

THE STAR-INDEPENDENT

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Saturday, May 22, 1915.

Calendar for May showing days of the week and dates from Sun. to Sat.

MOON'S PHASES— Last Quarter, 6th; New Moon, 13th; First Quarter, 21st; Full Moon, 28th.

WEATHER FORECASTS Harrisburg and vicinity: Partly cloudy to-night and Sunday.

Eastern Pennsylvania: Partly cloudy to-night and Sunday. Cooler to-night in eastern portion. Moderate winds, mostly west.

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURE IN HARRISBURG Highest, 58; lowest, 52; 8 a. m., 53; 8 p. m., 57.

MRS. CARMAN AND THE MOVIES

If accurate information is conveyed in a New York dispatch published here yesterday, Mrs. Florence Conklin Carman, acquitted two weeks ago of the murder of Mrs. Louise D. Bailey, is about to enact before the motion picture camera the story of that sensational tragedy so far as it was revealed in her two trials in the court of Freeport, L. I.

Mrs. Carman's venture will be the first conspicuous case of a person who has gained widespread newspaper notoriety through a sensational murder investigation, endeavoring to profit through it by acting or trying to act for the movie screen.

Persons who nowadays pay out their money to see people on the stage expect to see real acting in return for what they hand in at the box office. While they may possess a more or less natural curiosity to get a glimpse of a woman whose name has long been coupled in the newspapers with a sensational crime, that curiosity in these days no longer is so strong as to make them willing to part with very much good money to see that woman stride onto the stage unless they are satisfied that she can do some acting after she gets there.

However, assuming it is true that Mrs. Carman is actually to venture before the public as a movie poser, it is of course possible she may meet with more financial success than did Nan Patterson when she appeared in person on the stage. We don't know whether Mrs. Carman can act nor do we know, in case she cannot, whether she is capable of learning how to act in a way that would be at all worth the price of admittance to a motion picture house.

One thing, however, that can be said with all positiveness, is that if Mrs. Carman actually does intend, as the New York dispatch said she does, to re-enact the repelling Freeport tragedy for the motion picture screen, and if an effort is made to show the pictures in this state, it will present an excellent opportunity for the members of the Pennsylvania Board of Censors to show whether they are earning their recently very much increased salaries.

METAL FURNITURE NOW ADVISED

Office buildings in which the rooms are furnished with wooden desks, card cases, rows of files filled with paper, and waste baskets overflowing with the refuse of a day's business, are, even though

they have fireproof walls and ceilings, greater fire menaces than are furniture warehouses, according to the New York City Fire Commissioner.

"Fireproof" is said to mean nothing with reference to a building in which, when fire starts in an office having inflammable furnishings, it can leap into windows of offices similarly furnished and similarly inviting combustion. The recommendation of the Fire Commissioner therefore is that a law be enacted requiring all office furniture on floors at a prescribed distance from the ground to be made of metal or other non-combustible material.

The purpose seems to be a good one, but the realization of it is hardly imminent. A law that is intended to prevent fires may be desirable enough, but if that same law were to compel a business man to use metal furniture when he prefers wooden it would hardly be unanimously approved.

Fireproof office furniture may indeed have advantages over wooden pieces, in durability, absence of warping and cracking and in protection against vermin and serious damage by water, yet there are benefits which users see in the wooden furniture, too, and which would prejudice such persons against a law telling them how they shall equip their offices.

Rooms would no doubt have a novel appearance furnished with iron chairs, brass tables, and steel desks with asbestos coverings, or some such combinations, especially if stove polish or its equivalent were to be used liberally in keeping the shine on the furniture.

SCRANTON'S TEACHERS BALK

Members of the Scranton Teachers' Association have for some time been resolved not to submit to an examination in pedagogy promised to them by Superintendent of Schools Weber, despite the support of Dr. Weber by the Scranton School Board in his determination to test the professional knowledge of the teachers. Yesterday afternoon was the time set for the examination. Instead of taking the test, however, four hundred teachers assembled in the Central High School auditorium and listened attentively to a lecture by a local physician on "The Relation of Medicine to Pedagogy."

The action of the Scranton teachers in refusing to take the five-question examination on "How to Study" was open rebellion, yet it was not without justification. Superintendent Weber of the Scranton schools, it is held, can quote no school law to sustain him absolutely in what he considers his right to give the teachers an examination whenever he feels like it. He probably thinks that occasional tests in pedagogy would increase the efficiency of the schools, or something of that sort, yet if he has the power to do no more than merely to recommend that the teachers answer the questions he desires to put to them, he cannot expect that those sedate persons will make a rush to take an examination every time he prepares one.

So long as there is nothing to compel the Scranton teachers to submit to the demands of their superintendent that they take their examinations like nice little boys and girls, they would be showing themselves to be very soft were they to act otherwise than they have done. Their differences with their superintendent are, of course, serious ones, because the points of view are opposite. The suggestion of a Scranton newspaper is a good one, that these differences be submitted to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. Schaeffer, who is the authorized interpreter of the school laws of Pennsylvania.

Now that the Colonel is vindicated, what of 1916?

Perhaps Italy has just been marking time to complete her preparedness.

Again the Harrisburg police have landed a fugitive who eluded the crack New York coppers.

The jury in the New York libel case appears to be able to distinguish between a "boss" and a "leader."

TOLD IN LIGHTER VEIN

OH, NO She—"All extremely bright men are conceited, anyway." He—"Oh, I don't know; I'm not"—Ginger.

IN TWO WAYS Miss Gush—"Isn't your wife's Easter hat a little dear?" Mr. Flush—"I thought so when I paid the bill."—Ginger.

BORN TO THE PURPLE First Moth—"Is she aristocratic in her tastes?" Second Moth—"Oh, very! She will never eat anything but silk."—Ginger.

FASHION NOTE Maud—"Caroline is a great woman of fashion." Beatrix—"Does she neglect her children?" Maud—"Oh, no! She hires nurses to do it."—Life.

HIS PEN NAME "What is his name?" "Convict 499." "You mean that is his 'pen' name."—Ginger.

IN MOVIES Jack Spratt could not get fat, His wife could not get lean; That's why they got a good fat job In comics on the screen. —W. K. Stuart, in Ginger.

ECONOMICAL She cuts her expenses each night, As she sits with her regular beau, Promptly at nine she turns out the light, She needs but one flame, you know. —Harvey Peake, in Ginger.

RICH AND POOR "You must remember, Miss Banks—just think a moment." "Oh, the rich girl!" "Yes; she's engaged to Jack Cadley." "Oh, the poor girl!"—Boston Transcript.

ENRICH THE BLOOD

Hood's Sarsaparilla, a Spring Tonic Medicin, Is Necessary

Everybody is troubled at this season with loss of vitality, failure of appetite, that tired feeling, or with bilious turns, dull headaches, indigestion and other stomach troubles, or with pimples and other eruptions on the face and body. The reason is that the blood is impure and impoverished.

Hood's Sarsaparilla relieves all these ailments. It is the old reliable medicine that has stood the test of forty years,—that makes pure, rich, red blood,—that strengthens every organ and builds up the whole system. It is the all-the-year-round blood-purifier and health-giver. Nothing else acts like it, for nothing else is like it. There is no real substitute; so be sure to get Hood's. Ask your druggist for it to-day, and begin taking it at once.—Adv.

Tongue-End Topics

Copelin's Impressions of Brazil

I. W. Copelin, of Toledo, Ohio, brother of Harrisburg's city treasurer, O. M. Copelin, on March 19, last, wrote for the Star-Independent the following interesting impressions of Brazil, he at that time being in that country:

"If you want to get a good idea of the vast river systems of Northern Brazil, just take a well developed burdock leaf which will illustrate best, then lay it face down with the stem pointing eastward and let the veins of the leaf represent the numerous water courses. Begin with the larger central vein and let it be called the Amazon, and let the largest of the connecting veins represent such rivers as the Tocantins, Xingu, Tapajos, Negro, Madeira, Maranon, Putumayo, Ucayali and others, and the many other veins that form a network take the place of the scores of smaller rivers and streams, many of them being navigable for hundreds of miles, and with a little stretch of imagination, you will have a fairly good geographical map of the water ways of the Amazon and tributary valleys.

Flow Into the Amazon

"Several of the larger rivers have their origin from the melting of the perpetual snows in the high Andean peaks in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador and within a hundred miles of the Pacific coast. Southern Venezuela and Columbia contribute their share to the colossal Amazon through the Rio Negro and the Putumayo with their tributaries whose headwaters are far in the interior of Columbia and Venezuela and find their way through pampa and trackless forests to help make the largest river in the world. Only a year ago found me on the eastern watershed of the Cordillera in Peru and Bolivia, where it was possible to reach the head of canoe and launch navigation on the Mamore and Ucayali by muleback within ten days, if conditions were favorable. The headwaters of these rivers where I have crossed on several occasions are rushing turbulent streams, especially during the rainy season, and the overland trip across the South American continent from the Pacific via the Amazon is one full of hardships that even tax the seasoned traveler.

The Legend of La Paz

"While the line of thought is back to my travels in Bolivia a year ago, it might be interesting to tell you the legend of La Paz, which is the capital city built on the roof of the world, more than twelve thousand feet above sea level, yet down in the bottom of a great canyon, nearly two thousand feet deep. The legend dates far back to a time immemorial and has been carried down through the once prosperous Inca race for hundreds of years, and is told to-day by the Cholo Indians thus: Where the city of La Paz is situated, at a time in the remote past there stood side by side the volcanoes Illimani and Sorata that were continually in eruption and at war with each other, which proved to be a disturbing element to their good neighbors nearby. So persistent were they in their fiery warfare that the god of the mountains finally became weary of the turmoil, and in order to end the strife, widely separated them, where they could smoke in peace, thus leaving a great hole or rift in the earth. Hence the canyon in which La Paz, the City of Peace now stands. The snowy summit of Illimani that reaches an altitude of twenty-one thousand, three hundred feet, presents a fascinating picture as I saw it in the late afternoon when the sun's rays had melted the clouds that frequently hang over its majestic peak.

The Boom Days in Para

"But I must return to the valley far below and tell you in a general way something about the transportation lines and other interesting things in Northern Brazil. Ten years ago rubber was in great demand and brought very profitable returns to the producer, the dealer, and steamship lines. Money was plenty and a veritable building boom soon settled down on Para. Extensive stone docks and enormous steel warehouses were built, the latter being quite similar to those in New Orleans, in anticipation of the needs of a city which it was believed would soon have a population of a half million or more—with the increasing production of rubber from the up-river country which in itself is large enough for a great empire—but the promoters' dreams have not yet come true. Manaoas, nine hundred miles further inland, followed suit with Para, but on a less extensive scale, where many unfinished buildings are to be seen to-day. The hundreds of steamboats fairly swarmed on the rivers and did a rushing business, but the time came for the boom to subside, which was primarily caused by the competition

with East Indian and Malayan cultivated rubber, which rubber, on account of the cheapness of oriental labor and transportation, can be produced and placed on the market at a less cost.

Types of River Steamboats

"I was agreeably surprised with the river steamers that are fashioned like those on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, but instead of having a big stern wheel, they are propelled by turbines. Yet in the shallow upper reaches of some rivers the stern wheeler finds a place. Wood is used for fuel and at many of the little clearings along the rivers, wood stations may be seen where a rickety and delapidated sort of runway is built of poles out to deep water. Sometimes a little thatched hut and at others a white-washed one-story building answers for the office, the trading post and residence of the proprietor, and in one case a sign in royal blue is placed above the door that reads 'Bom Jardim, Bom Futuro,' etc.

Steamboats For Sale Cheap

"The passengers on these river steamers spend most of their time lazily swinging in hammocks, fighting mosquitos, flees and flies and a variety of bugs and bees. Since the dull times set in, scores of fine looking river steamers that ascend the many rivers to bring down to Manaoas and Para rubber and other freight for export, are idle and I am told many can be purchased at a mere song. In addition to the river craft, the Amazon is served by regular lines of steamships from New York to Para and Manaoas, and from Liverpool to Para, Manaoas and Iquitos. While I found the steamer service very good, I would not recommend the Amazon country as a fit place for the ordinary tourist who might expect more than they would get in the way of comfort and convenience like they find along the beaten paths of travel. The climate is hot and humid, so much so that one's Sunday clothes will mould during the week and shoes will turn a mossy green. That furnishes a plausible excuse for not attending religious services on Sundays.

Two Railroad Lines

"In all the vast country in the States of Para and Amazonas, extending from the Atlantic to the high table lands in Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, there are but two metre-gauge railways in operation. One line of eighty miles runs eastward from Para to Braganca, on the coast, and the other line, the Madeira-Mamore railway, begins at a point on the Madeira river, over seventeen hundred miles from the mouth of the Amazon. Construction of this line was begun by the Collins expedition, away back in the late sixties, and after a score of miles had been built and a good deal more graded, financial troubles overtook the enterprise and all work was suspended, leaving hundreds of men without money and with scant provisions to shift for themselves in the wilderness of western Brazil. To add to the unfortunate laborers' and mechanics' pitiable condition, deadly tropical fevers became epidemic in their camps, and I have been told by an acquaintance who was one of the survivors of the Collins expedition that the great majority found their last nightstone in the jungles near the foot of the rapids of the Madeira river.

Railroad Project Revived

"After a lapse of thirty-five years or more, a newly-organized company revived the project and a few years ago the road was completed from Porto Velho to Guajara-Mirim, on the Mamore river, which at that place is the boundary line between Brazil and Bolivia. No great engineering feats were to be met with, as the country the road passes through is comparatively level or slightly rolling, with the exception of some low wooded hills, where moderate cuts were made. There are several steel bridges spanning small rivers and creeks. Telephone service is in use and when the line was completed and equipped from Porto Velho to Guajara-Mirim, a distance of 225 miles, it is said to have cost approximately \$52,000,000 in gold. The object in building the line was to furnish transportation to and from the rich virgin rubber country beyond, for beginning a few miles above Porto Velho there is a long series of rapids in the Madeira river, which obstruct navigation as far up as the mouth of the Madre de Dios.

One Train a Week

"At the present time on account of the dullness of business but one mixed train a week is sent over the road, which is being operated at a loss. The freight rate on rubber from the most westerly points on the line is 75 milreis, equal to about \$23 in gold, per ton, fluctuating some according to exchange, and on other commodities still higher, and the passenger fares are close to 25 cents a mile. At Porto Velho, the eastern terminus, the com-

Corns Cured For 10c

"Just use one 10c bottle of Razer's Corn Solvent and you'll never spend another cent for any other corn cure or remedy on the market. Here's proof of what this wonderful Corn Solvent will do. J. B. Hall, a man over 80 years old, writes: 'I have spent a small fortune on worthless corn remedies but never found anything that would give me any relief more than temporary. About six months ago a friend advised me to try Razer's Corn Solvent. I bought one 10c bottle and it completely cured every corn and bubble on both feet. After six months there is no sign of the corns left. It's the one and only remedy that ever did me any good.' Razer's Corn Solvent just dissolves the corn removes them completely, without pain. If you want immediate and permanent relief, get a bottle today. Buy of the druggist named below or send 10c to Wm. H. Razer, Druggist and Chemist, Reading, Pa. For sale in Harrisburg by Geo. A. Gogges.

The Forty-two Centimeter Gun of Business. It's the heavy shot that counts in business—and hard hitting, convincing and conclusive sales talk is the right ammunition. Fire away! The Bell Toll lines will shoot your sales-talk shell wherever you aim—twenty miles or twenty hundred, and a thousand places right about here at rates up to half a dollar or so. Shoot!

HARRISBURG LIGHT & POWER CO.

GOOD NEWS FOR THE HOUSEKEEPER

Although we have sold a large number of Electric Irons this season for \$1.85 cash, that are sold elsewhere for \$3.50, we still have a few left and expect to receive another shipment in a few days.

Remember these irons are guaranteed for five years and are sold only by us for \$1.85

pany have their general offices and stores, and have built quite comfortable bungalows for their employes on a little ridge overlooking the Madeira. They also maintain a hospital.

Americans at Santarem

"In combing over my note book, I must drift down stream and tell you of an American settlement at Santarem, at the junction of the Amazon and Tapajos. Shortly after the close of our Civil war a colony of people from the Southern States, who could not be reconciled under a Northern regime, emigrated to Brazil and settled at Santarem. Their first years promised well, but as time rolled by in the muggy atmosphere near the equator the vim and vigor of a northern country gradually left them and many by this time had passed the meridian of the world's usefulness and found the easy life of the Brazilians preferable to following the plow or wielding the ax, and now Santarem is grass and weed ground, painfully quiet and on the decline. The inhabitants are mostly of a liquid brown from long exposure under a vertical sun in the low lands of the Amazon valley. The little clearings are fast growing up in a thicket of tree and bush and with few of the original colony alive. Santarem is on the road to oblivion. Pacantins, further down the Amazon, is pleased to be known as the Gibraltar of the great State of Amazonas. Just back of the little hillside town on still higher elevations whose big guns command the approach by river and from the ramparts floats the beautiful Brazilian flag. I. W. COPELIN."

Savage Tribes of Indians

"In the nearby country, to the western end of the Madeira-Mamore railway, along the foothills of the Andes in Peru and in the Grand Chaco in Bolivia, I am told by travelers there are found the most savage and uncivilized tribes of Indians in all South America. But the Brazilian and Peruvian governments have introduced a first step in civilization in constructing telegraph lines and wireless stations in the great forests. And wireless messages can now be sent from station, especially along the Ucayali river to Iquitos, thence relayed to Manaoas and from there by telegraph and cable to Para. There are many wild animals in this upper jungle country, such as the spotted tiger, small black bear, deer, etc., and, with many poisonous reptiles, make

THE TRUTH AT LAST. Secrets Exposed

Read The STAR-INDEPENDENT'S Gift Book Offer On Page 12

CITY TAX 1915 Notice is hereby given that City Tax for 1915 is due and payable at the Office of the City Treasurer, Room 14, Court House. An abatement of one per cent. (1%) will be allowed if same is paid before August 1, 1915. OWEN M. COPELIN, City Treasurer.