

RAGAMUFFIN TRUST THE VERY LATEST

Max Nordau, Celebrated Sociologist, Tells How One Hobo Formed Syndicate of Tramps

A REMARKABLE NIGHT SCENE

Scuffling, Fighting Place Holders for the Steinhell Trial Brought to Order by a Superior Man in Soleless Shoes and Brimless Hat.

Paris, France.—The famous Steinhell murder trial offered one of the most convincing proofs of the organizing forces of humanity—those forces that have worked out man's civilization—that has come under recent notice.

According to the French law, court proceedings at a criminal trial are public. Therefore the first comer, the man in the street, must be admitted so long as there is room in the hall. As a matter of fact, admittance is only allowed by written orders issued by the presiding judge. However, to satisfy the law, there is at the back of the hall, behind barriers, a reserved place, where from 100 to 120 persons can stand. To this place people are admitted without entrance tickets.

Poor devils, unemployed workmen, homeless vagabonds, make use of this fact to stand before the law courts and wait till the door is opened—not because they wish to be present at the proceedings, but to sell their places. This is in Paris a regular business. It is carried on before all the theatres when popular pieces are played; before all the bans at public subscriptions, to which the people come in crowds.

Even on the evening before the first day's proceedings they came pouring in before the law courts and held out steadfastly till the following noon, eighteen hours on the wet pavement, under the rain and in a cutting November wind.

The first hours were horrible—the poor devils pushed and kicked; they fought for the places nearest to the entrance; they shouted and abused one another; anyone who for one moment allowed his energy or attention to slacken was ruthlessly pushed aside—it was a continual uproar.

Then there arose in the scum of the population of the great city the superior man who resolutely took the common interest in hand—the civilizer, the law-giver. He taught the rioting ragamuffins order and discipline. He gave directions and all obeyed because they understood immediately that it was for their good.

He tore a piece of paper into little scraps, wrote on each a number and gave one to every place-keeper present. All agreed to respect the numbers. Now the pushing was superfluous. His place was assured to everyone. The numbers stood under the collective guarantee. It was no longer necessary to continually be ready to defend their rights with their fists. They could sit down on the pavement, seek a resting place on the street benches nearby. Co-operation had taken the place of murderous competition. It was the triumph of an organizer in soleless shoes and brimless hat.

When, the following noon, the purchasers appeared, the first numbers offered their wares peacefully, and so on until the last customer was satisfied.

The disciplined vagabonds in front of the Law Courts became exclusive on the second night. They felt themselves as being a close association. They had a privilege to defend. They let no outsider in. They constituted themselves in a trust. And when a night bird who had not been present at the founding wished to shuffle into the row of the numbered they all turned in a body against him and thrust him back.

The law of the reformer in rags received official sanction. The police sided with the syndicate. In their eyes the syndicate represented acquired right and the police regarded it as their right to defend this, always and everywhere against attack. Thus within a few hours there grew out of a free calling an inaccessible trade and the open space in the judgment hall a ground of exploitation for the few.

There you have the whole universal history on a small scale. The same human fundamental qualities that made out of the shirtless riffraff of starvelings an orderly but also an intolerant guild have out of hordes made nations, have built States, created all the institutions of civilization.

Baby in Well, Pulled Up by Bucket.
Oakland City, Ind.—Holding tightly to a bucket which the mother lowered into a well here, into which the two-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pearson fell, the child was raised to safety. Although the baby was submerged when it fell into the water, it seemed to understand what was expected when the bucket was lowered.

Pair Lived on Same Farm 60 Years.
Marshall, Mich.—Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Conroy, aged seventy-six and seventy-five respectively, who were married in 1849 and have lived on the same farm in Ceresco township ever since, recently celebrated their wedding anniversary. All their children and grandchildren and scores of neighbors called on them during the day.

DOCTOR TATOOED EYEBALL

Blank White Surface Made to Match Healthy Optic and Restore Blind Girl's Beauty.

Philadelphia.—An operation performed only a few times by the greatest eye specialists of the world was successfully completed in a hospital clinic here before the senior class of the Medico-Chirurgical College, by Dr. L. Webster Fox, who occupies the chair of ophthalmology in the college.

By the use of six needles, India ink and a vegetable dye the doctor succeeded in tattooing the perfect semblance of an eye on a young girl's blind eyeball, which was covered by an ugly white blemish the size of a five-cent piece.

The girl asked Dr. Fox to put a glass eye in place of the diseased tissues, which made her face repulsive to look at. The doctor, upon examination, found that the growth over the cornea was so strong that the delicate operation that came in his mind could be performed with a chance of success.

Cocaine was inserted to destroy whatever sensibility remained, but no anaesthetic was administered to the patient, who did not appear to suffer any pain while the operation was going on.

The students saw the skilful hand of the doctor guiding the tattooing needles produce the semblance of an eye with the skill and patience of a trained artist on a surface that had been a blank white.

India ink was used for the pupil. For the iris a vegetable dye which had been carefully experimented with was employed, and the brown color of the other and healthy iris in the girl's other eye was duplicated.

As Dr. Fox dropped his last needle and turned to his class he was greeted with the enthusiastic applause of the students.

The operation, Dr. Fox told his class, can never become a common one, as it is seldom that the eyeball of a blind person is in condition to permit tattooing.

PAID \$1,500 FOR GYPSY GIRL.

Father Buys Child Bride for Nine-Year-Old Son.

St. Louis.—King "Joe" Adams, of the St. Louis gypsies, telegraphed his brother, King Alek, of Chicago, to prevent the marriage of Spero Nicholas, nine years old, and Mary Ubonich, twelve years old. He requested that Mary be sent back to the St. Louis camp, from which she was taken by her child lover.

Spero came from Chicago recently and became smitten with Mary. The boy's father went to Ulanzo Ubonich, Mary's father, and handed him \$1,500, telling him it was to buy Mary for his son. The betrothal was announced yesterday, and last night Spero and Mary boarded a train for Chicago, where the boy intended showing his fiancee to his relatives.

King "Joe" declares that Spero intended to marry Mary forthwith and that she was crying when he led her from her father's tent. The father, who has the \$1,500, denies this.

NEW MICROBE CHRISTENED.

Metchnikoff Says Germ Found on Fruit Causes Infants' Death.

Paris.—Prof. Metchnikoff, the head of the Pasteur Institute, has arrived at the conclusion that gastroenteritis in infants is chiefly due to a microbe christened the "proteus," which is found on fruits and vegetables and in butter and cheese. Mothers, he says, frequently transmit the microbes to children by handling them or their nursing bottles with soiled fingers. Soap is the remedy.

Prof. Metchnikoff suggests that the hands should, always be thoroughly washed before touching food intended for children; even adults who would escape enteritis should scrape cheese well and plunge fruits and salads into boiling water before eating them.

It is estimated that proteus microbes in this country cause the death of 10,000 children yearly.

BRIDESMAIDS FOR HIRE.

London Department Store Plans to Help Out Girls at Altar.

London.—Professional bridesmaids may now be hired in London. They are to be had at one of the great department stores whose motto is "Everything," and where "extra guests" and "dancing men" of distinguished appearance are obtainable by social climbers.

This new department is intended for runaway brides and others who need feminine support at the ceremony, but don't want to call upon their girl friends. The bridesmaids are selected from the prettiest girls behind the counter, or stenographers of the firm.

Sues for Daughter's Heart.

Cleveland, Ohio.—The mother of Mrs. Lena Petris, murdered by a man with whom she eloped, brought suit here against the prosecuting attorney to get possession of the girl's heart. The heart, in alcohol, was used to show by the bullet wound that the woman could not have killed herself. The mother wants to bury it with the body.

Horse Unlucky for the Family.

Louisville, Ky.—Louis Schoemler, sixteen years old and a cripple, sustained a compound fracture of the arm while driving a horse that killed his father sixteen years ago. The boy was on a wagon and one of the wheels caught in the street car track. He was hurled head downward into the street.

HYPNOTIZED, THEN SWINDLED WIDOWS

Bogus Count de Chambert Arrested in Paris After a Long and Profitable Career

END OF HIS ROPE AT LAST

Married Off One Victim to a Genuine Marquis—Another Widow, Rescued by Her Relatives, Recovered and Complained to Police.

Paris.—A versatile hypnotist and swindler who calls himself Rene Defere, Count de Chambert, has come to the end of his rope at last. Prefect of Police Lepine personally arrested the pseudo Count a few days ago and locked him up.

Lepine says the false nobleman is Robert Etienne, who, besides being an expert hypnotist, knows much about the fine arts. Etienne wasted his mother's fortune; sorrow hastened her death.

Then Etienne went into partnership with his sister in the business of restoring paintings. The sister supplied the capital; the brother spent it before the "firm" got a customer. Then Etienne persuaded his sister to sign a blank, which he filled in, papers making over to him her share of the business. When she protested he showed his papers to the authorities, persuaded them that his sister was insane to make such charges against him and had her sent to an asylum.

Then, says Lepine, Etienne transformed himself into the Count de Chambert. The title quickly gained for him the affection and confidence of an aged and wealthy widow. As she is a firm believer in spiritualism, Etienne and his accomplices called before her the shades of all her ancestors, who advised her to give her whole fortune to Etienne.

He then conceived the notion of marrying the widow to a genuine marquis. Before the wedding was celebrated the future marquis certified in the marriage contract that she was bringing a bridal portion of \$20,000 to her husband. When he asked for the money later she answered, much surprised, that she had given it to him—and she honestly thought she had—through the "Count de Chambert," who had vanished. The marquis divorced the broken hearted and impoverished old woman.

After spending her money, Etienne, still posing as a Count, turned his attention to Mme. Roussel, a wealthy widow with a young daughter. To them Etienne represented himself as an artist with a marvelous process for restoring old paintings. Besides, he said, he had an assured income of \$16,000 a year and much greater prospects; his father had left him \$1,600,000, which he was to inherit on the day he married.

Mme. Roussel immediately saw in the "Count de Chambert" the right husband for her daughter. And the Count found Madame a good hypnotic subject. He won her confidence and persuaded her that her family was trying to deprive her of her fortune. She gave him full charge of her bank account.

He lost no time in buying a fine house on the Rue Vernet, near the Champs Elysees, and spared no expense in furnishing it with tapestries, Oriental carpets, paintings and statuary.

But in this crisis Mme. Roussel's relatives got possession of her and carried her off to the country. There she recovered from Etienne's hypnotic influence and lodged complaint against him with Lepine.

Etienne's arrest followed.

WANT NEW COLOR SCHEME.

Postal Clerks Ask Uncle Sam to Change His Stamps.

Atlantic City, N. J.—The Government is to be asked to change several denominations of stamps so that postal clerks may more easily tell the difference between the several stamp values at a glance. A resolution asking for the changes was presented at the session of the National Postal Clerks Association.

According to the expert clerks the one and eight cent stamps, the five and fifteen cent stamps and the six and ten cent stamps are so near alike in color that a clerk handling thousands of letters is unable to tell the difference without close examination. The change is urged to allow the handlers of mail to discriminate by colors easily and without halting their work.

Dead Woman Held the Reins.

Mansfield, O.—While driving to Mansfield from her home near Belleville, Mrs. James B. Pluck, aged forty-seven, died in her buggy. The old family horse walked quietly along the road toward Mansfield with the dead woman in the buggy, until passing the home of Herman Swisher, when Mrs. Swisher saw that something was wrong with the occupant of the buggy and stopped the horse to investigate. Death was caused by apoplexy.

Morocco, Ind.—Charles Call has killed the white crow seen in this vicinity at different times during the last three years. The bird is snow white, except the tips of its wings, which are black. It had been shot at more than one hundred times within the last year.

NO TIPS IN FINLAND.

Maid's Surprise on Receiving Money from Mistress' Guests.

A country where there are no tips and where small services are rendered to the stranger without hope of reward would seem hard to find—yet such a country is Finland.

So far the tourist has not appeared in any great numbers, and consequently the commercial spirit which his advent always marks has been absent. As an example of this, Mme. Aino Malmberg, a Finnish lady, who is paying a visit to this country, tells an amusing story. Two English friends whom she had met while over here had been staying with her at her house in Helsinki, and on leaving gave the maid a tip.

She was very much astonished and did not know what it meant. Seeing Mme. Malmberg's son coming downstairs, she ran to him and said, "They gave me money. Did they give you any?" Hearing that they had not done so, she was much mystified. "I cannot understand why they should give it to me and not to you, when they know you much better than me," was her perplexed comment on the incident.

Osawatomie and Pottawatomie.

The spelling of the two words Osawatomie and Pottawatomie causes considerable confusion to this day; but that is the way maps have them now, and that of course makes them "official."

Osawatomie, famed in Kansas history, is located between the Osage River and the Pottawatomie. It is named from these streams. In the early days two "s's" were frequently used in its spelling, but the impropriety of their use was shown and pointed out by the school teachers by simply explaining the word's derivation.

The name of Pottawatomie, though, had about ten different spellings, according to an old settler of that community. "The tribe of Indians," he said, "left the State and did not leave us the correct spelling of the word. So we people along the creek finally got together and decided to spell the word the shortest way possible—Potawatomie. Now they are using two 't's' on the maps, and I guess that is the way to spell it now. We spelled it the shortest way, and I have often thought that we were the original simplified spellers."—Kansas City Journal.

Sermons in Ancient Times.

St. Augustine's sermons lasted about 18 minutes, but in that ancient day it was no uncommon thing to have several at the same service. When two or more bishops were present it was usual for them and the presbyters to preach one after the other, reserving the last place for the highest dignitary. Some consolation, however, was to be found in the fact that applause was permitted and many of St. Chrysostom's sermons were hailed with the "tossing of garments and waving of handkerchiefs."

A Personal Matter.

Clarence was usually so restless and fidgety in church that his mother was obliged to reprove him from time to time. One Sunday he was so quiet and well-behaved that his mother noticed it, and spoke approvingly.

"What a good little boy Clarence was in church to-day," she said. "Mamma was so proud of him."

"Well," said Clarence, "I had to be. The choir looked right at me, and sang over and over again, 'Please be still, please be still!'"—Youth's Companion.

Happy Eskimos.

Eskimos are all children, contented, peaceable, honest and hospitable, without rulers and without ambition for fame or power. They live almost entirely on raw animal food, and this explains the absence of a number of diseases which are common to civilization. Salt water contains iodine, and all sea animals, as well as all who eat them uncooked, absorb more or less of this fickle substance.

Capital Punishment.

Capital punishment prevails in all the States and Territories of the Union except Michigan, Wisconsin, Rhode Island, Kansas and Maine. It was abolished in Iowa in 1872, and restored in 1878. It was also abolished in Colorado, but was restored in 1901. In New York and Ohio execution is by electricity.

One Thing Yet to Learn.

We have learned how to telegraph without wires and fly without gas bags, but the antidote for a common ordinary cold still mocks the foiled searchings of the human race.—St. Louis Republic.

Can't Eliminate Him.

This country has given up shirt-sleeve diplomacy and quit electing presidents who were born in log cabins, but the man who picks his teeth in public continues to be visible.

Do Pretty Well Yet.

"This motoring game isn't what it used to be." "Speed ordinance too carefully enforced?" "No; but pedestrians are getting so careful."

Berlin's Linen Factories.

Berlin has about a hundred factories for linen goods—for more than the kingdom of Saxony.

The Truth, in Most Cases. A man tries to control his children before he has learned to control himself.—New York Press.

Good Advice.

Whatever you do, do wisely and think of the consequences.—Gerta Romanorum.

Irrigation in Argentina.

An irrigation project to cost \$25,000,000 is on the cards in Argentina, the principal railways to do the work and be paid by the government in five per cent. irrigation bonds, with the water rentals to take care of the bonds.

Cigarettes Oust Cigars.

The cigar business in the British Isles has declined largely in late years, owing to the increasing taste for cigarette smoking.

Self-Made.

A large majority of the good and respectable women in this world have succeeded in being so without the assistance of chaperons.

Right.

A man may not resent an aspersion against himself, but he will defend the accuracy of his thermometer to his last breath.—Topeka Capital.

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Children's Suits \$1 up to \$7 REMEMBER THE PLACE Children's Overcoats \$1.50 to \$7

BREGSTEIN BROS.

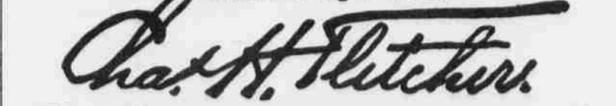


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