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communicate with them, that they may use the increased rental as the basis for an increase in the assessed taxable value of the property. They apparently think that the man who adds \$5 a month to the rent of a house that has been let for \$20 ought to turn over part of the money to the city treasury in taxes.

MOBS MISREPRESENT AMERICA: DO THEY BELIEVE OTHERS, TOO?

We May View Other Countries More Intelligently Through the Smoke at Chicago and Washington

TO SPEAK of the street fights and the gunplay in Washington and Chicago as race riots is to put a wrong interpretation upon the ancient curse of mob psychology.

A mob is a mob. It has no mind, no courage, no rational motive based upon race prejudice or any reasoned objective. In action it represents nothing but the primeval brute that still persists beneath a thin veneer in familiar types of sub-normal men and women of every race and color—always ready for a fling when the odds are heavily upon its side.

Mobs do not react to race antipathies alone. They burned women in Massachusetts. They started religious riots in Philadelphia and destroyed churches. They harass Jews in Poland, Americans in Mexico and Socialists in New York with equal violence.

Race hatred was merely incidental to the fights in Chicago and Washington. In the unprovoked aggression by white men and the savage reprisals of the negroes mob psychology, the will to destroy that overleaps civilized restraints wherever mental defectives happen accidentally to gather in force, was clearly apparent.

For America the circumstances of the riots in the two cities would be particularly unfortunate at this time, even if it were not for the manifest injustice involved for a loyal and warm-hearted people whose great misfortune it is to be misunderstood.

The negroes in Washington who attacked white women and thus gave the mob an excuse for action have not been caught. In Chicago none of the white men who stoned a negro child to his death has been arrested. For the moment at least our pretentious ultimatum to the lesser peoples of the earth must seem pitifully futile.

There is no way of knowing what is said in Russia or India or Germany or Mexico of the recent outbreaks in this country. But it is easy to imagine that similar reports from abroad would set a lot of complacent Americans to talking of "peoples unfit for self-government."

There is talk, of course, of investigations in Congress. Congress is always ready to oblige with an investigation. But it did nothing when streams of negro laborers, unfitted by training and temperament for the life of industrial cities, were being directed into northern war factories by employment agents who depopulated southern farms for the head tax which they were able to collect for jobs.

There is a race problem in America. It is acute and it is pressing, but no one doubts that it will be solved sooner or later. Only oversensitive whites and oversensitive blacks make it cause for fear or violence.

THE GOWNSMAN

The Rubber Plant
WE NEVER knew that dear old Cousin Sarah had an enemy in the world until somebody gave her a rubber plant. To our inquiries, she was reticent. No, Cousin Thomas, Sarah's husband, had not given it to her. We confess that we had always thought better of Thomas than that.

ARUBBER plant is not a place where they manufacture motor tires, or rubber shoes, popularly known as "gums," or hot-water bottles, or even chewing gum. A rubber plant is not an affair metaphorical, but only too real an entity of the vegetable kingdom, possessed of a certain dependent evolution of dissimilation, which is not taken into the family, which offers a strong argument in favor of a belief in the powers of ratiocination in plants.

THE truth must be discovered, no matter who is hurt. The crime of taking the deposits of the innocent public and then making way with them differs in no whit from the crime of holding up a man on the street in the dark and rifling his pockets. The banking method of high-way robbery is a little more complicated, that is all.

OF the \$2,000,000 shortage, it is estimated that about one-half may be recovered. This leaves \$1,000,000 that has disappeared. It is up to the courts to prove that the men who steal \$1,000,000 are not immune to punishment. The quicker the punishment is inflicted the more wholesome the lesson will be.

THE Philadelphia mint is daily turning out the wages of three million Johnnies. Johnny, the Margery Daw poet tells us, makes only a penny a day because he can work no faster. And with an output three million times as large the mint is in the same fix as Johnny; for, working as fast as it can, it is still 80,000,000 pennies behind the demand.

WAR-time taxes did it. The trouble began when a certain impetuous cuss tried to borrow seven cents to buy a nickel's worth of chocolate. Then the theatres and movie houses did their bit. Time was when the copper cent was no better than the thirtieth part of nothing at all. But mark the change the war has brought about! Today the penny is king!

It was dead against "Human Interest" the rules set down by the investigators of the North Penn, but when a woman touched the heart of a big cop he called the receiver and spoke his mind, and the woman got the Liberty Bond she was after. Yes, indeed! It never fails.

The house of correction is the richer for a pair of skilled psychologists. A policeman found one of them holding a hat into which the other at intervals dropped a coin, his example being followed by those who saw and admired. A local magistrate promoted them.

The wise politician builds a protecting wall with the bricks that are thrown at him. Common sense inoculation is the only way of staying the race-hysteria epidemic. By the time he meets all the senators, the President may be a pretty good mixer.

Whether a mob be black or white, it is usually black-hearted and white-livered. Will the Entente powers be willing to swap a Franco-American treaty for a frank American treaty, one of our own framing? Wireless communication has again been established between America and Germany. But being on speaking terms does not necessarily mean any warm friendship.

FINGER PRINTS?

THE other day we shaved off a mustache that in its three-year career had incurred nothing but obloquy. It had never been appreciated by any one but our seven-month-old daughter. It had been a source of dissatisfaction to the one who had the best right to complain, and we determined not to let a little thing like a mustache come between us. And, finally, it had been referred to in public prints as a "haywagon."

As to Mustaches
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THE CHAFFING DISH

The Victorian Post
I AM too old to be ensnared. By formless verse. For I first aired My boyish lyre in Dobson's rule. And taught myself in that strict school To have my stanzas filed and pared.

HOW hopelessly for rhymes I stared! But chipped and polished till I bared The finer grain. Discard my tool? I am too old.

I VOTE for verses craftsman-cared— Landon's, Dobson's, De la Mare's; For rhyme is still the quiet pool Where Beauty is reflected. You'll Agree (as many have declared) I am too old.

When the millstone is finally hanged about the neck of the chief culprit in the North Penn Bank affair and he is cast into a nice, cool oubliette, it would be appropriate to carve the stone's perimeter with milled edges.

Maids, Wives and Widows
The Romance of an Easterner From the West
By Harry Levenkron
CHAPTER 3
AFTER we left the sheriff and the bandit in his hands, later finding out that he was sentenced to be executed immediately, and was executed. This gave us a piece of work less and his blood wiped of our souls.

President of the — Railroad.
She related as she finished the last part and I had a hard time bringing her back to life. "Well, to be sure, she said, 'After that awful train wreck, it made a wreck out of me, and you can go to sleep for a while until you rest.'"

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THE PEACEMAKER

UPON his will he binds a radiant chain. For Freedom's sake he is no longer free. It is his task, the slave of Liberty, With his own blood to wipe away a stain. That pain may cease, he yields his flesh to pain.

To banish war, he must a warrior be. He dwells in night, eternal dawn to see. And gladly dies abundant life to gain.

What matters Death, if Freedom be not dead? No flags are fair, if Freedom's flag be furled. Who fights for Freedom, goes with joyful tread To meet the fires of Hell against him hurled. And has for captain Him whose thorn-wreathed head Smiles from the Cross upon a conquered world.

Most of the rioting in Chicago was started by boys and young men. Youth initiates more problems than it settles.

The utility of the inquiry being conducted by the German National Assembly concerning responsibility for the war will be demonstrated only when punishment is meted out to the offenders.

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. A hookah is a pipe with a long, flexible tube, smoke being drawn through water in a vase to which the tube and a tobacco bowl are attached.

2. A glockenspiel is an instrument consisting of bells attuned to the diatonic scale and played by a keyboard attachment. It is also an organ stop of two ranks.

3. Old Faithful is one of the individual geysers in Yellowstone National Park, with a jet reaching from 125 to 150 feet.

4. Sir Roger de Coverley is the chief character in the club professing to write the "Spectator." He was sketched by Steele and developed by Addison.

5. The packers known as the Big Five are Swift, Armour, Morris, Cudahy and Wilson.



WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

- 1. How did Rotten Row, in Hyde Park, London, get its name?
2. Who was Plato?
3. Who said "All free governments are party governments"?
4. What is eponymy?
5. What Alexandrian grammarian was known as Grammaticorum Princeps?
6. What is fluorine?
7. What city is known as the Gate of the South?
8. What is the estimated population of Philadelphia?
9. What English dramatist wrote "I, Eyed Susan; or, All in the Down"?
10. What celebrated group of rocks is known as the Profile?

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6. Henry Ward Beecher said "The mystery of history is an insoluble problem."
7. Anne Hathaway was the wife of William Shakespeare.
8. The state of Iowa is known as the Hawkeye State, in allusion to a famous Indian chief at one time a terror to the settlers there.
9. Pall Mall, London, derives its name from a game once played there and still played in out of the way corners in Italy. The game got its name from Palla, a ball, and Maglia, its name.
10. The Germans destroyed Louvain August 26, 1914.

RAISED UNRAISED RAZED.

SOCRATES.