Million-Name Soldiers' Petition Received

The million-name soldiers' bonus petition arriving at the capitol, where it was accepted by Senator Hiram W. Johnson as chairman of the senate reception committee. The huge roll of names was presented to congress by Capt. Samuel H. Jacobson, district commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Forgers Reap Huge Harvest

Take Annual Levy of $30,000,000 From Careless Check Writers in United States.

IS ARISTOCRAT OF CRIMINALS

Introduction of Modern Protective Measures Only Hampered Crook's Plans for Time—Safety Paper Is Best Precaution.

New York.—Forgers and pennen are exacting a toll of between $30,000,000 and $35,000,000 a year from the people of the country because of the careless manner in which checks and drafts are written and handled, according to Burgess Smith, ex-inspector of technical work in the United States bureau of engraving, writing in American Industries, the magazine of the National Association of Manufacturers. Aided by scientific inventions in Italy protecting devices and in check check paper, the new robbing mail boxes robbers and other subterfuges to and adopting which are not safe-obtain checks which are the degredations are begun. Protective, the writer says, against so many do not make public the amount of losses being [illegible] of the [illegible] the last year a total of approximately $30,000,000 in checks and drafts passed through the clearing houses of the nation, based on a total currency [illegible] in circulation of about $3,000,000,000. In other words, checks and drafts in circulation constantly equal currency, and bullion at the rate of eighty to one.

"It is only natural, therefore, that the most astute minds of the criminal world should turn their attention toward a form of crime which yields great profits with little chance of detection and conviction—all because of the innate carelessness of individuals."

Grew With Use of Checks.

Tracing the rapid growth of the use of credit instruments the world over, particularly within recent years, Mr. Smith shows how losses from forgery have increased with the increased use of checks and drafts.

"The idea of the bank check is as old as Egypt," the writer says, "but it was only a half century ago that the word 'check' meant little or nothing in the daily life of the average American business man. Such a thing as a forged or raised check was almost unthought of. Where today the losses from forgery are increasing at the rate of $1,000,000 annually, with more than $30,000,000 estimated as last year's figure, the total annual bill thirty years ago was only $1,000,000.

"The methods employed by the forger evince a cunning and skill that is unlike those in other forms of crime. The forger and pennen is the aristocrat of the underworld. He is one of the 'higher-ups' in an organization that is conducted in a most business-like way. First, there is the banker, who backs the gang with his wealth and who usually has associated with him an expert criminal lawyer. Then there is the forger himself, who lives in some secluded out-of-the-way spot, where he has his laboratory. There, with pens and inks and acids and blotters strewn about him, he sits and traces signatures or obliterates writing with such a high degree of delicacy and perfection that even banking experts are deceived. Since the forger is the 'brains' of the organization, he must be accorded the greatest possible protection. Consequently, there are the 'go-between' men who hire thieves to rob the mail boxes and pickpockets to 'put down' the forged checks. These men never come in contact with the forger, and the result is that the arrest of subordinates seldom leads to his conviction.

"And" Vulnerable Point.

"Before the introduction of modern protective measures, forgery and alteration had become so simple it had almost ceased being called an art. To raise a check from eight to eighty dollars, all this master criminal had to do was to add a 'y' to the 't' and then another zero to the numerals. To raise six to sixty, seven to seventy or nine to ninety was just as easy, and to change five to fifty or to tack some other word to fifty, say 100 or 1000, was equally simple. The word 'and' has always been a most vulnerable point of attack, and in many typical cases of forgery it has been made to call for thousands by writing 'thousand' before it.

"For many years the forger had as his greatest ally the designer of check writing machines that shred the amount in colors and at the same time impregnate the paper with insoluble ink. The introduction of these devices only hampered the crook's plans, however, for he could still, with the aid of his acids, erase the payee line and substitute for names the words 'cash' or 'bearer.' And, likewise, he could change the number and date lines.

"To meet this new move of the crook raised a safety paper that could not be erased or altered in any way without detection was needed, and by a gradual evolution which has grown and nearer to perfection the manufacturers have only recently been able to produce a safety paper which has thus far withstood all tests of the criminal. Thus, the check forger has again been defeated, and check users who today employ the modern measures of protection afforded—the modern writing machine, as well as the safety paper—have no reason to fear that their checks will be altered."

How to Be Doubly Safe.

To make checks absolutely safe against the depredations of forgers and raisers, Mr. Smith suggests the following measures:

1. Write your checks on paper that defies alteration by inks or chemicals.

2. Never typewrite a check or permit a check to leave your office that contains an erasure.

3. Write the name of the payee and the amount of the check clearly and plainly, never leaving any margin before the amount or between the written figures.

4. Keep your blank checks under lock and key and know where every one of them goes. They are worth as much money on your credit once they have your name in the right-hand corner—and some one may be able to deceive a bank or a storekeeper into believing that a check with a forged signature is genuine.

5. Finally, to be doubly sure, insure yourself against loss by forgery or check alteration. The makers of the best safety check paper and check writing machines are so sure their devices defy the efforts of the most ingenious criminals that they carry their customers' insurance themselves at a merely nominal cost.

Disabling Salt Raises Ship.

Norfolk, Va.—Capt. L. P. Power of the schooner Cumberland Queen and his wife, given up for dead in the wreck of their ship, arrived in Norfolk one day recently. The ship, after grounding twice, finally sank, Power said, in 6 fathoms of water. The captain and crew were taken to Charleston. Then the salt cargo, with which the vessel was heavily laden, dissolved and the light ened ship bobbed up again, to be rescued by the coast guardsmen.

Makes "Pearls" of Fish Scales.

Heatherville, Va.—In Fleeton the have employed a French woman, who is engaged in making imitation pearl from the essence of fish scales. She is said to have made some fine specimens of "pearls."

This new and novel enterprise is attracting considerable attention. The fishermen are being paid 10 cents a pound for fish scales.

Famous Tree, 800 Years Old, Shows Signs of Wear

Mexico City.—The "great tree of Tule," in Santa Maria de Tule, state of Oaxaca, after 800 years, is beginning to show signs of wear. This giant cypress, with a trunk so huge it takes 30 persons with outstretched arms to span it, is known to have been a fair-sized tree when Columbus discovered America.

History also recounts that Cortes and his Spanish soldiers slept beneath its branches four centuries ago en route to Honduras following their conquest of Mexico.

There is no immediate cause for worry, however, that Tule, as Indians call the tree, will wither away before the present generation has passed on. And even if it should, Tule has a son some fifty yards away that is showing signs of maintaining the family honor. Hijo (son) already is so large 12 persons are needed to span it. Hijo is only a couple of hundred years old.

The tree rises 171 feet. The spread of its branches is almost 150 feet.

Profiteer in Leeches As Demand Revives

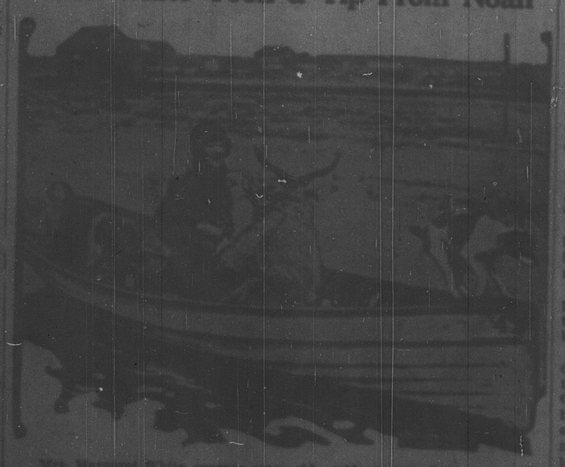
Paris.—Whenever you had a headache or a pain in the old days, they put leeches on you—the nasty slimy things that get in your way as you walk through your garden after a rain. What contemporaries of Pepys used to get "blood to the nose" in summer could discourage with "three bottle men" of the period leeches would be decidedly not for.

It is almost impossible to believe there was ever an economical demand for leeches in Paris in the last few months.

Fifty years ago leeches cost in France over 1,000 lire the thousand, now, one to 60 lire.

Professional bad men and leeches are springing up here and there and the price by the thousand has gone up to 120 francs.

Mrs. White Took a Tip From Noah



Mrs. Margaret White, seventy years old, resident of St. Paul's lower Ten district, took to the boat when the waters of the swollen Mississippi rose a day ago. She did not neglect, however, to take as many of her pets as possible into the small craft.

PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

While working in his coal mine at Cresson, Charles L[illegible] was struck on the back by a falling rock and his legs paralyzed.

Harold, 2-year-old son of William Kelshaw, of Weatherly, died from injuries sustained two weeks ago when he fell off a kiddie car.

George Steward, negro, was electrocuted at the Rockview penitentiary, Bellefonte, for the murder of Paul Newcomer, a taxicab driver, at Smock, Fayette county, last [illegible]. Steward confessed he shot the taxicab driver twice, robbed him and dumped the body in a ditch. The negro's wife was arrested as an accomplice and found guilty and sentenced to serve from nine to fifteen years in the penitentiary.

Arraigned before Judge J. Van Swearingen, in Uniontown, on a charge of setting fire to woodlands on the property of the Indian Creek Valley Coal and Coke company, Joseph Meritz entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to ninety days in the workhouse. He told the court that with the aid of a strong magnifying glass he set off blank caps for a toy pistol and transferred the fire to the stumps. A large acreage was burned in the Indian Creek valley as a result. There were several other forest fires started in the same vicinity, but Meritz admitted only one. He said he didn't have any "particular reason" for starting it.

The vast returns possible through proper agricultural methods such as those that resulted in the development of "Pennsylvania Forty-four" wheat, were pointed by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace at a gathering of 150 of the state's most prominent farmers at State College. The agricultural progress of the state will be retarded if Pennsylvania continues to neglect the development of research by failing to appropriate a single penny, as it has in the past, said the secretary. The advance, he added, depends upon whether or not Pennsylvania can meet the competition of other states, which is the final test. Extension workers must be supplied with problems as they are brought up from the farms or the state agriculture [illegible] be unable to advance. Farms will [illegible] and the surplus production [illegible] will fall off, unless a definite program be formulated and carried [illegible].

Scalded from head to foot when she fell into a pail of boiling water, Eulore Gaulers, [illegible] died. Her brother, Michael [illegible], was run down by an auto [illegible] ago. The mother [illegible] the last at an Altoona hospital [illegible] daughter was admitted to a hospital.

Falling head [illegible] an earthen crock of [illegible] scalded daughter, of Mrs. [illegible] of Mount Royal, near York [illegible] drowned. The child's plight was discovered by its mother after the [illegible] had lost consciousness. A physician managed to revive the little [illegible].

Burgess Griffith, of Plymouth, committed Mrs. Mary [illegible], 52 years old, to the borough lock-up on a charge that she neglected her business to make mountains in a hill in the cellar of her home. She left her children when they tried to quiet her, and neighbors called the police, who found a copper still in the cellar. It then came to light that she had been neglecting her six children. In default of a fine of $25 and costs she was committed for fifteen days.

Two bands of gypsies in touring cars were arrested in Altoona for fortune telling and four were fined $50 each.

Edgar C. Lentz, treasurer of the Vigilant Fire company, was elected by city council chief of the York fire department.

A contract for $[illegible] worth of steel for a new power house at the Danville State Hospital for the Insane was awarded by the trustees.

One hundred and [illegible] Schuylkill countians, about [illegible] of them women, went to Harrisburg in twenty automobiles to ask [illegible] department officials to improve the state road from Pine Grove to [illegible] Haven and, if possible, to [illegible]. The appearance of women was the first in a road delegation [illegible] Harrisburg. Commissioner Bitner [illegible] sympathetic consideration, stressing was part of the question, owing to lack of [illegible], but that the road would be [illegible] as much as possible. State [illegible] Barber was the chief speaker.

Twenty-four members of Lafayette College faculty and [illegible] student body were initiated into Kappa Phi Kappa fraternity at Easton.

Frank R. Ab[illegible], aged 28, of Ridgewood, N. [illegible], was severely gassed by the Germans in France, died at the Walter Reed hospital, Washington.

James Hartz, of Pittsburgh, after being in the employ of the Lehigh Valley railroad for 38 years has been retired on a pension.

William Price, recently appointed postmaster of Nanticoke, fractured his right arm when his automobile backfired.

The conversation heard in a recent decision upheld an award giving $[illegible] to Raymond Yeager, of Hazleton City, for the loss of an eye. The Lehigh Valley Coal company has appealed the case, holding that Yeager was not usual and that if the man allowed his hair to grow the judgment will get to be excessive.

If our Columbia county men from fifty cents a week to the primary election.

Even though anthracite production is suspended, coal is being uncovered in Hazleton. Men working on sewer contracts have struck two well defined veins of fuel on East Green street. This thoroughfare seems to run parallel to the northern outcrop of the coal measures of the Hazleton basin, since farther west on Green street building foundations are literally built on rich veins.

The body of P. Y. Liang, the 21-year-old Chinese student at Lehigh University, who committed suicide on May 10 by shooting himself in the head in his boarding house, is still unclaimed at the morgue of a Bethlehem undertaker. Cablegrams were sent to his father in China, but because of the civil war conditions in that country, it is thought that the messages have been delayed or could not be delivered.

Bids for the new state armory at Carbondale were ordered rejected and revision of plans and new invitations to bidders directed by the state armory board at its May meeting in Harrisburg. The bids were declared to be too high. No action was taken in the Wilkes-Barre armory, as the title has not been completed.

The ordination of seven candidates for the ministry featured the closing session of the fifty-fifth annual meeting of the Susquehanna Synod of the Lutheran church, in Northumberland. Sunbury was chosen as the meeting place for 1923.

The highway department announced awards of two contracts to the Smethport Construction company, of Union City. One for 22,608 feet, beginning at the southern limit of Meadville, at $173,128.10, was assigned to the J. C. Devine company, of Alliance, O. The other was for 27,276 feet, beginning at the Crawford-Mercer line and connecting with a route in Venango county, at $201,136.65.

Caught by Mrs. Clyde S. Campbell picking the pocket of William Michael in a circus crowd, Bennett Bitner, alias Bennie Williams, was arrested by a Connellsville constable. When arraigned before Mayor C. C. Mitchell, Williams was given his choice of a fine of $100 or ninety days in the Fayette county jail. Police officials say he is an old-timer.

As an outcome of a feud which has existed for years in what is known as the Bald Hill section of York county, Latimer Drawbaugh, 43 years old, was severely wounded and William Clay, 62 years old, has been committed to jail. It is alleged that Clay attacked Drawbaugh with a pickle, cut off part of his nose and inflicted a wound in his back which penetrated the intestines.

Enforcement of the new state dog license law, by which the department of agriculture supervises the control of all dogs in Pennsylvania, is having the effect of causing general trying up of animals for the first time. Under the provisions of the law is that dogs shall be kept from running at large, and the primary object is to prevent the loss of sheep and other small farm stock and poultry, for which counties have paid thousands of dollars in damage for many years. Now such matters are all handled by the state, county treasurers merely selling the licenses and sending the money to the state capitol while the bureau of animal industry passes upon claims for damages.

In order to take care of the steadily increasing volume of business, the Penn Central Light and Power company, which supplies current for light and power to a number of Central Pennsylvania towns, besides Altoona, has broken ground for a new power plant near Saxton, Bedford county. The plant will be constructed on a unit plan and have a capacity of 20,000 kilowatts, or 30,000 horsepower.

Hundreds of Freeland men, idle since April 1, when the anthracite mines suspended, were given work when the Freeland Construction company started operations on the widening of the new No. 14 viaduct road. This county nine has been the scene of three to five fatal auto accidents every summer for the past ten years, and the dangerous features are to be eliminated.

Joseph Graff, Jr., of Bethlehem, cruelly beat his father, who is 75 years old, and also his mother, who is almost as old, and then disappeared. Warrants are sent out for his arrest. The police state that Graff jumped upon his mother with both feet and that she is seriously injured. The father was painfully injured about the face. Neighbors would have taken the law in their own hands, had the son been captured after the inhuman act.

Vandergrift will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the incorporation of the town and at the same time will hold a homecoming celebration on July 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Had it not been for motor vehicles there probably would not have been any session of common pleas court in Blair county last week. Fifth [illegible] exceptions the cases tried have had some connection, directly or indirectly, with automobiles. To dispose of them expeditiously, Judge Sarte, of Wayne county has been assisting "judge hunting" [illegible].

William Wyan, superintendent of a Shenandoah colliery, was seriously injured when a large piece of coal fell on him.

Vandals destroyed flower beds in the yard of the Mount Carmel United Evangelical church and ruined 1000 blooming rosbs.

Harvey L. Snyder, a traveling salesman, of Chambersburg, was killed when his automobile was hit by a Pennsylvania train at Fayetteville, on the Lincoln highway.

Frank S. Smoldach was appointed justice of the peace for Rush, Northumberland county.

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Handy "Bayer" boxes of 12 tablets—Also bottles of 24 and 100—Druggists.

Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacture of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid

HOW HE ESCAPED ARREST

Uniform of Italian Colonel Protected Fuad Pasha From the Threatened Indignity.

In 1913 Fuad I, the new king of Egypt, was an unsuccessful candidate for the Albanian throne, after having been colonel of artillery in the Italian army. When he became sultan of Egypt his role under the protectorate of England was not always easy to maintain.

One day a messenger of the British Resident asked him to sign an ordinance against the Egyptian nationalists. He refused. And the messenger of the Resident signified to him with the utmost courtesy:

"I shall then to my regret have to arrest and imprison your highness."

"Permit me," replied Fuad Pasha, "to go for a moment to my room to reflect."

A few minutes later Fuad came back in the uniform of an Italian colonel.

He was not arrested.

Touching Faith.

The little boy in the woods took out of his pocket a small bottle and sprinkled a few drops of it in front of the hole into which he had just chased a cottontail.

"Why do you make incantations?" asked the gentleman who came out relief hunting with the lad.

"I wanted to go and cut a stick to twist the little rascal out, and I was afraid he might get away while I was gone. So I just sprinkled a little of this tonic there to 'keep the hare from coming out.'"—Detroit Ledger, Philadelphia.

If You Need a Medicine You Should Have the Best

Have you ever stopped to reason why it is that so many products that are extensively advertised, all at once drop out of sight and are soon forgotten? The reason is plain—the article did not fulfill the promises of the manufacturer. This applies more particularly to a medicine. A medicinal preparation that has real curative value almost sells itself, as like an endless chain system the remedy is recommended by those who have been benefited, to those who are in need of it.

A prominent druggist says "Take for example Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, a preparation I have sold for many years and never hesitate to recommend it, for in almost every case it shows excellent results, many of my customers testify. No other kidney remedy has so large a sale."

According to sworn statements and verified testimony of thousands who have used the preparation, the success of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root is due to the fact, so many people claim, that it fulfills almost every wish in overcoming kidney, liver and bladder ailments, corrects urinary troubles and neutralizes the uric acid which causes rheumatism.

You may receive a sample bottle of Swamp-Root by Parcel Post. Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., and enclose ten cents; also mention this paper. Large size bottles are for sale by all druggists. Advertisement

Right Nuts.

"We need fewer with teeth."

"Let's add a few dentists to congress."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The man who agrees with everybody soon becomes very disagreeable.

"Keep off the grass" is a trespass sign.

Justifiable.

"I presume you are very particular about observing the conventions of the game," remarked the Easterner as he settled down for a sociable little game of stud in Tombstone, Ariz.

"We're all of that," replied the western dealer genially. "When any stranger get too far ahead we always shoot him on the spot."—American Legion Weekly.

Rats in the Cellar, Mice in the Pantry, Cockroaches in the Kitchen

What can be more disagreeable than a home infested with pests? Destroy them with "Stearns' Electric Paste, the standard exterminator for more than 45 years.

Kills rats, mice, cockroaches, waterbugs or ants in a single night. Does not blow away like powders; ready for use longer than traps. Directions in 15 languages in every box. Money back if it fails.

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