

Nearly all lines of labor are actively employed.

The number of unemployed is less than for several years.

In the building trades the nine-hour workday is generally observed.

Six hundred coal miners have gone on strike at Huntington, Ark., in order to enforce a semi-monthly pay day.

More than 2000 men are at work on the Swiss side of the Simplon tunnel, and nearly 1800 on the Italian side.

The cotton-mill property in South Carolina is valued at \$20,318,520; number of bales annually consumed, 514,236.

Plans for the enactment of labor laws during the approaching legislative session in the various States are being formulated.

The Sultan's cooks went on strike because they had not been paid. The Sultan ordered the payment of wages, but had several cooks imprisoned.

The steel strike continues, but it is authoritatively stated that the end is merely a question of time. Neither side is willing to grant concessions.

The agitation against the employment of child labor in the mines and factories of the country is having its effect. There is a noticeable decrease in the number of children at work in the industrial centers.

Wherever women street-car conductors have been tried they have not shown their fitness to serve in such a capacity. In several towns the women have been discharged and men hired to take their places.

About forty per cent of the men employed in the Minnesota mines are Finlanders, another forty per cent Hungarians, about eight per cent Italians, and the rest are divided among Americans, Germans, French Scotch and Welsh. The majority of the mines are the Cornishmen.

NO ROOM FOR COVARDS.

Vice President's Tribute to the West.

At the quarto-centennial celebration in Denver August 2, Vice President Roosevelt paid a magnificent tribute to the pioneers of the west. He said:

"There was scant room for the coward and the wailing in the ranks of the adventurous frontiersmen; the near settlers who first broke up wild prairie soil, who first beat their way into the primeval forest who gullied their white-topped gorges across the endless leagues of dian-hunted desolation, and explored every remote mountain chain in the restless quest for metal wealth. Behind them came the men who completed the work they had roughly begun, who drove the great railroad systems over plain and desert and mountain pass; who stocked the teeming ranches and under irrigation saw the bright green of the alfalfa and the yellow of the golden stubble supplant the gray of the sage brush desert; who have built great, populous cities, cities in which every art and science of civilization are carried to their highest points on tracks which when the 19th century had passed its meridian were still known only to the grim trappers and hunters and the red lords of the wilderness with whom they waged eternal war."

L. M. SNYDER, Practical Horse-Shoer and General Blacksmith.



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New York City.—Tasteful, comfortable breakfast or morning jackets are essential to every woman of taste. The novel May Manton design illustrated...



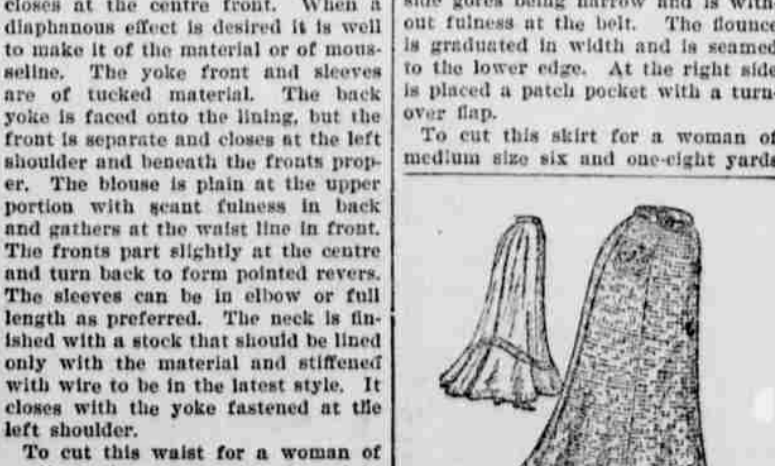
Breakfast Jacket. The women of Ottawa are to present to the Duchess of York upon the occasion of the royal visit to the capital a gift that is thoroughly typical of Canada. It is a cape of the finest mink procurable. The collar and flare around the edges will be lined with ermine, while the body of the cape will be lined with white satin.



FANCY WAIST AND TUCKED SKIRT.

passing around the waist confines the fulness in front. The sleeves are in bishop shape, but finished with turn-over flare cuffs. At the neck is a turn over collar that is high enough for style yet soft and eminently satisfactory to the wearer.

Favorite Color Combinations. Black and pale blue is a combination that this season has divided favor with the ever popular black and white. Woman's Walking Skirt. The smart, well cut walking skirt that comfortably clears the ground has become a necessity and makes part of every wardrobe.



WALKING SKIRT.

of material twenty-seven inches wide, three and seven-eighths yards forty-four inches wide or three and three-eighths yards fifty inches wide will be required.

WHERE TARPON SWARM.

So Thick in Galveston Waters That They Have Become a Nuisance. Tarpon are becoming so thick in Galveston waters that the fish is a nuisance for those who desire to engage in the sport of capturing fish.

The trouble is that the tarpon in its eagerness to get a square meal, gets after these edible fish, steals bait and often runs away with the hooks and lines of the fishermen. But for real, genuine, hard-work sport the tarpon will furnish enough for an able-bodied fisherman for a couple of hours.

In fishing for tarpon most people prefer a boat, so that they can follow the fish in his runs and lunge without endangering the line. He is not such a monster fish, but he is a lively one. Few tarpon will touch the beam at 100 pounds, and the biggest known here was six feet ten inches in length.

These little fish come along in schools covering acres. When the water is quiet out along the jetties the mullets will come up, play in the surface and keep the water agitated with little ripples. They move along with the jetties slowly, when suddenly they will stop, act bewildered, dart this way for a few rods and then turn and run in the opposite direction.

But the tarpon is an enemy to anything that swims which is small enough to be contained in his stomach, and for that reason he is a nuisance. After the jetties were completed and the workmen with their noise and disturbance were disbanded fish found the rocks a good place for breeding. As a consequence the jetties have become the finest place for fishing to be found in American waters anywhere.

Wholesale Perjury in Court. At the recent meeting of the Iowa Bar Association President McCarthy made some very startling charges as to the prevalence of false testimony in courts of the present day. He said: "Where is there a lawyer who has not seen a guilty criminal pass out of the court room acquitted and free because of perjured testimony?"

Need of a Third Eye. Montaigne once said: "If I had the power of creating and endowing myself I should make myself three-eyed." "Why a third eye?" someone inquired. He answered: "To enable me to see the cheerful side of everything."

It has been discovered that the average Parisian is the richest eater in the world.

LITTLE RAGTAG.

Say there, Little Ragtag, Whose sweet child are you? Teeth as white as ivory, eyes the sky's own blue, Lips like dainty rosebuds dipt in the morning dew.

Two girls, as Bertie had taken care to ascertain, were engaged, each in her own way, in killing the time between breakfast and dressing for church. Lucy, who invariably indulged in tea and toast in her bedroom, had just emerged from that sanctum in semi-civilized attire, and when Harrison, at Bertie's instigation, entered the drawing room, an unexpected vision met his gaze.

Lucy was seated at the piano, hanging the keys with one hand, and with the other maintaining a steady communication between her mouth and a box of chocolates, placed within convenient reach. She was garbed in an old satin skirt no longer in his prime, and a much-befrilled dressing jacket, that must have been coquetish in its youth, but was now slightly soiled.

Jim, having no sisters of his own, was unaccustomed to this last phenomenon. Who that has ever experienced it will readily forget the shock produced upon a delicate nervous organization at the first glimpse of a young and beautiful woman under the influence of hair-curlers?

Jim's friends spoke of May as one of the most accomplished and amiable creatures they had ever met. They referred to Lucy in precisely similar terms. May looked magnificent in white satin, and when Jim saw her in a ball-room he wondered how he could ever have given a thought to Lucy.

But then, Lucy was altogether bewitching in blue linen, and no sooner did Harrison behold her thus attired in a punt on the river than the vision of May's charms faded into insignificance. To make a long story short Jim's admiration of May was only equaled by his devotion to Lucy, and difficulties were in no wise lessened by the fact that both parties reciprocated his affection.

How many children have been terrified by stories of the "Boog Man," of "the wolf that will come and eat them," of "the policeman who will put them in the lockup," till their fear of the dark amounts to positive agony. Bedtime should be an hour inseparably associated with the prayer at the mother's knee, followed by a quiet talk, after which the little one settles down to a restful sleep.

JIM'S DARLING.

Is it possible to be in love with two girls at the same time? That was the problem which had been tormenting Jim Harrison for the last six months or more. It was the question he asked himself nervously whenever he happened to see May and Lucy Thompson together.

May and Lucy were cousins, orphans, who shared a home, an aged aunt who performed the duties of a chambermaid and a dress allowance of \$250 per annum. May was young and pretty. Now, youth and beauty being two of the sweetest of Cupid's darts, May's youth and good looks would surely have settled Jim, only, unfortunately, Lucy was young and pretty, too.

May was tall and dark, with a Greek profile, and masses of smooth, blue-black hair, arranged in simple coils, regardless of fashion's decrees. Lucy, on the other hand, was a small, fair girl, with an aureole of fluffy hair and the sweetest nose retraction in the world.

Jim admired tall, dark women, and the contemplation of a Greek profile was to him a source of unceasing joy. This would, no doubt, have led him to give the preference to May, had it not been for the fact that an equally amiable weakness for Lucy's type of loveliness drew him in the opposite direction.

The chances are that Jim would have ended by remaining a bachelor to his dying day but for the advent of a fourth party upon the scene of action. The fates selected as their instrument one Bertie Thompson, brother to May, home from school for the summer holidays.

Bertie, aetat fourteen, was a smart lad, with somewhat decided views upon the respective merits and demerits of his cousin and sister. He took in the situation at a glance, and having no particular objection to Jim as a brother-in-law, decided, for reasons to be hereinafter set forth, that May was the girl for Jim.

As the nearest relative of the objects of Jim's affections Bertie was a privileged visitor at Harrison's room. Jim evinced no astonishment, therefore, when Bertie burst into his den late one Saturday night and announced his intention of accompanying him on a long-projected bicycle trip on the following morning.

There has been little of late in royal and imperial annals to inspire common people with envy of the exalted personages born to the purple, and certainly the later life of the Empress Frederick will cause nobody to long for a crown.

Last year Americans consumed 2,219,847 tons of sugar, just 141,723 tons more than the year before. Giving to each individual his pro rata share, this shows that every inhabitant of this country gets away with fully sixty-six and one-half pounds of sweets every year.

The conclusion that consumption is curable, reached by the Tuberculosis Congress, is of great importance. But it would be more satisfactory if there had been greater attention given to the methods. Prevention of infection is important, but if there be a cure for consumption beyond the first stages, the world is ignorant of it.

Kaiser William declares that "the noblest weapon is the sword." Lord Roberts says that the "sword is obsolete," and orders that sword drills shall be discontinued in the British army. Possibly his lordship does not class the cavalry sabre with the sword. It's difficult to understand how a regiment of horse could dispense with the sabre.

The cornerstone of the Indian school which the United States Government proposes to build at Riverside, Cal., was laid the other day with appropriate ceremonies on the site purchased for the school, on Magnolia avenue, one of the famous driveways of the town. The school will be known as Sherman Institute, in honor of J. B. Sherman, of New York, chairman of the Congressional Committee on Indian Affairs.

A queer will case has just been decided by the courts in Minnesota. The witnesses to the instrument had stepped through a doorway into a room adjoining that in which the testator lay at the time of the signing of the will, and had affixed their signatures at a table about ten feet from the testator, but just out of his sight. It was testified, however, that he was sitting on the side of his bed at the time, and could have seen the witnesses by stepping forward two or three feet. The attestation and subscription of the will under these circumstances were sustained.

Now that rural free delivery is no longer regarded as an experiment, but has been established as a permanent enterprise, it is time for the Postoffice Department to take up the question of increased compensation for the carriers. The pay of this class of employees is now \$500 a year, for which the carrier must provide a horse and wagon. The daily service (except Sundays) is a twenty-mile drive, which occupies an average of six consecutive hours. Whatever may be the decision as to the amount of the pay, there is no reason why the monthly check should not be sent promptly. It has become the custom of the Government to remain a full month in arrears.

Senator Daniel, of Virginia, lives in a very modest style in Washington. He cannot afford to spend much money, because everything he gets goes toward the payment of his father's debts. Daniel has spent thirty years paying off these debts, and it will probably be a life work. His father was Judge William Daniel, of Lynchburg. He was considered well-to-do, but when he died it was found that his fortune had been swept away in the panic of 1873, and that his liabilities were more than \$100,000 in excess of the assets. Although Senator Daniel could have repudiated these debts, he chose to assume them. That was nearly thirty years ago, and all that time Senator Daniel has been paying off the debts with interest.

Justice Goodrich, of the New York Supreme Court, has drawn attention to the fact that the time is approaching when it will be necessary to cut loose, in a great measure, from precedent and decide law cases upon their merits after analysis. The Justice says that there are now rendered in this country more than 20,000 decisions in each year by appellate tribunals, and that there were published in 1900 420 volumes of reports, seventy-seven volumes of digests, ninety-five volumes of statutes and 150 volumes of treatises. No lawyer can do anything with such a mass of legal matter, even if he has the money to buy it; and, since no lawyer can now hope to keep up with the law as expounded, courts must necessarily fall back on application of recognized first principles to the case immediately in hand.