The Fulton County News

McConnellsburg, Pa.

MYSTERY OF GLASS.

A correspondent recently reported what he described as the "curious freak" of a blackbird flying against a parlor window many times at the same spot. Such an incident is not uncommon. Birds have been known to fight for hours at a time, day after day, with their own image reflected in a pane of glass, pecking and fluttering against the pane and quite exhausting themselves in their fury to demolish the supposed rival. It is another instance of how the arts of our civilization corrupt and confuse the birds. It is the same with fishes. Darwin tells a story of a pike in an aquarium separated by plate glass from fish which were its proper food. In trying to get at the fish the pike would often dash with such violence against the glass as to be completely stunned. It did this for more than three months before it learned caution. Then when the glass was removed the pike would not attack those particular fishes, but would devour others freshly introduced. It did not at all understand the situation, but associated the punishment it had received not with the glass, but with a particular kind of fish. Darwin's American monkeys proved themselves more "knowing." When they cut themselves once with any sharp tool they would not touch it again or else would handle it with the greatest caution. Thus they gave evidence of the simpler forms of reason of which monkeys are no doubt capable, but birds are evidently lacking in reasoning powers.

Whatever may be said of the ex-king of Portugal, he has a saving sense of humor. Incontinently dumped out of his regal position, he makes his home near London, from which vantage point he can watch the efforts of those who dethroned him. Down in his heart, of course, there must be anger combined with regret that he is no longer the official head of his country; but if we may believe the reports, ex-King Manuel is not eating his heart out on that or any other account. The most recent international gossip that the duke de Vizeu has fallen heir to the role of the Portuguese pretender, and is endeavoring to so interest an American woman that she will back up his efforts with her money (her daughter is his wife) must amuse the ex-king, says the Cincinnati Times-Star. Those close to him say he is most frank in declaring that he has no anxiety to gain his throne again—just yet. Portugal, according to Rev. Dr. Gaster, who is said to know the situation, "will not be a republic long." But Dr. Gaster believes that if the throne is regained it will be for Manuel, not the Duke de Vizeu. Meanwhile the young Braganza, doing his own thinking, makes use of that excellent old saying: "Patience—and shuffle the cards."

The old question, "Do lightning rods protect?" has been referred to Thomas A. Edison, and Mr. Edison replies: "One or more metallic conductors at least one quarter inch in diameter of either iron or copper, without joints, when connected to a proper amount of metallic surface connected with a permanently damp earth, will certainly protect a house from being affected by lightning. Any metallic surface on roofs, etc., when connected with rods, will increase protection." That ought to settle that.

Not long ago a New York tea drinker was reported as saying that 60 cents' worth of tea would make twice as many cups of beverage as the same value represented in coffee. This has brought forth a calculation showing still more in favor of the economy of tea. A pound of coffee that costs the public 30 cents, it is asserted, will make only 45 cups of good coffee, while a pound of tea, costing 60 cents, will make 25 to 500 cups of tea. So tea costs from one-fourth to one-third as much as coffee.

Statistician tells us that Edmonton, Canada, has only two hours of actual darkness in summer. Bibulous persons in that vicinity cannot use the old excuse about being afraid to go home in the dark.

Rev. Mr. Milburn says that woman considers herself the white of the egg and clings to the yolk, which is man. Sometimes an egg is found with a double yolk.

A Washington pastor has given insomnia as his reason for resigning. In other words, if he couldn't sleep he wasn't going to stand up every Sunday and watch his congregation slumber.

A horse thief in Pennsylvania was sentenced to 20 years in prison, and a white slaver in New York to two years and a fine. The comparative valuations of the law in the cases cited carry their own comment.

It may be that the awakening of China is due to the introduction of American alarm clocks. You never can tell.

Two Duluth hunters pursued a deer into the heart of the city and shot it in front of an office building. This was exciting, but was it sport?

Meanwhile that Chinese revolution continues as persistently as a dog chasing a rabbit.

TO TURN MANY MILLIONS LOOSE

Corporations Will Disburse $207,000,000 First of Year.

STOCKS AND BONDS RETURNS

Harvester Company Will Distribute $500,000 To 2,000 Employes—Other Companies Give Bonuses.

New York.—Stockholders and bondholders of the United States will have a great deal to be happy over in the first month of the new year, which will start off with disbursements by the corporations to holders of their stock and bonds, exclusive of mining corporations, of $207,000,000. This would be at the rate of more than $2 to every man, woman and child in the United States.

This disbursement, with the Christmas bonus, will make money easy during the first few months of the year and will probably do much toward causing a revival in trade in all branches. Not only are banks and trust companies and corporations making large distributions, but private firms are doing the same.

The International Harvester Company has made an appropriation of $500,000 to be distributed among 2,000 employes of the company.

Officials of the corporation declare that the gift "is to no sense a Christmas present," but merely a sharing of the year's profits of the organization among worthy workers, embracing all departments, from the men working in the shops to the managers. The sum to be presented is a fixed percentage of the net earnings of the company and is about the same as the amount given to employes a year ago.

In the matter of disbursements, dividends will total more than $66,000,000 and interest charges will be considerably in excess of $140,000,000.

Of the dividends, the greatest amount will come from the industrials, with $32,887,259. The railways will contribute $21,506,769, street or electric railways $4,369,014 and New York city banks and trust companies $7,292,030. The total capitalization upon which the dividends are based amounts to $2,446,264,828 and the disbursements are equivalent to more than 1½ per cent. on this amount.

Dividends for the month which will exceed $1,000,000 are Canadian Pacific, $4,500,000; Southern Pacific, $4,090,359; New York Central, $2,791,215; Chicago and Northwestern common, $2,276,928; Swift & Co., $1,312,500; American Tobacco preferred, $1,180,336; United Gas Improvement, $1,109,538, and International Harvester common, $1,000,000.

WOMAN HIGHWAYMAN GUILTY.

Held Up and Robbed Washington Man Of $106.

Washington.—Mrs. Margaret Lafey, Washington's "highwaywoman," who holds up her victims—mere men—at the point of an unloaded revolver, was found guilty by the jury which tried her case in Criminal Court No. 2. She was charged with having held up C. M. Mattfeldt, manager of Pyle's Store, at 652 Park road, northwest, and robbing him of $106 on July 8 last.

MARYLAND WOMAN DIES AT 107.

Lived in Kentucky and Was State's Oldest Inhabitant.

Elizabethtown, Ky.—Kentucky lost its oldest inhabitant in the death at Flaherty, Mead county, of Mrs. Henrietta Jones, aged 107 years. She was a native of Maryland, but had lived in this State for most of her life. Five of her offspring survive her.

25,600,000 Pounds Of Paper Bid.

Washington.—The Joint Committee on Printing directed the Public Printer to advertise for bids on 25,600,000 pounds of paper of various sorts for the year beginning March 1, 1912. Bids will be opened by the committee January 15, 1912.

Rev. Richeson Desperate.

Boston.—The Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson, whose trial on the charge of murdering Miss Avis Linnell, his former sweetheart, is scheduled for January 15, mutilated himself in a shocking manner in his cell at the Charles street jail early Wednesday morning. With a piece of tin, apparently the top of a marmalade jar, which he had sharpened to a rough but keen edge on the cement floor, Richeson cut himself in an indescribable manner in the groin, and when four physicians reached his side they found it necessary to perform an operation to save his life.

Peary Honored By French.

New York.—A communication received here from the Academy of Sports of France states that a gold medal has been awarded to Admiral Peary for the "admirable lesson of physical energy and moral courage that you have given to the entire world in pursuing, in the midst of fatigues, sufferings and difficulties, the conquest of the North Pole." The resolution was moved by Dr. Charcot, the French antarctic explorer.

Russian Treaty Finale.

Washington.—Congress ratified the President's notification of the termination of the Russian treaty of 1832 and sent the measure to the President for his signature. The House disposed of it, according to program, within 75 minutes. Speaker Clark signed it at 2.56 P. M. Vice-President Sherman signed it at 3.51, after the Senate had remained in session purposely to permit him, under the rules, to affix his signature while it was in session.

LIFE'S DISAPPOINTMENTS

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WABASH ROAD IN RECEIVER'S HANDS

Gould Property Unable to Meet Interest on Bonds.

EQUIPMENT IS RUN DOWN

Westinghouse Airbrake Company Files Claim Against the Railroad In Pittsburgh Court After Closing Hours.

St. Louis.—Judge E. B. Adams, of the United States Circuit Court, appointed F. A. Delano, of Chicago, president of the Wabash Railroad; Edward B. Pryor, of St. Louis, vice-president of the Wabash, and William K. Bixby, chairman of the board of directors of the American Car and Foundry Company, receivers for the Wabash, in answer to a petition filed by the Westinghouse Air Brake Company, through Schnurmacher & Rassieur, their attorneys. The claim in the petition is for $18,000. Each of the receivers is required to give bonds in the sum of $300,000 within 10 days to qualify.

On behalf of the road it was stated recently that $7,500,000 was required immediately for new cars and equipment. The committee in its inspection here and elsewhere sought to learn the urgent physical needs of the road.

GRAND OLD MAN DEAD.

John Bigelow Passes Away In His Ninety-fifth Year.

New York.—John Bigelow, "the first citizen of New York," died Tuesday morning in his home at 21 Gramercy Square, where the veteran journalist, diplomat and author had lived for over 30 years, and where, on November 25 last, his many friends gathered to celebrate his ninety-fourth birthday.

The end of his busy, high minded, vigorously intelligent life was due to the wearing out of vital organs. He had expected its coming. Since Monday night his tongue had been paralyzed and he was unable to speak to those about him when he realized how close he was to death. In the last few minutes he opened his eyes, smiled lovingly to those about him and nodded weakly.

Only three weeks ago, when Andrew Carnegie, as part of his own birthday celebration, called on John Bigelow for the exchange of birthday greetings, he said to the fine old gentleman:

"You look well. I hope to be here on your hundredth birthday."

"No," said Mr. Bigelow, but without sadness, "this is my last birthday, friend. I am fast wearing out. I shall be here but a short time."

Loss Of a Key Expensive.

Washington.—Because a new policeman in the House Office Building lost one key the government has been obliged to spend $1,300 changing the tumblers in the hundreds of locks in the big building. Since the loss of the master key the big building has been doubly guarded. Whoever had it might have unlocked state secrets but would find it useless now.

Trusts and the Square Deal.

Washington.—The universal establishment of righteousness, the square deal, the golden rule and the principles and teachings of the Kingdom of God should be the recognized bases for the foundation of all business, according to R. L. Kimbrough, of Harrisburg, Pa., who addressed the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce on the trust problem.

Now It's Nicaragua.

Washington.—Information reached the State Department that Julian Irias and Rudolpho Espinosa are about to start a revolution against the government of Nicaragua. It is reported that a shipment of seven rapid-fire guns is on the way to these two men from New Orleans. They are now in Costa Rica. Irias and Espinosa were formerly identified with the Zelaya and Madriz governments in Nicaragua, Irias as minister of foreign affairs, and Espinosa as minister in Washington.

Two Children Burned To Death.

Clarksburg, W. Va.—Hattie Miller, aged 2 years, and Mildred Miller, aged 4 years, were burned to death in a fire which damaged their parents' home. The mother of the children was in the parlor of the home and learned of the fatal fire only when the ceiling crashed, blazing, about her. The children had been playing on the second floor.

In Mexico cigarettes are 10 for a cent. The government imposes no tax on na[illegible]obacco.

TAFT TELLS OF NEGOTIATIONS

Congress Informed In Message Of Notice Given To Russia.

Washington.—The President, in his message to Congress, said:

"By instructions which I caused the Secretary of State to transmit to the American Ambassador at St. Petersburg on the 15th day of December, 1911, there was given to the Imperial Russian Government under date of the 17th day of December, 1911, official notification on behalf of this Government of intention to terminate the operation of the treaty of commerce and navigation of December 18, 1832, between the United States and Russia upon the expiration of the year commencing on the 1st of January, 1912, the notification contemplated by Article 12 of the existing treaty having been embodied in the following note addressed by the Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

"'Under instructions from my Government and in pursuance of the conversations held by the Secretary of State with the Russian Ambassador at Washington I have now the honor to give to the Imperial Russian Government on behalf of the United States the official notification contemplated by Article 12 of the treaty of 1832, whereby the operation of the said treaty will terminate in accordance with its terms on January 1, 1913.

"'Your Excellency will recall that pourparlers between the two governments during the last three years have fully recognized the fact that this ancient treaty, as is quite natural, is so longer fully responsive in various respects to the needs of the political and material relations of the two countries, which grow constantly more important. The treaty has also given rise, from time to time, to certain controversies equally regretted by both governments.

"'In conveying the present formal notification to your Excellency I am instructed to express the desire of my Government meanwhile to renew the effort to negotiate a modern treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation upon bases more perfectly responsive to the interests of both governments. I am directed by the President, at the same time, to emphasize the great value attached by the Government of the United States to the historic relations between the two countries, and the desire of my Government to spare no effort to make the outcome of the proposed negotiations contribute still further to the strength and cordiality of these relations.

"I now communicate this action to the Senate as a part of the treaty-making power of this Government, with a view to its ratification and approval.

"WILLIAM H. TAFT."

SURPRISE FIRE DRILL.

Three Thousand Empoyes March Out In Safety.

New York.—Members of the New York State Factory Investigating Commission made a fire drill test in an East Side cigar factory. No one in the building knew of the drill, but nevertheless the employes responded to the sound of the fire alarm without excitement and in a few seconds less than four minutes all the 3,000 persons in the building were on the street with their personal effects.

OPIUM POURED INTO SEWER.

$100,000 Worth Destroyed By the Authorities.

San Francisco, Cal.—More than $100,000 worth of contraband opium was poured into a manhole in the rear of the custom house here Monday. As the drug in smoking form is prohibited to this country, all seizures must be destroyed. Since the last destruction 2,685 tins, weighing over 1,300 pounds, have accumulated.

Plan a Big Banquet.

New York.—Arrangements are being completed for one of the largest peace dinners ever given in New York. The committee of arrangements announced that a special car had been chartered to bring 38 foreign ambassadors and representatives to this city from Washington for the dinner. It will be held at the Hotel Waldorf Saturday evening, December 28, and it is expected that 800 persons will be seated at the banquet.

Pupils Aged 18 to 86 Years.

Washington.—An enthusiasm for education has seized Rowan county, one of the Eastern Mountain and feud counties of Kentucky, according to a detailed report of the work there to the United States Bureau of Education. Nearly everybody in the county, regardless of age, seems to be going to school, the report says. It adds that the pupils range in age from 18 to 86 years, many of them being past 60.

UNCLE SAM FOR PEACE IN CHINA

Brings the Six Great Powers in Movement for It.

PROTECT THEIR INTERESTS

Conferences Of Wu Ting-Fang, Representing the Revolutionists, and Tong-Shao-Yi, For the Imperial Government, Begun.

Shanghai, China.—Promise of peace in China became more definite Tuesday with the announcement that all six of the great powers—Japan, Great Britain, the United States, Russia, France and Germany—are united in a co-operative effort to assist Dr. Wu Ting-Fang and Tang-Shao-Yi in their negotiations. There was rejoicing when it was learned that the representatives of the six powers were preparing to offer formally their assistance for the speedy conclusion of an understanding. It is clearly understood that this action by the powers is taken in a most friendly manner.

The pourparlers between Wu Ting-Fang and Tang-Shao-Yi opened with surprising smoothness and there was a complete absence of any sense of strain which might have seriously impeded the diplomatic progress of the conference. It is unmistakably evident, however, that the continuation of Manchu rule, even as concerns the imperial throne at Peking, is considered unlikely by either side. In this connection much significance is attached to the statement of Tang-Shao-Yi that he does not represent the throne, but rather the premier. Coupled with Wu Ting-fang's early insistence upon the establishment of a republic this is taken to mean that Yuan-Shi Kai is prepared to concede the ending of the dynasty.

Even though the present dynasty is ousted, the premier evidently hopes to retain the imperial form of government, possibly with the present Emperor designated as the first ruler of a new Chinese dynasty and with Yuan-Shi-Kai as regent.

The personality of Yuan-Shi-Kai dominates the convention. The great fight among the delegates will be as to whether the form of government is to be Imperial or Republican. If an empire, Yuan will be regent. If a republic Yuan will be the first president. The revolutionary delegates believe that they will be victorious in their demands for a republic. Even the staunchest of the imperialist delegates admit that Manchu rule is doomed.

FARM EDUCATION.

Report Of the Director Of Experimental Stations.

Washington.—Rapid development of public interest in the broader phases of agricultural education is noted by Dr. A. C. True, director of the office of experimental stations of the Department of Agriculture, in his annual report, just made to Secretary Wilson.

"There is evidence," says Dr. True, "that the right solution of the problems of country life and agricultural production will depend very largely on an effective system of practical education, which will reach the masses of men, women and children on the farms." Owing to the immensity of the task, he declares that the work of his bureau has "been entirely inadequate to meet the situation." He recommends that at least $10,000 be added for the next fiscal year to the appropriation of the agricultural education work of his office.

Recent state legislation and the appropriations made for such education indicate pretty clearly, he finds, that this country is definitely committed to the development and support of agricultural education in all its different phases, and from the elementary grades up through the college and the graduate school.

Cost Of Mexican Revolution.

Mexico City.—Congress, after appriating $5,000,000 to pay the expenses of the revolution which placed Madero on the seat of power, adjourned Saturday afternoon.

Carnegie's Partner Dead.

Pittsburgh.—The will of Thomas N. Miller, the man who induced Andrew Carnegie to enter the steel industry, and who was his first business partner, was filed for probate here. It provides small bequests for a number of near relatives and his housekeeper, and the remainder is left to the Woman's Hospital of Pittsburgh, founded by his wife. The estimated value of the estate is $2,000,000.

Morse Not Seriously Ill.

Washington.—President Taft and Attorney General Wickersham have made it plain that for the present no further action would be taken by the government in the case of Charles W. Morse. Mr. Wickersham, following a meeting of the Cabinet, said that Morse was not in a critical condition and would remain in the army hospital at Fort McPherson, near Atlanta, where he was removed from the Atlanta penitentiary several weeks ago.

True Friend Of France.

New York.—A Paris cable to the Sunday World says: "Henry White, formerly American ambassador to France, still has his home here in the old aristocratic Fauberg St. Germain but he pays only occasional flying visits to Paris. Few diplomats sent by America to France have left a more favorable impression in French official circles than Mr. White. He is remembered as the true friend of France, who proved his friendship at the Algeciras conference.

TAFT ON FINANCES

CONDITION OF FEDERAL TREASURY IS REPORTED TO BE EXCELLENT.

CURRENCY REFORM IS URGED

Prompt Action on Report of Monetary Board Is Recommended—For First Time in 27 Years Postal Department Shows Surplus—Cut in Expenses Shown.

Washington.—A special message on the subject of finances was read to congress. A synopsis follows:

The financial condition of the government, as shown at the close of the last fiscal year, June 30, 1911, was very satisfactory. The ordinary receipts into the general fund, excluding postal revenues, amounted to $701,372,274.99, and the disbursements from the general fund for current expenses and capital outlays, excluding postal and Panama Canal disbursements, including the interest on the public debt, amounted to $654,377,907.89, leaving a surplus of $47,294,377.10.

The postal revenue receipts amounted to $237,879,823.60, while the payments made for the postal service from the postal revenues amounted to $237,660,705.48, which left a surplus of postal receipts over disbursements of $219,118.12, the first time in 27 years in which a surplus occurred.

The interest-bearing debt of the United States June 30, 1911, amounted to $915,353,190. Teh debt on which interest had ceased amounted to $1,876,820.26, and the debt bearing no interest, including greenbacks, national bank notes to be redeemed, and fractional currency, amounted to $956,751,917.43, or a total of interest and non-interest bearing debt amounting to $1,903,984,927.69.

The actual disbursements, exclusive of those for the Panama Canal and for the postal service for the year ending June 30, 1911, were $654,137,897.89. The actual disbursements for the year ending June 30, 1910, exclusive of the Panama Canal and the postal service disbursements, were $659,705,391.08, making a decrease of $5,567,493.19 in yearly expenditures in the year 1911 under that of 1910. For the year ending June 30, 1912, the estimated receipts, exclusive of the postal revenues, are $706,000,000, while the total estimates, exclusive of those for the Panama payable from the postal revenues amounted to $654,842,799.24. This is a decrease in the 1912 estimates of $1,534,267.22.

For the year ending June 30, 1913, the estimated receipts, exclusive of the postal revenues, are $687,000,000, while the total estimated appropriations, exclusive of the Panama Canal and postal disbusements payable from postal revenues, will amount to $637,929,905.35. This is a decrease in the 1913 estimates from that of the 1912 estimates of $7,921,993.99.

As to the postal revenues, the expansion of the business in that department, the normal increase in the post office and the extension of the service, will increase the outlay to the sum of $290,935,963; but as the department was self-sustaining this year the postmaster general is assured that next year the receipts will at least equal the expenditures, and probably exceed them by more than the surplus of this year. It is fair and equitable, therefore, in determining the economy with which the government has been run, to exclude the transactions of a department like the post office department, which relies for its support upon its receipts. In calculations heretofore made for comparison of economy in each year, it has been the proper custom only to include in the statement the deficit in the post office department which was paid out of the treasury.

In the treasury department the efficiency and economy work has been kept steadily up. Provision is made for the elimination of 134 positions during the coming year. Two hundred and sixty-seven statutory positions were eliminated during the last year in the office of the tressury in Washington, and 141 positions in the year 1910, making an elimination of [illegible] statutory positions since March 4, 1909, and this has been done without the discharge of anybody, because the normal resignations and deaths have been equal to the elimination of the places, a system of transfers having taken care of the persons whose positions were dropped out. In the field service of the department, too, 1,259 positions have been eliminated down to the present time, making a total net reduction of all treasury positions to the number of 1,891. Meantime the efficiency of the work of the department has increased.

Monetary Reform.

A matter of first importance that will come before congress for action at this session is monetary reform. The congress has itself arranged an early introduction of this great question through the report of its monetary commission. This commission was appointed to recommend a solution of the banking and currency problems so long confronting the nation and to furnish the facts and data necessary to enable the congress to take action.

In order to do its work with thoroughness and precision this commission has taken some time to make its report. The country is undoubtedly hoping for as prompt action on the report as the conveniences of the congress can permit. The recognition of the gross imperfections and marked inadequacy of our banking and currency system even in our most quiet financial periods is of long standing; and later there has matured a recognition of the fact that our system is responsible for the extraordinary devastation, waste and business paralysis of our recurring periods of panic. Though the methods of the monetary commission have for a considerable time been working in the open, and while large numbers of the people have been openly working with them, and while the press has largely noted and discussed this work as it has proceeded, so that the report of the commission promises to represent a national movement, the details of the report are still being considered. I can not, therefore, do much more at this time than commend the immense importance of monetary reform, urge prompt consideration and action when the commission's report is received, and express my satisfaction that the plan to be proposed promises to embrace main features that, having met the approval of a great preponderance of the practical and professional opinion of the country, are likely to meet equal approval in congress.

There is now before [illegible] the purpose of which is to increase the efficiency and decrease the expense of the army. It contains four principal features: First, a consolidation of the general staff with the adjutant general's and the inspector general's department; second, a consolidation of the quartermaster's department with the subsistence and pay department; third, the creation of an army service corps, and fourth, an extension of the enlistment period from three to five years.

With the establishment of an army service corps, as proposed in the bill, I am thoroughly in accord and am convinced that the establishment of such a corps will result in a material economy and a very great increase of efficiency in the army. It has repeatedly been recommended by me and my predecessors. I also believe that a consolidation of the staff corps can be made with a resulting increase in efficiency and economy, but not along the lines provided in the bill under consideration.

The army of the United States is in good condition.

The Panama Canal.

The very satisfactory progress made on the Panama canal last year has continued, and there is every reason to believe that the canal will be completed as early as the 1st of July, 1913, unless something unforeseen occurs. This is about 18 months before the time promised by the engineers.

Waterway From Lakes to the Gulf.

The project for a navigable waterway from Lake Michigan to the mouth of the Illinois river, and thence via the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, is one of national importance. In view of the work already accomplished by the sanitary district of Chicago, an agency of the state of Illinois, which has constructed the most difficult and costly stretch of this waterway and made it an asset of the nation, and in view of the fact that the people of Illinois have authorized the expenditure of $20,000,000 to carry this waterway 62 miles farther to Utica, I feel that it is fitting that this work should be supplemented by the government, and that the expenditures recommended by the special board of engineers on the waterway from Utica to the mouth of the Illinois river be made upon lines which while providing a waterway for the nation, should otherwise benefit that state to the fullest extent.

The limitation of the liability of the master to his servant for personal injuries to such as are occasioned by his fault has been abandoned in most civilized countries and provision made whereby the employe injured in the course of his employment is compensated for his loss of working ability irrespective of negligence. The principle upon which such provision proceeds is that accidental injuries to workmen in modern industry, with its vast complexity and inherent dangers arising from complicated machinery and the use of the great forces of steam and electricity, should be regarded as risks of the industry and the loss borne in some equitable proportion by those who for their own profit engage therein. In recognition of this the last congress authorized the appointment of a commission to investigate the subject of employers' liability and workmen's compensation and to report the result of their investigations, through the president, to congress. This commission was appointed and has been at work, holding hearings, gathering data and considering the subject, and it is expected will be able to report by the first of the year, in accordance with the provisions of the law.

Parcel Post.

Steps should be taken immediately for the establishment of a rural parcel post. In the estimates of appropriations needed for the maintenance of the postal service for the ensuing fiscal year an item of $150,000 has been inserted to cover the preliminary expense of establishing a parcel post on rural mail routes, as well as to cover an investigation having for its object the final establishment of a general parcel post on all railway and steamboat transportation routes.

The suggestion that we have a general parcel post has awakened great opposition on the part of some who think that it will have the effect to destroy the business of the country store keeper. Instead of doing this, I think the change will greatly increase business for the benefit of all. The reduction in the cost of living it will bring about ought to make its coming certain.

The Navy Department.

On the 2d of November last I reviewed the fighting fleet of battleships and other vessels assembled in New York harbor, consisting of 24 battleships, 2 armored cruisers, 2 cruisers, 22 destroyers, 12 torpedo boats, 8 submarines, and other attendant vessels, making 98 vessels of all classes, of a tonnage of 576,634 tons.

The fleet was deficient in the number of torpedo destroyers, in cruisers, and in colliers, as well as in large battleship cruisers, which are now becoming a very important feature of foreign navies, notably the British, German and Japanese.

The building plan for this year contemplates two battleships and two colliers. This is because the other and smaller vessels can be built much more rapidly in case of emergency than the battleships, and we certainly ought to continue the policy of two battleships a year until after the Panama Canal is finished and until in our first line and in our reserve line we can number 40 available vessels of proper armament and size.

Like the Treasury Department and the War Department, the Navy Department has given much attention to economy in administration, and has cut down a number of unnecessary expenses and reduced its estimates except for construction and the increase that that involves.

I wish to renew again my recommendation that all the local offices throughout the country, including collectors of internal revenue, collectors of customs, postmasters of all four classes, immigration commissioners and marshals, should be by law covered into the classified service, the necessity for confirmation by the senate be removed, and the president and the others, whose time is now taken up in distributing this patronage under the custom that has prevailed since the beginning of the government in accordance with the recommendation of the senators and congressmen of the majority party should be relieved from this burden. I am confident that such a change would greatly reduce the cost of administering the government, and that it would add greatly to its efficiency.

No Doubt About One Thing.

"It does not always take brains to make money," observed the father of the college boy as he looked over that young man's expense bill, "but it sure does take money to make brains."

Too Busy for Serious Things.

The growing indifference of the age is appalling; men are too busy with their pleasures, their money-making, their politics, and a thousand things.—Exchange.

Pedagogue at His Worst.

An Ohio schoolteacher has declared that both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution are lacking in literary style. It would be too great a risk to trust that man with either the first chapter of Genesis or the Gettysburg speech.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

True Devotion.

"Do you love me, darling?" she asked. "Sweetheart, I love every hair on your bureau!" he reverently answered.—Michigan Gargoyle.

Luxury In Cigars.

The Rothschilds smoke the most costly cigars that are made—the Henry Clay Sobranos—which cost $1.50 each. These are wrapped in gold leaf and packed in little inlaid cedar wood cabinets.

Lost for Good.

Redd—"Did you hear about my neighbor losing control of his motor car?" Greene—"No, I didn't." Redd—"Well, he did. The sheriff's got it now!"

New Excuse for Husbands.

Husbands who spend their evenings hitting the high spots, encounter difficulties in finding the domestic keyhole and hang their boots on the gas fixtures, may now explain that they have been afflicted with etheral asphyxia.—New York Tribune.

Guarded Against Dishonesty.

In the city of London at the time of King John every vintner was required to hang outside his shop an iron vessel with pegs marking the different quantities sold.