

BLACKMAIL PLAGUE AFFLICTS GERMANY

Berlin Police Overworked Trying to Protect the Public from Harpies

"KNIGHTS OF ROUND TABLE"

"Man from Overseas" Had One Woman Put Where She Can Do No Harm for Awhile—How the Old Badger Game is Played Abroad.

Berlin, Germany.—Increase of prosperity in the empire and growth of night-life in the capital have brought an increase in the number of those harpies who prey on the weaknesses of mortal nature and, having led men and women into the "broad and easy way" demand heavy sums for their silence about the slips along the downward path.

The department of the German criminal police which deals with blackmail is overworked and fresh men have to be drafted.

Criminal Commissary Treackow, the terror of blackmailers, never had his hands so full and with all his efforts he probably does not get on the track of one-third of the offenders.

Almost every week the Berlin press prints something intended to encourage blackmail victims to take their cases to the police. The recent trial of Dahsel and the open admissions of the character of certain Berlin newspapers show what money is made by the blackmailer and how hard it is to protect the public.

In the last fourteen days at least seven blackmailers have been rendered harmless by the police.

Up to a few months ago most attempts at blackmail were made on the ground of the victims' nominal or actual offense against the famous section 175 of the German criminal code, the section which was the basis of the trials of Prince Eulenburg, Count Lynar, etc. There were certain streets in the centre of Berlin where it was not safe to speak to a stranger. One became "suspect" in the eyes of persons looking for a chance to extort money. But the police have been so active lately that the evil has diminished. So the blackmailers have mostly taken to other lines of "business."

Perhaps the most shocking method adopted was the one chosen by a barber's assistant, Otto Fitting. There had been a death in the family of a well known publisher. The wife had lost her sister, to whom from childhood she had been passionately devoted. She and her husband happened also to be well known for their great charity and kindness to their unlucky fellow-creatures. A few days after her sister's funeral the wife received a letter signed "Four Friends," in which the writers said they well knew her charitable nature and felt sure she would like to assist them to emigrate. They would be content with \$200 apiece, which was to be sent to a certain address in one sum. At the end of the letter came this sentence:

"We regret to have to add that unless you send the money and all the money asked for we shall be obliged to revenge ourselves for a slight once put upon us by your sister. If you refuse we shall immediately proceed to defile her grave as a sign of our displeasure."

The lady took the letter to the police, who naturally concluded that the writer must be some one intimately acquainted with the affairs of the family who would realize that this threat was the one most likely to produce the desired result. Ultimately they arrested Fitting, who had been dismissed some time before from the publishing house.

A well-dressed, very pretty young woman had been a guest at some of the best hotels in Germany. She made the acquaintance of gentlemen staying in the hotel, and selecting the one who seemed most suited to her purpose gave him to understand that his company was agreeable to her. The gentleman, being flattered, allowed himself to accompany her on shopping excursions, etc.

Rather late one evening he was surprised to meet his fair acquaintance outside the door of his room weeping bitterly. In the midst of her tears she managed to find her way into the room and proceeded to unburden her grief. Her husband was a brute and would not allow her enough money for her expenses. She was a simple little thing and not understanding how her money was going, she had got into debt and did not know what to do.

Suddenly there was a loud knock at the door. The gentleman went to see who knocked and to his surprise found the key turned. He unlocked the door and was confronted by the husband.

But this "lady" and her male acquaintance played the game once too often. She selected as her victim a gentleman from overseas. When the "injured husband" turned up the gentleman called the police, who soon elicited facts enough to keep the woman from playing any more such tricks for some years.

"Sarah Ann" is Now "Van Duzer." New York, N. Y.—"Sarah Ann" street, a Staten Island thoroughfare, has been neatly and expeditiously erased from the city map. The Board of Aldermen voted unanimously to erase Sarah Ann and substitute Van Duzer street.

GRANGE.

Success of Amateur Farmers in the Northwest.

Although it requires a man of average ability and a certain amount of horticultural training to make a successful fruit grower, there is hardly any calling where the amateur makes so much of a success. The grower who won one of the five-hundred-dollar prizes at the National Apple Show in Spokane did not know anything of fruit growing when he came to Yakima from Illinois eleven years ago. A Portland letter carrier bought a block of fruit land over ten years ago and had it planted while he was still doing his work as letter carrier. He has made a phenomenal success of the venture, selling his total crop for a very large figure—so large that I hesitate to name it—just nine years after the planting of the orchard. A station agent in one of the interior districts had a similar experience. He struggled along for a few years, and then when the trees began to come into bearing, was lifted to a plane of financial success where he did not need to care if he never again saw the inside of a station. A school teacher bought some land near Dayton, going heavily in debt to get it planted. When the trees were seven years old he sold the crop for seven hundred dollars an acre and he refused \$1,000 an acre for his land. He never teaches school now.

What does it mean?—this new movement of intelligent farming? What effect will it have upon the life of our country? It means that America can support in comfort more people than our fathers dreamed. It marks the beginning of an era of intensive cultivation. It demonstrates that it is not the amount of land but the way in which it is worked and the amount it will produce that counts. It is the herald of a new day—the forerunner of a great back to the land movement. It thrills the onlooker as he gazes upon the progress of the years. And no wonder! It furnishes a glance at men and women who are doing things. It is a great movement—a great land—a great people. A great people? Yes! Out there among the flowers and the vines—in the shade of the beautiful orchards where the red apples grow—they are laying the foundation of a New America—an America of force, power, refinement, culture and wealth on the slope of the western sea.

Storing Weevil—Infested Wheat. A young and progressive farmer of Berks county wrote to Professor H. A. Surface, State Zoologist, Harrisburg, for information in regard to storing his wheat. Last year some damage was done by the weevil, and he wished to avoid the same this year. Prof. Surface answered his letter as follows:

"I beg to say that all depends upon whether your wheat is infested or not at the time of threshing as to whether the Angoumois Grain Moth will continue to work in it after it is stored. If you will break open several grains, you can tell whether there is a very small white "worm" or larva feeding within, and if you find this to be the case, it is not best to store the grain thus infested, as the larva will continue to feed and grow until it follows out the grain to a mere shell.

"If you find that the pest is at work, it will be best to put the grain into a tight bin and fumigate it by pouring over it one pound of carbon bisulfide for each hundred bushels of grain, and covering it with wet blankets to keep down the fumes; or, sell it soon and haul it directly to an elevator or mill. It is not let you know what percentage we and no harm will come from grinding and using it now, before the little worms inside the grains destroy them.

"What you wish to keep for seed you can fumigate with carbon bisulfide, using at least one pound of the liquid to each one hundred cubic feet of space, being careful to keep fire away from it, as its fumes are explosive the same as those of gasoline or benzine. If you wish to send me some of the grains for examination, I shall be glad to see them and yet you know what percentage we find infested. They can, of course, be sent by mail."

Moving Pictures Made Him Generous.

A mighty funny thing happened in town recently, and a certain man has not got through explaining things to his wife yet. This man was in Oregon on a business trip a few days before the fight between Johnson and Ketchell at Colma. He had expected to return to the wife of his bosom by a certain date, but instead of that sent a telegram stating that he would have to remain in Portland, Ore., at least two days longer than at first scheduled. He reached home according to his revised schedule, and his wife was all the happier to greet him because of his remaining away a little bit longer. The other night the Lyric Theatre gave a moving picture exhibition of that particular fight in Colma. This just returned townsman told his wife that he would like to have her go down town with him and look at the pictures, and she went. The films hadn't been running off but a few minutes when the wife yanked her husband's arm and said: "You see that man in the front seat there. He certainly does look like you."

The man glanced at the front row indicated, and cold shivers ran up and down his backbone. It never had entered his head that there would be anything but just the prize fight to be seen, and he realized in a second that the man on the front seat not only looked like him, but was him. The man, with a jerky little laugh declared, of course, that was just absurd, and that he couldn't see the slightest resemblance to himself in the man on the front seat. The wife kept on watching, however, and positively declined to leave the scene, and her mouth got "sotter and sotter" as she began to realize how her husband had lied to her. Before the end of the third round her husband simply had to acknowledge that the man on the front seat was himself sure enough. He suggested a little supper down town to his wife, which she accepted, and then he suggested a new long sealskin coat, which she also accepted, and, furthermore, she got a number of other handsome presents which she would not be possessed of to-day had not that husband of hers remained over to see the fight in Colma.

SOME IDEAS FOR DECORATIONS.

How to Make the Home Look Bright and Cheerful for the Holidays.

In massing holly for use on the Christmas table it repays one to wipe off the leaves with a cloth dipped in a very little olive oil, says the Housekeeper. Tall candles should light the feast and the holly leaves reflect the twinkling lights in a beautiful manner. If a chandelier hangs over the dining table a feature which will delight the children is to have a nosegay of artificial flowers suspended from the chandelier to within a foot of the table by means of a red ribbon. This bouquet should have the paper puff of the old-time fashion, and the bouquet itself will be found to be a shower bouquet, one small nosegay for each person, in the depths of which some trifling gift is hidden.

Snowballs of cotton, tightly wound with white ribbon, also conceal gifts most attractively, while the cheap but pretty little Santa Claus candy boxes for sale at favor shops, are effective upon the Christmas table, and will hold quite a good-sized package, or, of course, may be used to hold the bonbons for which they are intended. For a luncheon or high tea during Christmas week, a beautiful table may be set by employing the use of green linen runners embroidered in white. A holly bell or a bunch of red carnations in a cut-glass vase will touch the center of the table to brilliancy and soft garlands of southern moss may lightly edge the linen runners, or dollies if they be used instead.

The colonial glass candlesticks are still in favor, and nothing is more attractive in a country house. With tall green or red tapers, a group of these candlesticks placed in a mass of holly as a centerpiece is both appropriate and beautiful.

A quaint little Christmas tree may be used as a centerpiece by procuring at the florist's a little "pepper plant," which has lovely green leaves and red berries. Wound with glittering tinsel and tied with candied fruits held in place with wee baby ribbons, or hung with little favors of French jewelry or articles of trifling worth, the little tree makes a centerpiece of charm.

BOFFS JAIL STRIPES WORN FOR 27 YEARS

Warden Lines Up Convicts for a Good-Bye to "the Old Man," Whom Everybody Liked

JOY WHEN HE IS RELEASED

Killed Man, He Says, to Save Young Girl's Honor—Considers Harry Thaw Beneath Him—Released, Laughs at Anything and Everything.

Leavenworth, Kan.—One at a time the 800 inmates of the Kansas Penitentiary bade a veteran comrade farewell. It was John Rodgers, the oldest in point of service among them, who had just finished putting in twenty-seven years. It was a holiday and the convicts had the freedom of the yard to talk and enjoy themselves at will, and when "Dad," as they called him, walked down toward the iron-gated entrance, dressed in a new suit of citizen's clothes, under escort of Warden J. K. Coddling and Mr. and Mrs. Artlip, there was a line-up and all of them gave him the friendly outward hand salute in farewell. Rodgers was released on a Governor's parole, not a pardon. He had not broken the prison rules in a quarter of a century, and all the officials from the Warden down have the same confidence that the old man will make good and never have to come back. He leaves the prison meek and submissive, for twenty-seven years under the close discipline of penitentiary guards had stamped out nearly all his individuality and spirit.

Rodgers was so happy to get outside that he was nearly starting off without getting \$150.17 due to him from his earnings at 3 3/4 cents a day as a prisoner. After buying newspapers he had saved this much. When handed the money he was asked what he would do with it, when he replied: "I don't know, but whatever Mr. and Mrs. Artlip, my friends, say."

When asked if he had any plans, he replied: "I can work, and my friends will not regret keeping me. I know that I will not be a burden on them. I have no relatives."

When he left the prison and boarded an electric car for Leavenworth Rodgers' face wore a constant smile. He laughed at any and everything. When he boarded a passenger train for St. Joseph he said he was sure enough beginning to feel that he was free. On reaching St. Joseph he went to the home of Mr. Artlip, a prosperous shoe merchant, where he revelled in a Thanksgiving dinner.

Rodgers felt that he was a martyr; that he killed a man to protect a woman, and that he acted an honorable part instead of committing a crime. He considered himself high above Harry Thaw, whose pleas of justification he said were contemptible.

The defenseless woman Rodgers refers to as protecting, married nineteen years ago, and has a family of children. She lives with her husband and family in the State of Wisconsin, and will not likely have any part, one way or the other, in the remainder of the life of the old man.

The crime which Rodgers committed in the spring of 1880 is as follows: He was courting a girl when her stepfather, Littleton Wallace, objected, and demanded that his attentions cease. The mother of the girl favored Rodgers as a suitor for her child, and domestic trouble followed. Finally Rodgers, the mother and the girl left Wallace, who lived on a farm. Rodgers later on went back to the farm and a quarrel followed, and Wallace was shot by Rodgers, who claimed that he acted in self-defense, and that Wallace was trying to strike him with a cane. Rodgers was tried and sentenced to be hung. Under the old Kansas law, repealed two years ago, a prisoner sentenced to death was to be brought to the penitentiary, and remain one year and then to be executed at any time after when the Governor fixed the date. None were hung since 1873, as no Governor ever set a date after a prisoner started serving time in the penitentiary. At one time there were sixty-five "hang" or death convicts in the Kansas penitentiary.

Rodgers being free to discuss the killing of Wallace, maintained that Wallace was conspiring to ruin his stepdaughter, and that the mother of the girl knew it, and that she, as well as the girl, appealed to Rodgers to save her. He claimed that when he visited the Wallace farm near Fort Scott, Wallace was so enraged over the balking of his plans that Wallace started at him with a cane, and the killing followed.

Teachers Buy Piano with Nut Profits.

West Orange, N. J.—The teachers of the St. Mark's Public School wanted a piano, but they had no funds and they got it straight from the Board of Education that there was nothing doing this year in the piano line. Therefore they purchased some raw peanuts, roasted them a l'italiene and sold them at a good profit to the pupils and their friends. They now have the piano.

Has a Freak Chicken.

Shelbyville, Ind.—In the possession of T. A. Russell, the president of the Waldron Poultry Club, is a Plymouth Rock pullet which has no bill, but has a mouth and perfectly formed pug nose and nostrils. The eyes are set in the head just like any other chicken's eyes. The bird is almost full grown.

Dictator Ruled for Sixteen Years.

Jose Santos Yzaya has been in command in the Republic of Nicaragua for sixteen years. He ruled with a strong hand and has been called the stormy petrel of Central America. He was always noted for his cunning and bravery and he was remarkable, too, for his ability to surround himself with those who were ready to do his bidding. As a consequence Yzaya in later years was an absolute dictator. He amassed great wealth by taking to himself a large percentage of the profits from concessions and by the formation of a group of men who aided him in exacting millions from the people.

Yzaya belongs to the aristocracy of his country. He received his education in Paris, but his success was due more to the sword than to the peaceful methods of civilization. He is 51 years of age, and, as he is the

most hated man in South or Central America, immediate attempts were made on his life. While yet a comparatively young man Yzaya began an agitation against the government and his actions became so violent that he was expelled. He went to Guatemala, then ruled by Barrios, and was there that he received his training that fitted him for his subsequent career. He finally reappeared in his own country at the head of a band of insurgents and finally won the Presidency.

The present revolt in Nicaragua began early last month and came a climax of a series of persecutions inaugurated by Yzaya, in which the execution of the Americans, Cannon and Groce, was the most serious feature.

THE new fur hats at Menner Co.'s store for winter wear are the latest shapes.

BREGSTEIN BROS.

THE LEADING CLOTHIERS AND GENT'S FURNISHER

KNOX HATS the best ON ACCOUNT OF The Home of the Best Clothier in the market.

the mild weather we are over stocked with a large line Men's, Boys' and Children's Suits and Overcoats, which we are compelled to cut prices on. All of our stock must go as we do not intend to carry any goods over.

IT WILL PAY YOU TO BUY AND SAVE MONEY Remember we handle nothing but the best ma clothes in the county.

SUITS.

For young men or old we can please you well for we have suits here made by Strause Bros. and David Addler, the best makers in the world in so wide a range of patterns and sizes that every taste, everybody can be fitted perfectly.

OVERCOATS.

As with our suits, so it is with overcoat garments here for you and old made by Strause Bros. David Addler to suit the exact requirements of the best dressed in the world.

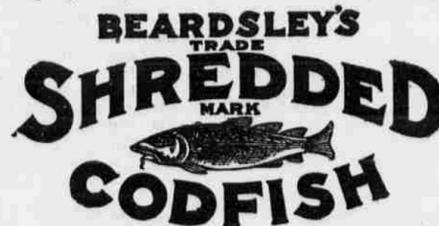
Remember we have a full line of the Best Gent's Furnishing Goods in market. Men's Hats and Caps, Shirts, Collars, Underwear, Pajamas, Trunks and Dress Suit Cases, Hand Bags and the best Rain Coats to be found.

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

BREGSTEIN BROS.

Breakfast Ready in Ten Minutes

You can save a surprising amount of bother and trouble tomorrow by serving Beardsley's Shredded Codfish for breakfast. You can have this delicious fish food ready for the table in less time than it takes to make coffee. It is ready to cook the instant you open the package. No bones to pick out—no washing—no soaking—no boiling. We have done all that for you. And please don't think that there's any "fish-odor" in cooking. Instead there's a tempting, savory smell—a smell that will make you hungry.



Sweet-Flavored Fish Beardsley's Shredded Codfish doesn't taste at all like the old-fashioned dried codfish. And it's wrong to judge it by any other kind that comes in packages. There's no other fish food in existence half so delightful in flavor. For we use only the choicest fish—the fattest and plumpest—the finest that come out of the deep. We get them from Northern waters.



THE PACKAGE WITH THE RED BAND. Lined with wax-paper. No preservative whatever, save the purest and finest sea-salt. Also packed in tin and glass.

The Era of New Mixed Paints!

This year opens with a deluge of new mixed paints. A dition brought about by our enterprising dealers to get some of a mixed paint that would supplant CHILTON'S MIXED PAINTS. Their compounds, being new and heavily advertised may find a sale with the unwary.

THE ONLY PLACE IN HONOLULU AUTHORIZED TO HANDLE CHILTON'S MIXED PAINTS Is JADWIN'S PHARMACY.

There are reasons for the pre-eminence of CHILTON PAINTS. 1st—No one can mix a better mixed paint. 2d—The painters declare that it works easily and has wonderful covering qualities.

3d—Chilton stands back of it, and will agree to repaint, at own expense, every surface painted with Chilton Paint proves defective. 4th—Those who have used it are perfectly satisfied with and recommend its use to others.



ROSALIND COGHLAN WHO WILL APPEAR IN "THE TRAVELING SALESMAN," TO BE PRESENTED AT THE LYRIC ON MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 27.