In the Kongo

Business Men Versus Missionaries and Philanthropists - What King Leopold Has Done - His Alleged Cruelties to the Natives - America's Interest In the Rubber Industry

HE Kongo question is the very latest to loom large on the international horizon. It is a question with many sides. Some appeal to the merchants and business men and the captains of industry, like the Ryans and Aldriches and Rockefellers, and some awaken the interest of the philanthropist, the lovers of right and justice for all men, whatever their skin. On the commerclal side of the Kongo question the latest incident is the big rubber concession granted an American syndicate, a concession affecting some 8,000,000 acres of land in the Kongo Free State and including a franchise to construct a railroad and operate copper mines. The amount to be paid King Leopold of Belgium and the Belgian government has not been made public, but the terms of the agreement are said to have been settled save for the formal approval of the Belgian parliament.

With the capitalists it is a question of "How much can we make out of these African wilds?" With the philanthropists it is a question of whether right and justice and humanity have prevailed under the rule of the Kongo country by that remarkable monarch, the king of the Belgians. The investigation of the matter on the demand of the Christian missionaries in the Kongo region has revealed a state of things said by some to be a disgrace to the civilization of the twentieth century. On the other hand, King Leopold is not without some able defenders. They claim that great progress has been





MARKET NATIVE WOMEN OF KONGO FREE STATE AND THEIR WAY OF WEAR-ING THEIR HAIR.

made in developing the country and more numerous than must be expected John and Margaret M. Sniffen. He was in a region only just emerging from savagery.

The opponents of King Leopold maintain, however, that the story of the Kongo Free State is a story of a stupendous crime committed by one man against an entire nation, that the very name of the country is a misnomer, that Leopold is looting it to the tune of fully \$14,000,000 a year and giving nothing in return and that the outrages are committed under his rule upon the helpless blacks.

The question naturally arises as to how the Belgian king came to hold absolute sway over this portion of Africa. It was due in the first place to his pretensions as a supporter of enterprise and philanthropy. In 1876 the civilized world was shocked by the tales of cruelties practiced in connection with the Portuguese slave trade. It was about this time, too, that Stanley's discoveries were interesting the public greatly in the dark continent. The International Kongo association was formed with the view of developing that part of Africa and suppressing the slave trade. Treaties were negotiated with the native tribes by it. King Leopold, working through this association, gradually induced the powers, including the United States, to give over their responsibilities in the territory to him. His opponents assert that a large native army is employed in bulldozing the natives into supplying rubber at ridiculously inadequate compensation and that massacres, mutilations and atrocities which baffle description are committed in the pursuit of the ends of trade. On the other hand. some say much has been done to im prove the barbaric conditions.

The capital of the Kongo Free State is Bomba, where there is a government park with beautiful flowers and statuary. The customs of the natives are most interesting, and the women are especially clever in basket work and pottery and weaving. They are votaries of fashion, like their white sisters and display a sort of elegance in the manner in which they wear their clothes and arrange their coiffures.

NO DUKE FOR HER.

Daughter of Chairman Shonts and Her Rejection of Titled Suitor.

The daughter of Chairman Theodore P. Shonts of the Panama canal commission is not going to marry a foreign "dook," and now the digging of the big ditch may proceed. When people heard that in spite of the unhappy outcome of the Gould-Castellane match and the Vanderbilt-Marlborough match and many other international marriages Miss Theodora Shonts was about to wed the Duc de Chaulnes et de Picquigny they remarked that hereafter American girls who sold themselves for titles would get little sympathy if any had cause to rue the day when the bargain was made. And a



MISS THEODORA SHONTS.

great many sensible young women, thinking of the mistakes made by Anna Gould and Helen Morton and Consuelo Vanderbilt and numerous others, said to themselves, "No counts or dukes for mine."

But once more the level headedness of the American girl, rich or poor, is vindicated, for the clever and pretty Miss Shonts denies the reported engagement and intimates with emphasis that when a marriage "is arranged" between herself and some foreign nobleman she will be apt to know something about it. Miss Shonts and her mother returned not long since from a visit to France, where she met the duke, who was numbered among her admirers. Later she and Mrs. Shonts enjoyed a trip to the canal zone during the visit of President Roosevelt. It was the duke himself who gave out the report of his engagement to Miss an will not realize the effect of her Shonts, but it appears he was mistak- own attitude on her husband-how en. As the daughter of the canal digger is young, clever and full of spirits, it is hinted that up to a certain stage she may have encouraged the matrimonial overtures of the duke's relatives just to have a little fun with the venerated customs of the French in respect to the making of matches on earth instead of in heaven.

GENERAL C. C. SNIFFEN.

New Army Paymaster Who Was Secretary to U. S. Grant.

The new paymaster general of the army, Culver Channing Sniffen, is one of the few living men who were really close to General Ulysses S. Grant. He was one of the great commander's BOLOBO SCHOOLGIRES COMING FROM confidential secretaries while the general occupied the White House and is believed to have a larger number of Grant manuscripts than any other person not a member of the family of the improving the condition of the natives late president. General Sniffen was born and that the cases of barbarity are not in New York city in 1844 and is a son of



educated in the then city of Brooklyn and in 1873 married Miss S. R. Ruan. It was from 1873 to 1877 that he was ne of Grant's secretaries, and in the latter year he became a major and paymaster in the army. He served in this rank until 1800, when he was promoted to be a lieutenant colonel and deputy paymaster general. He was assistant paymaster general, with the rank of colonel, from 1901 until his recent promotion to the headship of this branch of the military department of the government. He is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and of the

Military Order of Foreign Wars. Abandoned. Who will adhere to him that abanlons himself?-Sidney.

MAKING A SHIRT WAIST.

Simple Matter if Proper Attention

Is Given to Details. The making of the unlined shirt waist or blouse is a very simple matter if proper attention is given to the little details. It is most important that the pattern be laid on according to the thread of the material, especially in ing more than two boxes put together, wash fabrics. Shirt waists are usually unlined, although those of silk and flannel are sometimes made with a

If the shirt waist closes in the front, the right edge is generally finished by a box plait stitched on each edge. Buttonholes are worked through the center of this plait and buttons sewed to the left side, which is hemmed or finished by a lap. French seams are used, and the gathers are put in at the waist line according to the perforations in the pattern. The belt and peplum that is now used to finish the lower edge do away with any unnecessary fullness below the waist and give a trimappearance and smooth fit over the

The making of the sleeves is usually considered by the amateur as the most difficult part of the waist. First the sleeve lining must be accurately cut and basted, care being taken that the corresponding notches come together. and then tried on to see that the elbow is in the right position. After the seams are stitched and pressed they should be bound with the seam binding. An interlining of crinoline about two inches wide should be placed in the lower edge. In sewing the sleeve in the armhole hold the waist so that the sleeve is toward you and bind with a blas strip of the lining.-Philadelphia

A WIFE'S INFLUENCE.

The Effect of a Woman's Attitude Toward Her Husband.

"It seems to me that comparatively few wives understand the scope of their own influence. They are, as a rule, much more occupied by the influence on themselves of the husband's attitude," says Mary Stewart Cutting in Harper's Bazar. "A woman may be utterly disappointed, cast down, even tearful, because, after a day of toil, through all the tedious, dragging, wearisome details of which she has been upheld by the thought of her husband's home coming at night, he is himself tired, taciturn, oblivious of her. She may excuse, she may pity, she may sympathize, but the fact itself takes away just so much motive power of her own-takes away some necessary exhilaration that is the lubricating oil in those cogwheels of continuous effort. Yet this very wommuch of his motive business power is taken from him for the day because the hours in which he should have been resped and cheeces have been filled with complainings and lamenting over situations which were not his to cope with and problems which he cannot work out."

THOUGHTS FOR GIRLS.

Your mother is your best friend. Tell the pleasantest things you know when at meals.

Do not expect your brother to be as dainty as a girl. Have nothing to do with girls who

snub their parents. Exercise and never try to look as if

you were in delicate health. Introduce every new acquaintance to

your mother as soon as possible. Enjoy the pleasures provided for you by your parents to the fullest extent. Most fathers are inclined to overindulge their daughters. Make it impossible for your father to spoil you by fairly returning his affection and

Do not quarrel with your brother, do not preach to him, and do not coddle him. Make him your friend, and do not expect him to be your servant or let him expect you to be his.

Coronation Braid.

A group of women around a shop window were admiring a table centerpiece of great beauty. They pronounced it a most perfect specimen of laid work when one discovered that it was made with coronation braid in the pattern of loose sprays of wheat ears tied with a ribbon, a loop of the braid forming each kerpel, with long stitches taken at the point. The ribbon was outlined with the braid couched long. The long space between the rows of braid was filled with cross stitch set closely together, as in shallow work. The whole could be done rapidly, but was as satisfactory as if days had been spent in setting stitches closely together. This braid can be adapted to other flower forms and leaves in an effective manner. The use of it is a legitimate way of shirking, which the most conscientious needle worker would approve.-Chicago Inter Ocean.

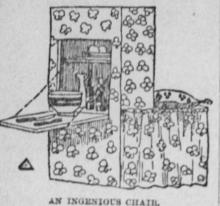
Bloomer Trousers.

For the mothers who do their own sewing here is a method of making the bloomer trousers for small boys. One does not like the idea of an elastic in the bottom of the leg, as in order to hold it in place securely it must necessarily be tight enough to interfere with the circulation and to be very uncomfortable, especially in hot weather. Instead, finish the bottom with a band, comfortably loose, and in each seam sew a tape, in the other end of which make a buttonhole. The tapes are made the proper length so when those at the outside leg seams are buttoned to the side buttons of the waist and the others buttoned to the center front button the trousers are held securely in place, with no danger of slipping down, and the little man is comfort-

AN ODD CHAIR.

This Practical Device Is Made of Two Chintz Covered Boxes.

The quaint chintz covered chair, with its big brass nails and flowered ruffles, that is shown in the illustration answers for china closet and kitchenette besides. This wonderful affair is noth-



sensible of all Christmas Gifts.

Winter Rubbers or Arctics ?

tle Slippers, Bootees or Moccasins.

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Come, see our splendid Holiday Display.

ble for every purpose.

one for the back and one for the seat. The bachelor girl opens a door like a writing desk in the back, and there is everything she wants, from dishes to vinegar and pepper and salt. If you are not too inquisitive she will tell you that another chintz covered affair in the corner with the fern sitting on it is an icebox.

Artistic? Well, rather. And very practical.

DRESS HINTS.

In sewing up a skirt stitch from the bottom up, and it goes with, not against, the bias.

For sewing on buttons stitch twice down the hem and sew buttons on this stitching, and they will not tear out the

Very popular shades rarely last more than one season, and the woman of moderate purse, therefore, tries to select what will not be a marked color after another year.

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brance for the older members of the family than a pair of

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sight. Should any person doubt the statement, Prof. Angel is well able to give plenty of individual testimonials of some of the best people of Bellefonte and vicinity. Prof. Angel is trustworthy and reliable. If you wish to save your eyesight and money too, don't fail to call on Prof. Angel. All parents are advised to have their children's eyes examined especially those that go to school. You will thereby make a good scholar and avoid suffering.

At the Brockerhoff House from Thursday morning until Friday noon, Dec. 20 and 21.

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are the first signs of Kidney trouble. Thousands have kidney trouble and do not know it. When the kidneys become affected they in turn will affect the Nerves causing Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Restlessness and Irritability; too frequent or infrequent Urination; Excessive, Scanty or Painful Urinary Passages. For these disorders take

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They are almost specific in their action in restoring these organs to their normal condition; they remove the poisons from the blood, and cheerfulness and good health return. One month's treatment one dollar at Krumrine's Pharmacy; and if you are not benefitted ask for your money back, and you will get it.

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