized. Not all the members can, for the present, take the air at once, but an appropriation is to be asked for buying enough aeroplanes to bring the total up to 1,000, of four different sorts. The yearly cost of keeping this service efficient is estimated at \$4,000,000; the cost in lives is not so easy to reckon.

That St. Petersburg is rapidly growing in population is evidenced by the census taken in December, 1910, which showed the population, including certain suburban villages formerly not covered, to be 1,807,708. It is pre-eminently an "office town" and also a seaport for six or eight months of the year. The principal industry is the manufacture of cotton textiles, although its advantage as a port of entry for the interior is gaining recognition. A line of steamers has been established to Libau, connecting there with a trans-Atlantic line to New York. This enables American shippers to send goods direct to this port without the delays of trans-shipment in foreign ports.

A Kansas professor thinks that courses on child-rearing should be introduced into our colleges. He is quite right in his criticism that, while we pay a great deal of attention to the breeding of live stock, we give practically none to the more important matter of breeding children.

A flock of wild geese raced a fast passenger train in Tennessee, and came out winners. They went into such a contest mainly, perhaps, because they were geese, yet they had more reason on their side than the human variety of their kind.

Aviator Latham has started for the Congo with a monoplane and a big game hunting outfit. Will Latham bag the game, or will the aeroplane bag Latham?

HOW A ROBBER ROBBED ROBBERS

He Was Afterwards Robbed Twice Himself.

DIVISION OF \$25,000 LOOT

Matteo Arbano Bluffed the Taxicab Bandits Into Giving Him \$10,000. In Turn Was Forced To Divide With Companions.

New York.—A robber who robbed the robbers who stole \$25,000 from two bank messengers in the financial district two weeks ago was afterward robbed twice himself. Such was the chapter added to the taxicab hold-up story by the confession of Matteo Arbano.

Arbano is anything but a robber in appearance. He is only five feet tall, weighs 100 pounds and wears spectacles. He gave himself up and told the police how he walked into a saloon where the five taxicab bandits were dividing the \$25,000 loot and by "pure bluff" was given \$10,000. As he left the saloon he was in turn held up by two companions and had to divide with them. With \$3,000 left, he fled to Havana, Cuba. In Havana he became acquainted with a woman, and after a night of drinking, he said, found himself short \$2,500, which, he alleged, the woman had stolen.

The police so far have recovered only \$2,000 of the original loot, and on this account heavy bail was required of all the men held in the case. The sum of \$23,000 was required in the case of Montani, the taxicab chauffeur, and prohibitive amounts asked for the others held.

Swedish Annie, the girl whose new hat, purchased for her by one of the robbers, led to the first clue to their identity, and two other women held as witnesses were discharged.

Eugene Splaine, one of the prisoners arrested in Tennessee in the taxicab robbery here, has made a complete confession, and in addition to telling of his part in the holdup, confessed to three other holdups in the city.

MATRON MADE DETECTIVE.

First Woman To Hold Position On New York Force.

New York.—The first woman detective of the first grade ever appointed to the New York police force was named by Commissioner Waldo when he rewarded Mrs. Isabella Goodwin, the police matron whose work as a sleuth led to the arrest of the taxi robbers. As a police matron she received a salary of \$1,000 a year. Her new rank carries with it a salary of \$2,250. To say that Mrs. Goodwin was pleased would be putting it mildly. The opinion of her fellow-sleuths is that she deserves all she got. Her work in connection with the \$25,000 taxi robbery is by no means her first detective work. During the last few years she frequently has gathered evidence against fortune-tellers and she has many convictions to her credit.

COTTONSEED RATES HELD UP.

Six Hundred Roads Affected By Action Of Commission.

Washington.—Railroad freight tariffs of the Southwestern lines making advances on cottonseed products, were suspended by the Inter-State Commerce Commission from March 2 until June 29, pending an investigation. While the order of the commission affects directly the rail lines operated in the Southwestern territory, it also directly concerns approximately 600 roads east of the Missouri river. The advances made in the tariffs amounted to about 10 per cent on an average, from Middle Western points to Texas ports and to Eastern destinations. A thorough investigation will be made into the proposed increase.

EXPRESS HEARING ADJOURNS.

Readjustment Of Methods and Rates Is In Sight.

Washington.—When the Inter-State Commerce Commission's investigation of express companies and their methods was adjourned Friday until March 25 a readjustment of not only the methods and practices of the companies, but also of their rates was in sight. Just how the question will be solved, if at all, has not been determined. During the recess committees named by Commissioner Lane will conclude their work and may be able to report. It is not unlikely that the inquiry will be ended shortly after it is resumed on March 25.

Orchids For King George.

San Mateo, Cal.—A shipment of 1,500 rare orchids, gathered in the Philippines and Central America, and valued at \$10,000, has left a local nursery for England, consigned to the collections of King George, the Duke of Westminster and the Duke of Sutherland. Preliminary shipping tests were made by sending plants to England and return in wood-lined boxes. These proved entirely successful, the plants showing no ill effects of the journey.

"SULPHUR AND MOLASSES"



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POWER OF THE STEEL TRUST

Expert Accountant, After Examination Of Corporation's Books, Says It Is In Restraint Of Trade.

Washington.—The House Steel Trust Investigation Committee made public the result of the inquiry into the books and minutes of the United States Steel Corporation, conducted by Farquhar J. McRae, an expert accountant.

The McRae report reaches the conclusion that the Steel Corporation operates in restraint of trade and prevents competition through a manipulation of prices, through the influence of the so-called "Gary dinners," by control of raw materials and through a system of interlocking directors in various companies. It also tends to contradict some of the testimony given by Steel Trust officials.

Some of the figures dealt with in the report are startling. It is shown that J. P. Morgan & Co. received approximately \$70,000,000 in cash profits for organizing the big steel combine, and that the net profits of the concern for the first nine years of its existence were more than a billion dollars.

Steel Corporation officials objected to producing their books before the committee in this city, but consented to place them freely at the disposal of an expert to be named by the committee. Mr. McRae made a thorough study of the books and minutes, and in his report to the committee he pointed out these salient features:

Morgan's Promoting Fee.

That J. P. Morgan & Co., heading the syndicate which organized the Steel Corporation, received a cash profit of \$65,300,000, of which \$62,500,000 was for promotion, with an additional commission of \$5,800,000 for a bond conversion scheme.

That the net earnings of the corporation for a period of nine years were \$1,029,685,389, or an equivalent of approximately \$13 a ton on finished product instead of \$980,000,311 as claimed by the corporation in its report.

That the Steel Corporation, contrary to the statement made by Judge Gary and H. C. Frick to President Roosevelt in 1907 that it did not control more than 60 per cent of steel properties in the country, controls about 80 per cent of the steel holdings.

The sections of the report dealing with the "Gary dinners," were independent as well as corporation steel men assembled to discuss conditions in the trade, contains an analysis of the legal effect of the "golden rule" policy prepared by Anthony J. Ernest, a New York lawyer, in which it is declared that the "conventions agreed to and enforced would be objectionable as regards their effect upon competition."

NO VOTE, NO TAXES.

Clergymen Make Radical Argument For Woman Suffrage.

Evanston, Ill., March 1.—"If I were a woman and a propertyowner I would go to the penitentiary and die there before I would pay taxes without being given a right to vote," said Rev. F. G. Smith, Congregationalist minister and member of the legislature, in a speech here on the Relation of the Church to Politics. "The property-owning woman is as much oppressed as we were when our flag was born," he continued. "Without the right to the ballot she is a mere nothing."

The House Congratulates China.

Washington.—The House by unanimous consent adopted Representative Sulzer's resolution congratulating the people of China upon their assumption of the responsibilities of self-government.

Little Bob Gaved Train.

St. Joseph, Mo.—A small, red-headed, freckled-faced boy whose name is unknown, but whose first name is Bob, saved train No. 17 on the Burlington from being wrecked near Wheeling, Mo. The boy discovered a broken rail and then waited an hour in the bitter cold to flag the first train which came along. When one of the women passengers tried to kiss him he took to his heels. Passengers took up a collection to be sent to the boy when his identity is established.

COAL OPERATORS GET ULTIMATUM

British Government to Compel a Settlement.

STRIKE MUST NOT CONTINUE

Prime Minister Asquith Declares It Shall Become a Part Of the Organization and Working Of the Coal Industry.

London.—The settlement of the threatened coal strike is yet far off. The Government has not been able to induce all the coal owners to agree to the demand for a minimum wage made by the miners, but Premier Asquith declares that if the principle of a minimum wage is not secured by agreement it would be secured by other means.

Fully 800,000 miners have already laid down their tools and will not pick them up again until an agreement satisfactory to the Miners' Federation is reached.

The men have the Government behind them and feel that victory has been won.

Chancellor Lloyd-George is drafting a minimum wage bill, but it is stated that the Government is hopeful of being able to secure the establishment of a minimum wage without recourse to legislation, now that the mine owners see that they are powerless to resist longer.

Railways Curtail.

Some of the railways have sent out notifications of curtailment of their services, owing to the strike.

"The Government having recognized the principle of a minimum wage for all underground workers, if it is not secured by agreement, it will be secured by the Government by other means."

This extract from the speech made by the Prime Minister to members of the National Miners' Federation, as reported in the official statement concerning the conference, indicates the lengths to which the Government is prepared to go to settle the strike. It is virtually an ultimatum to the coal owners.

Emphasizing that point again, Mr. Asquith said that the Government is determined "that the minimum wage shall become part and parcel of the organization and working of the coal industry by whatever appropriate means the Government can command."

DANGER IN STOVE POLISH.

Court Holds Merchant Liable For the Exploding Kind.

Boston.—Stores selling stove polish containing explosive ingredients are liable for damages to persons injured by explosions resulting therefrom, according to a decision handed down by the Supreme Judicial Court. The ruling was made in the suit brought by C. E. Gately against Joseph B. Taylor for the suffering of his wife before she died from injuries sustained when stove polish she was using exploded. The lower court awarded Gately a \$3,000 verdict, and this was sustained.

Lived On Corn Fifteen Days.

Johnson City, Tenn.—A negro who had been without food and water for 15 days was found in a carload of corn when the car was opened here. The negro was unconscious, but soon was revived. He stated that he was sealed up in the car at Cincinnati February 12, having entered it to spend the night.

Swam With Broken Thigh.

Louisville, Ky.—With his thigh fractured in two places, William Nelson, a structural ironworker, swam 50 yards to shore in the Ohio River. Two fellow-workmen were pinioned by a heavy block on the uncompleted superstructure of a railroad bridge 100 feet above the water, and Nelson crawled out along a "traveler" to release them. He was backing away after rescuing them when he lost his balance and fell into the river, striking projecting timbers as he shot downward.

SOLDIERS MUTINY BURN TARTAR CITY

Foreigners Are Brought Into Legation Quarters.

NATIVES ARE KILLED IN RIOTS

Foreign Troops Barricade Entrances To the Legation Quarter With Bags Of Sand—Rifle Bullets Fall Into the Foreign Quarters.

Peking.—Many natives have been killed or wounded in a mutiny of Yuan Shi Kais unpaid soldiers, but so far as known all foreigners are safe. The legation quarter is crowded, but the missionaries are holding forth in their own compounds.

When the outbreak occurred it was estimated that 2,000 soldiers took part, but since then the mutineers have been augmented by large numbers of the police, coolies and loafers. The legations know no reasons for the outbreak. The idea is expressed that Yuan Shi Kais soldiers began the trouble when they learned that he intended to leave the capital for Nanking. The soldiers are everywhere looting from house to house. They have not spared even foreign residences within one block of the legation quarter.

Fires were started in various sections and territory of more than a mile in area of the Tartar city has been burned. The flames stretch from the Forbidden City to the building of the Chinese Foreign Board, where Yuan Shi Kais resides, the flames reaching within half a mile of the legations. The quarters occupied by the Nanking delegates who came here to notify Premier Yuan of his election as President have been enveloped in flames.

Shell Falls Into Legation.

Much reckless shooting has occurred and one shell, which fell into the compound of the American Legation, tore through the tent of one of the soldiers of the recently arrived reinforcements, but did not explode.

Among the refugees at the American Legation are Willard D. Straight, ex-American consul general at Mukden, and now the representative of a New York financial syndicate, and his wife, who was Miss Dorothy P. Whitney, daughter of the late William C. Whitney, and Daniel A. De Menocal, representative of the International Banking Corporation at Peking, and his wife, all of whom had thrilling experiences as they traversed the streets in which Chinese troops were engaged in looting.

Americans Most Exposed.

The American is the most exposed legation, lying outside the main quadrangle of the quarter. The American end of Legation street is the only unclosed section. The legation recently considered putting up barricades, but, not caring to excite Chinese suspicion, merely depended on sand bags and barbed wire which has now been more effectively rearranged for defensive purposes.

FORMING TOBACCO POOL.

Want Growers To Pledge Product For Ten Years.

Lexington, Ky.—Meetings under the direction of the Burley Tobacco Society were held in forty-six counties in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky to further the campaign for a ten-year tobacco pooling agreement. Officials of the Burley Society estimate that about 40,000 farmers, producing an average of about 300,000,000 pounds annually, will have signed the pooling pledge when the final count is taken.

LABOR JOINS IN PROTEST.

Strikes Proposed If Steel Tariff Is Reduced.

Washington.—Labor joined in protest before the Senate Finance Committee against the tariff reductions on steel and tin plate as contained in the House Steel Bill. John Williams, of Pittsburgh, president of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, declared that the reductions would precipitate a conflict between capital and labor. He was supported by Richard Sulloway, of Steubenville, O.; Walter Larkin, of Martins Ferry, W. Va.; and Jenkins Jones, of Follansbee, W. Va., workers in tin mills, who prophesied strikes in that industry following tariff reduction and consequent lowering of wages.

Minister Garrett Received.

Buenos Ayres.—John W. Garrett, the recently appointed American Minister to Argentina, was officially received by President Saenz Pena, Thursday. The Minister was accorded military honors and was most cordially greeted by the President.

Predicts Big American Strike.

Des Moines, Ia.—A strike of several hundred thousand American miners, including 20,000 men employed in the Iowa field, was predicted by Thomas Ray, president of an Iowa mining company, for April 1, when the present working agreements expire. "We expect the greatest strike we ever had," said Mr. Ray. "Conditions seem to be ripe for a contest between the miners and operators."

COMMERCIAL

Weekly Review of Trade and Market Reports.

Bradstreet's says: "Many visiting buyers have been in the leading markets this week, and as a result house trade has shown further slight expansion, with dry goods and millinery figuring to best advantage. On the other hand, road sales have been deterred by unfavorable weather conditions."

R. G. Dun & Co. says:

"A large volume of business is doing, but because it does not break previous records and does not progressively and steadily increase, there is a disposition to describe trade conditions as less than satisfactory, whereas the situation is, in fact, as good as could reasonably be expected in a year when a Presidential campaign tends to retard enterprise. Outside of this quadrennial influence there is no ground for loud complaint. "The iron and steel trade is, indeed, less active, though several large orders for steel cars, ties, locomotives and bridges have come in. As to prices, terms are modified in some instances, according to the desirability of the order. Moderate sales have been made of foundry and basic iron, but bessemer is rather quiet."

Wholesale Markets

NEW YORK.—Wheat—Spot firm; No. 2 red, 100c elevator export basis, and 102½c f o b afloat; No. 1 Northern Duluth, 120 f o b afloat.

Corn—Spot firm; No. 2 76c, elevator domestic basis to arrive and export, 72c f o b afloat.

Butter—Firm; creamery specials, 25c; extras, 28½c; firsts, 27½@28; seconds, 26@27; thirds, 25@25½; creamery held, firsts, 27@27½; seconds, 26@26½; thirds, 25; packing stock, current make, No. 2, 22½@23.

Poultry—Live steady; Western chickens, 12@12½c; fowls, 13½@14½; turkeys, 15@16. Dressed steady; Western chickens, 12½@13; fowls, 12½@16; turkeys, 12@21.

PHILADELPHIA.—Wheat—Steady; contract grade, No. 2 red, in export elevators, 96½@99c. No. 1 Northern, in export elevators, 120½@121½. Eggs—Firm, 30c per case higher; Pennsylvania and other nearby firsts, free cases, \$9.50 per case; do, current receipts, free cases, \$9.50; Western firsts, free cases, \$9.50; do, current receipts, free cases, \$9.50.

Cheese—Firm; New York full cream, fancy, 18¼c; do, fair to good, 17½@18.

Live poultry—Steady; fowls, 14@15c; old roosters, 10@10½; ducks, 14@15; geese, 14@16; turkeys, 14@15.

BALTIMORE.—Wheat—No. 2 red Western, 97½c; contract, 97½c; No. 3 red, 96½c; steamer, No. 2 red, 94½c; steamer, No. 2 red Western, 94½c. The closing was inactive; spot and February, 97½c nominal; March, 98½c nominal; May, 101½c nominal.

Corn—Spot and February, 69½@69; March, 69½; April, 70½.

Oats—No. 2 white, 58c; standard white, 57½c; No. 3 white, 57; light and medium weight white oats are bringing a premium over the heavier weights.

Butter—Creamery, fancy, 25; creamery, choice, 27@28; creamery, good, 25@26; creamery, imitation, 24@25; creamery, prints, 29@31.

Cheese—We quote, jobbing prices, per lb, 19½@20c.

Eggs—Maryland, Pennsylvania and nearby firsts, 30c; Western firsts, 30c; West Virginia firsts, 30; Southern firsts, 28; guinea eggs, 14@15. Rerated and rehandled eggs, ½@10 higher.

Dressed Poultry—Turkeys—Choice, 20c; fair to good, 18@19; rough and poor, 11@14. Chickens—Choice, young, 14@16c; old and mixed, 14@15; old roosters, 10. Ducks, 15@16. Geese—Nearby, 13@14; Western and Southern, 10@13; Capons, large, 7 lbs and over, 21@22; medium, 18@20; small and slips, 15@17.

Live Stock

CHICAGO.—Cattle—Market strong to 10c higher. Beefsteers, \$4.70@5.50; Texas steers, \$4.50@5.65; Western steers, \$4.80@7; stockers and feeders, \$3.80@6.10; cows and heifers, \$2@6.40; calves, \$5.50@7.75.

Hogs—Market strong, mostly 10c higher. Light, \$5.90@6.30; mixed, \$5.90@6.35; heavy, \$6@6.37½; rough, \$6@6.10; pigs, \$4.35@6; bulk of sales, \$6.20@6.30.

Sheep—Market strong. Native, \$3.30@4.75; Western, \$3.60@4.80; yearlings, \$4.80@5.57; lambs, native, \$4.30@6.85; Western, \$4.75@6.90.

NEW YORK.—Steers slow to 10c lower; bulls steady to shade lower; cows dull to 25c lower; steers, \$4.75@7.50; bulls, \$3.75@6; cows, \$1.75@5; extra fat, \$5.25@5.60; dressed beef slow at 8@11½.

Calves—Market steady. Veals, \$7@10.50; culls, \$5@6.50; barmyard calves, \$2.50@4; Westerns nominal; dressed calves firm; city dressed veals, 12@16; country dressed, 11@13½.

Sheep and Lambs—Market steady to firm; sheep, \$3@4.50; culls, \$2.50@2.75; lambs, \$6@6.75; culls, \$4@5.

Hogs—Market steady at \$6.45@6.70.